**Publish in The Radiographer**

*The Radiographer* recently updated the instructions for authors and we are now seeking submissions of commentary and study protocol papers.

The aim of a commentary paper is to discuss relevant aspects of a practice or an issue. The relevant literature pertaining to the topic is reviewed and the various perspectives that exist are addressed. Opinions and recommendations are then expressed with the support of evidence from the literature. Author(s) submitting commentary papers for peer review are requested to submit to the Editors their relevant educational and professional experience as these will be considered prior to acceptance for publication.

The aim of publishing study protocols is to inform research projects that are proposed to commence or are ongoing. The study protocol must have full research ethics approval to be considered for publication. Quality improvement protocols are therefore excluded. Authors should describe in detail the methodology and the rationale behind the study design and analysis. The study protocol should discuss how the sources of study bias are addressed. The relevant sections of a paper should be included: Introduction, Methods, Discussion and Conclusion. Readers are encouraged to view examples of published study protocols in *Radiation Oncology* open access journal, http://www.ro-journal.com

Many of the papers submitted for peer review in *The Radiographer* are either research papers or quality improvement papers. Rarely seen in *The Radiographer* are pictorial reviews and case studies are published occasionally. Many of the challenges that we encounter in clinical practice can be written up as a pictorial review or a case study. The issues encountered and the strategies and solutions are of educational benefit to the readers. Pictorial reviews and case studies can generate hypotheses that lead to new research studies.

Images published in pictorial reviews could be diagnostic medical images, radiation therapy planning images or patient positioning and immobilisation devices. Since photos are mainly used as illustration, the number of words required is only 1000. Case studies or case reports are usually shorter than a full paper. The headings vary but will have an introduction or background information, description about the presented patient and a discussion where previous literature is discussed in relation to the presented case. The topics may include previously unreported patient positioning or immobilisation devices and previously unreported diagnostic and treatment techniques.

**Future plans**

It is that time of the year again to reflect on past achievements and start setting goals for the future. 2010 is to be remembered as the year that *The Radiographer* became open access. Publishing in *The Radiographer* gives you certainty that your article will be viewed and downloaded free of charge by anyone. Plans are also well underway for *The Radiographer* to be included in relevant medical and allied health databases.

For the first time, authors submitting for oral presentation in 2011 ASMMIRT will have an option for their manuscript to be peer reviewed. Upon acceptance, presented papers will be published soon after the meeting in *The Radiographer*. The Editorial Review Board of *The Radiographer* and the Scientific Committee of the 8th ASMMIRT are excited to work together to have peer reviewed abstracts presented. I urge presenters to take this opportunity and submit their paper for peer review.

Thank you to the authors for choosing to publish in *The Radiographer*. Thank you to the peer reviewers and to the readers for your continuing support. Continue to promote *The Radiographer* and encourage your colleagues to publish with us.

**Cherry Agustin**

**Editor in Chief**

**Acknowledgements**

November 2009–October 2010 peer reviewers of *The Radiographer*

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