

Editorial

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The Writers' Workshop

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As the journal approaches its fifth year of publication in 2007, the Editorial Team and Management Committee maintain strong enthusiasm in the quality and standards of content for the journal, and constantly seek to find new strategies of approach in obtaining suitable contributions. This is reflected in the growing number of authors who, in the past year have contributed scientific papers, editorials and latest reports, both nationally, and internationally from the USA, Vienna, UK and Quebec.

Indicators of ongoing and positive achievements from which the journal can attest its continuing success is also measured by feedback received from our readers. Data collected from the 2006 Readers' Survey has provided some very useful information that will assist in the planning and development of the journal over the next twelve months to guide and support quality improvements, and a summary of results will be published in the December (2006) issue of JEPHC. However as always, we value your feedback at all times, which you are encouraged to do either via the [Feedback](#) link on the journal website, or by email to the [Editorial Assistant](#).

We also regularly monitor statistics on the website to evaluate and compare user data relative to new visits, downloads, etc. This year has provided some very positive results in relation to growing numbers of new visitors to the site in 2006 compared to previous years as follows:

- 600,000 new visits from January to August 2006 (500,000 total visits in 2005).
- 200,000 downloads from January to August 2006 (100,000 downloads in 2005).

Another indicator of success for JEPHC and contributing authors, is in the growing popularity of selected JEPHC articles being featured on other websites, such as the National Institute of Clinical Studies ([Emergency Care Community of Practice Newsletter](#)), and by citation of JEPHC articles in other peer-reviewed publications.

Making a first appearance in this issue of JEPHC is *The Writers' Workshop* - a new section designed to encourage and guide potential authors to turn their knowledge into print. Stemming from a very successful concept that began several months ago by staff at the Monash University Department of Community Emergency Health and Paramedic Practice (DCEHPP), as an informal Community of Practice (to share 'know how' and hone writing skills for publication), the intention is to share some of those techniques with budding

authors who have indicated in the 2006 Readers' Survey that they would like to submit a paper to JEPHC for publication, but "don't have the skills".

The first guide in The Writers' Workshop is a contribution by our Section Editor (Book and Media Reviews), Ramon Shaban, who provides an excellent structured 'guide to writing book reviews'. As a regular contributor, and peer reviewer, Ramon has a wealth of experience in medical publishing, whose contributions to JEPHC are widely acknowledged. Additionally, we have also included an application form, linked to Ramon's guide, as an invitation to potential book and media reviewers for JEPHC, to consider either now or in the future.

This is the first of many features that we at JEPHC, hope will encourage our diverse readership to turn their valuable knowledge into print, and in so doing, will gain as much benefit from the writing guides as the staff has at DCEHPP.