

Editorial

The AJP – moving with the times

Malcolm Boyle PhD, Editor and Academic Lead in Paramedic Education¹

Affiliation:

¹Griffith University, School of Medicine, Queensland

<https://doi.org/10.33151/ajp.16.692>

The Australasian Journal of Paramedicine (the AJP) has been in its current format since it was resurrected from the Journal of Emergency Primary Health Care in 2013. The aim at that time was to ensure that Paramedics Australasia – the publisher of the AJP – could publish four issues per year with four research-related articles per issue. We have achieved this, and more. Since 2013 the number of manuscripts submitted to the AJP has increased steadily. This has meant that recently, some authors are waiting months after their manuscript has been accepted before it is actually published.

With Volume 16 of the AJP commencing in 2019, the AJP editorial team (with the approval of Paramedics Australasia) made the decision to move the AJP to ‘continuous publishing’, a move that will benefit authors, readers and fellow researchers. In order to make this move, the issue numbering of the AJP has now been removed. This change will allow for manuscripts to be published within a few weeks of being accepted for publication.

2019 sees further improvements to the AJP. Commencing with Volume 16, each published article will be assigned a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) reference so it can be located and accessed quickly and accurately. All articles from previous issues of the AJP have also been allocated a DOI reference, as has each article that was previously published in the Journal of Emergency Primary Health Care. In AJP articles from 2019 onward, the layout of each article will change slightly with the removal of the ‘cover page’; the information on this page will be integrated into the first page of each article along with its DOI reference. In pre-2019 issues, the DOI reference will be seen at the bottom of the abstract page of each article. Along with removal of the issue numbering, there will no longer be a single downloadable pdf published with each issue. Individual articles will still be available for download on the AJP website, and each volume will be made available on the Paramedics Australasia website at the end of each year, in its entirety and as a single downloadable pdf.

Also commencing in 2019, there will be an improved integrated process for plagiarism checking of manuscripts submitted to the AJP using iThenticate. This will allow AJP editorial staff to better identify and quickly deal with issues around plagiarism. With paramedics in Australia now practising under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, there is a greater need for the new profession to develop and build its own knowledge base. The AJP editorial team has responded to this need with improvements and tools to ensure it is at the forefront of pre-hospital related research and paramedic education research.

Dr Mal Boyle

Editor

Australasian Journal of Paramedicine