

Tremendous opportunities exist for academic collaboration between Peoples Republic of China and Pakistan

Chinese researchers are keen to publish their research work in Impact Factor Journals

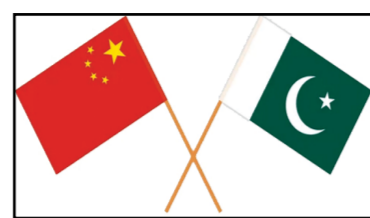
By Shaukat Ali Jawaid

SHANGHAI: Peoples Republic of China has made phenomenal progress in every field health sector being no exception. Currently China is No.2 as regards publications in medical literature and the number of publications from China are increasing annually at a very fast pace simply because everyone in medical institutions is engaged in research and publications. At present the largest number of clinical trials are being conducted in China and by the Year 2025, China is expected to become global leader in the field of research, clinical trials and publications. Many multinational pharmaceutical companies, electro medical equipment and scientific instruments manufacturers have established their plant in China which welcome investment and

times the number of submissions from China increased to four to five hundred annually but the acceptance remained very low. Hence it resulted in decreased submissions. However, following an author friendly policy we have also tried our best to teach, train and help our friends from China as much as we can, hence this eventually resulted in increase in submissions once again. The number of submissions increased a lot between the Year 2013 to 2016 crossing the figure of five hundred but then when the Chinese researchers realized that we do not publish everything that was submitted, the number of submissions suddenly decreased a lot and this trend continued till the Year 2019. However, the message was conveyed and Chinese researchers realized the importance of good quality manuscripts to get it published,

and August 2024 issues of the Journal.

I have been planning to visit China since long as the last time I was in China was in 2009 which was my fourth visit to Peoples Republic of China but then Covid19 pandemic came which changed everything. China was closed to the outside world, even within China there was strict



of Shanghai Xinhua Hospital on March 21st. Dr. Rongrong Ren Assistant to Deputy Chief of the unit was our host while the meeting was also graced by the presence of Dr. Junming chief of the unit besides other faculty members including the nursing chief.

Presentation at Xinhua Hospital

In my presentation I first introduced Pakistan Journal of



Group photograph taken after the presentation on Enhancing Academic collaboration between China and Pakistan at the Surgical Intensive Care Unit of Shanghai Xinhua Hospital on March 21st. Picture shows Dr. Junming chief of the unit besides Dr. Rong Rong Ren and other faculty members including Chief of the nursing chief.

isolation hence I was waiting for an opportune time to undertake this visit. Finally, the dream of yet another visit to this wonderful country materialized and I spent eight days visiting Shanghai and Changsha provincial capital of Hunan province from March 20th to March 28th 2024. The main

Medical Sciences, its publication history besides other Impact Factor Journals published from Pakistan. Apart from sharing the details of submissions and acceptance of manuscripts from China, I also shared with the participants the submission and eventual publications of

various reasons, first due to excellent internal and external peer review system that we practice and secondly due to lack of human resource and financial constraints as we wish to accept only the number of papers that we can manage and publish. Monetary gains have never been an attraction with us but we uphold professional ethics and go for quality of manuscripts before they are accepted for publication.

Types of manuscripts submitted from China

Giving details of the type of manuscripts submitted from China, it was pointed out that a vast majority of them consist of retrospective studies followed

Some useful Tips to enhance acceptance rate

In the next part of my presentation I shared some useful tips which could enhance the chances of acceptance of their manuscripts. Some of these included the following:

- Authors should carefully read, follow instructions
- Ensure submission with LOU, EC/IRB approval
- Scientific Misconduct statement
- RCTs must be registered
- EC/IRB approval must have No. & Date with Stamp
- Suggest Two to Three potential Reviewers
- Latest and relevant references from last five years
- Follow PRISMA Guidelines for Systemic Reviews
- Follow EQUATOR, STROBE Guidelines
- Mention software used for Statistical Analysis
- Involve Statistician from the very beginning

Structured abstract it was stated must have the sub-headings of Objective (Background and Objective), Methods, Results, and Conclusions with appropriate key words and the maximum word count should not increase three hundred. Some other useful tips which were shared with the participants were as under:

- Introduction must have rational of Study
- Restate objective at the end of Introduction
- Place & time of study must be mention in Abstract & in Methodology in Manuscript
- Methodology (Use subheadings for)
 - Inclusion Criteria
 - Exclusion Criteria
 - Ethics Committee / IRB approval
 - Indent Matter if needed
 - Use Hyphen (Table-I, Group-I, Fig.1)
- Do mention how sample size was selected
- While writing Discussion,

Surgical ICU is equipped with multifunctional monitors, ventilators, portable bedside ultrasound machines, CRRT machines, fiber optic bronchoscopes, blood gas electrolyte analyzers, twelve lead ECG, AED, Non-invasive and invasive heart functioning monitoring devices

of the world. It was also pointed out that we will prefer prospective studies, Randomized Controlled Trials, Epidemiological studies, innovations in surgical techniques, innovations in health delivery system, innovations in medical education, Systemic Reviews and Meta-Analysis on important interesting topics besides studies which have increased chances of further citations which will help improve Impact Factor of the Journal.

Deficiencies: While managing these submission from China, some of the deficiencies

Pakistan Journal of Medical Sciences prefers RCTs, Original Research, Innovative Studies which have increased chances of further citations

which we noticed include poor quality of English and Grammar mistakes, there are serious issues in formatting, too many tables and illustrations, too many tables some of which are unnecessary and can be easily eliminated, at times too much duplication and repetition of information, too lengthy manuscripts, poor literature search, too many authors with strong suspicion of gift authorship besides problems with references. The Chinese friends were told that if they are careful and take care of these deficiencies, it will certainly reduce and greatly minimize trauma to their submitted manuscripts before publication and thus increase the chances of acceptance.

Review articles: Always

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Academic collaboration between China and Pakistan

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

mention the different databases searched and the time period in the summary as well as in the man text. Citations of relevant papers published in Pakistani Impact Factor journals, it was further pointed out, will increase the chances of acceptance of their manuscripts. However, cite only relevant papers and we do not insist on it because it is unethical.

It was further stated that we can enhance this academic collaboration further if the quality of submissions is good, one can also plan special supplements to showcase the research work being performed in China. Special issues with Guest Editors from China can also be planned. Timely revision of manuscripts which must be accompanied with the covering letter as to how the authors have responded to the reviewer's comments and suggestions is a Must. Selection of a unique topic, innovative topics for research also have greater chances of acceptance.

My friend Alex Li was very helpful in translating my presentations in Chinese so that the participants could understand it much better. The presentation was followed by lively discussion. The participants were keen to know more about plagiarism, how many authors we allow in different categories of manuscripts, how much time it takes from submission to final publication, the peer review process that we practice, how the potential reviewers suggested by

First Changsha Hospital has a bed strength of two thousand while the number of beds in the Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery Department are fifty-two

the authors as per journal policy are selected.

Welcome Address
Earlier Dr. Rongrong Ren Assistant of Deputy Chief of Surgical ICU in her welcome address and introductory remarks pointed out that Xinhua Hospital is affiliated with Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine. The hospital was established in 1958 and it was the first comprehensive hospital designed and constructed by Shanghai since the founding of Peoples Republic of China. Medical School is spread over an area of two hundred sixty-one acres, affiliated hospital has a bed strength of 2450 and has three thousand nine hundred forty employees. This is an excellent tertiary healthcare facility.

Surgical ICU

The Surgical Intensive Care Unit has sixteen beds and over one thousand patients are managed

Dept. of Cardiovascular, Thoracic Surgery at First Changsha Hospital has eight consultants and twelve nursing staff members

every year. The unit is equipped with advanced monitoring system and treatment equipment like multifunctional monitors, multifunctional ventilators, portable bedside ultrasound machines, CRRT machines, fiber optic bronchoscopes, blood gas

those who were much more serious were hospitalized in Isolation rooms. Majority of the patients were elderly with over seventy-five years of age. When I asked her what about the end of life situations and how this is handled, she said, when that



With Mr. Alex Li on the river bank at Shanghai on March 22nd 2024.

electrolyte analyzers, twelve lead ECG, AED, Non-invasive and invasive heart functioning monitoring devices to ensure the treatment of critically ill patients. The unit has a very busy research department, Retrospective Research of MIMC Database and clinical data which is extremely helpful for research and publications. It also has the



Group photograph taken after presentation in the Dept. of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery at First Changsha Hospital on March 26th 2024. Third from right is Dr. Li Ke Chief Director of Vascular Surgery. Also seen in the picture are Dr. Xiaoke Qi, Mr. Alex Li and Mr. Shaukat Ali Jawaid.

facilities of Clinical application of near infra-red technology. Another important component of the unit is Laboratory Research extremely helpful in management of sepsis and organ damage. She also shared the list of important research papers published by faculty members in Impact Factor Journals in different countries of the world. She also introduced the faculty members present in the meeting. I also took this

stage comes, these patients are transferred to a different hospital set up where they can be with their family members who are allowed to spend time with them during their last days

Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine was established in 1958. It is spread over 261 acres. Its affiliated Xinhua Hospital has bed strength of 2450 & has 3,940 employees

but no family member is allowed in the ICU. Dr. Rongrong Ren also hosted a Dinner in my honour at a Chinese Restaurant where some faculty members were

pigs which is convenient and soft but it can last just for few years whereas other valves can continue functioning for eight to ten years or more. My research work he stated was

on prevention of infections for which I received my degree. It is extremely important to prevent calcification otherwise patient will go into heart failure.

Dr. Li Ke Chief Director of Vascular Surgery at the First Hospital of Changsha thanked Mr. Shaukat Ali Jawaid for his visit to the department. The presentation, he said was very informative and useful for the faculty members in the department who are keen to publish their research work in Impact Factor Journals. Other faculty members also thanked the speaker for his visit and

Dinner Reception
Earlier on arrival at Changsha, Chief Visiting Thoracic Surgeon Xiaoxiong Xiao hosted a dinner at a restaurant on March 25th which was attended by few other faculty members from the department. He is a visiting Thoracic Surgeon at the First Hospital of Changsha. I also took this opportunity to present him a copy of my book on Scientific Writing. He was busy in surgery and as the surgery took

If the authors follow the Guidelines, it will minimize trauma to their manuscript and ensure quick publication

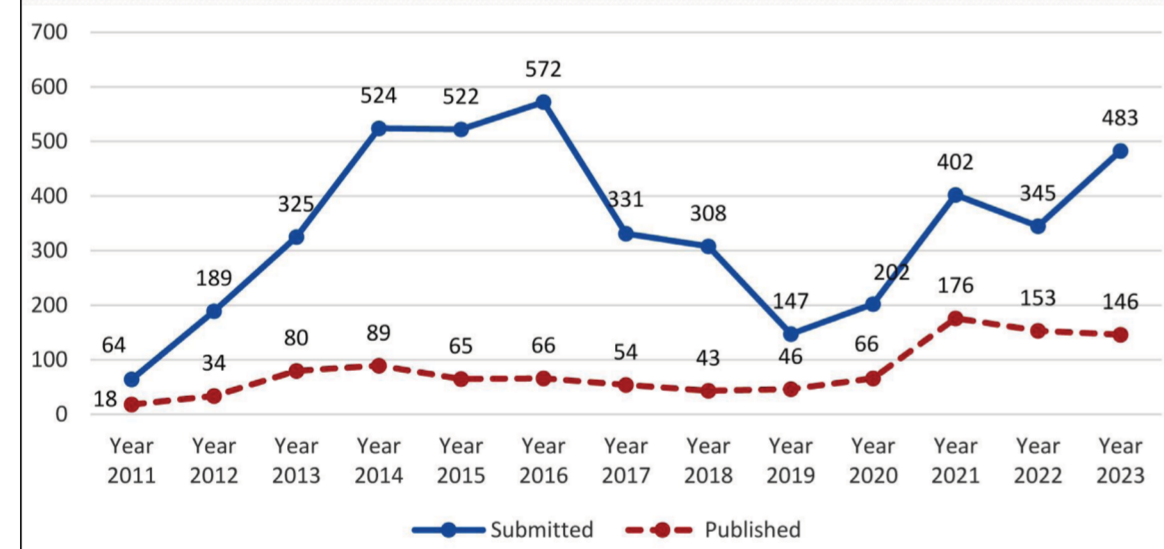
enlighten presentation. They also thanked Mr. Alex Li for his facilitation.

more time than expected, hence he could not join us at the meeting during the presentation.



Mr. Shaukat Ali Jawaid presenting a copy of his book "Scientific Writing: A Guide to the Art of medical writing and scientific publishing" to Chief Thoracic Surgeon Xiaoxiong Xiao who had hosted a dinner on March 25th which was also attended by few other faculty members from the department.

Submissions and Publication from China Pak J Med Sci (2011-2023)



Submissions from China

During the year 2024 so far the total number of submissions from China is one hundred eighty-four manuscripts out of which ninety four have been either published or have been accepted for publication in July

objective was to increase academic collaboration with members of the medical profession particularly the researchers in China for which through the courtesy of my friend Mr. Alex Li, visits to different hospitals in both these cities were arranged. The first meeting I had with the faculty members of Surgical Intensive Care Unit

papers in Pakistan Journal of Medical Sciences for the last ten years as we do our publication audit every year. The figures of submission and acceptance from a few other countries like Turkey, Saudi Arabia was also shared which depicted that the number of acceptance has always remained within 18-20% for



Dr. Rong Rong Ren (Third from left) from the Surgical ICU at Shanghai Xinhua Hospital hosted a dinner on March 21st. Group photograph taken on the occasion shows the host along with some other faculty members and Mr. Shaukat Ali Jawaid Chief Editor Pakistan Journal of Medical Sciences. On extreme right is Mr. Alex Li who had organized this visit to China.

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