

Editor-in-chief's voice

Choosing a path for CEJU

By decision of the board of the Polish Urological Association, made on April 17, 2023, I have been elected the third Editor-in-Chief of the Central European Journal of Urology (CEJU). As a reminder to our international recipients, CEJU is a continuator of the *Urologia Polska* journal, which had been publishing the works of Polish urologists continuously since 1949. The change to an English-language journal took place in 2009. Before Prof. Tomasz Drewa and Prof. Romuald Zdrojowy, who held the positions of Editors-in-Chief of CEJU, there was also a group of outstanding Polish urologists, which is why this is a very special distinction for me.

Working for CEJU is not a new experience to me, as I have been deputy Editor-in-Chief since 2013. Under the direction of Prof. Tomasz Drewa, CEJU has become a regularly published journal with a growing group of authors, reviewers and readers. Only in 2022 we received 260 publications, of which we published 12%. The work of section editors and reviewers results in a good pace of publication. I do not think our authors can complain about a long queue. Thanks to the change in Clarivate's policy, we can count on the long-awaited admission of the journal to the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE), and thus, the Impact Factor will be awarded. Despite the emergence of a number of competing, perhaps more adequate systems for measuring the activity of scientific journals, the tried-and-true IF is still the most important indicator of quality for most. So, writing this Editorial in May 2023, I am looking forward to next month's events with great anticipation.

The moment of taking over the reins of CEJU is a time to consider the role of this journal for Polish urologists and our colleagues from abroad. I am aware that our journal is a drop in the ocean of scientific information; according to Pubmed, approximately 10,000 scientific articles are published per year (27/day) on prostate cancer alone. There are 50 journals in SCIE with urology or a urological topic in the title. In addition, there are 20 similar journals in the Emerging Source Citation Index (including CEJU), and yet publications in the field of urology can also be found in dozens of non-profiled journals.

My goal is to shorten the time authors wait for their work to appear in search engines, because only then does their work take on a life of its own. We will support authors in promoting their work, also encouraging them to self-promote their results in electronic media. In addition, I hope to initiate cooperation with authors ready to write critical, sometimes counter-current comments and mini-reviews. Perhaps soon, critical thought and the ability to reflect will remain something that will distinguish human texts from those generated by artificial intelligence engines.

Today's scientific journal does not have to fit well in one's hand, it does not have to have a shiny cover, it may not even have one. Our main goal is to be an effective publisher for the creators of medical knowledge and a barrier to disinformation. We at CEJU also want to support young and less experienced authors, especially from our region, in improving their skills.

I hope to establish a community that willingly publishes and cites CEJU without fear. For this purpose, among other things, I intend to send inquiries and appeals directly to our authors. I hope that this way, with a small effort, it will be possible to create collective content of great value, as I recently sent you questions about the time issues in the care of patients with bladder tumor. I will publish the results of this survey in the next issue of CEJU.



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