

# COLLABORATING JOURNALS

## HISTORY AND PUBLICATION SPACE OF THE JOURNAL OF APPLIED CLINICAL MEDICAL PHYSICS (JACMP)

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*Abstract*— A short article from the Editor-in-Chief and Founder of the Journal of Applied Clinical Medical Physics (JACMP)

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The JACMP has employed a Gold open access model from its inception. The JACMP is currently free to submit, free to publish and free to access. The author retains the copyright for all articles published in the JACMP. Over 1000 articles have been published under this model.

### I. WHAT IS THE JACMP AND WHAT IS ITS SIGNIFICANCE?

The Journal of Applied Clinical Medical Physics (JACMP) is the clinical medical physics academic journal of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM). The JACMP was founded in the year 2000 by the now defunct American College of Medical Physics (ACMP). When ACMP operations were folded into the AAPM in 2012, the AAPM assumed JACMP management. Along with the AAPM, the Canadian Organization of Medical Physicists and the International Organization of Medical Physics are sponsoring organizations of the JACMP. The JACMP was the first open-access journal for any medical specialty, being initially published in February of 2000. The first open access medical journal was the Journal of Medical Internet Research, initially published in August of 1999.

### II. MEANING OF THE JACMP INNOVATIONS WITHIN THE OPEN ACCESS REVOLUTION

Beginning in 2000 and culminating in 2003, the open access community met in several conferences resulting in declarations from the cities of Budapest, Bethesda, and Berlin. Although the white papers from these conferences had minor variances respecting one another, there was essential agreement on the major points. Open access publication is intended to:

- Increase the velocity of information
- Review, edit and publish faster
- Eliminate print
- Remove barriers for access
- Reduce transaction costs
- Establish the author as the owner of the copyright

Platform	Choice	Independent from	Operation	Choice
Computer Server	Intel Workstation		Operating System	Linux
Operating System	Linux		Application Software	PHP, MySQL, PKP*
Application Software	PHP, MySQL, PKP		Publishing Partner	Multimed
Publishing Partner	Multimed		Intellectual Property	Authors
Intellectual Property	Authors		Commercial or Society Interests	

Table 1 Platforms and choices for the JACMP operational model

\*PHP is a free scripting language, MySQL is a free database software platform, and PKP is the free Public Knowledge Project journal management and publishing platform

### III. BRIEF HISTORY OF THE JACMP

The ACMP formed an exploratory committee in November of 1997 to envision a new type of journal. It would be published only online and maintain a low cost publishing model. The members were:

- Michael Mills, Committee Chair and Founder, JACMP
- Bruce Curran, Chair of the AAPM Electronic Media Coordinating Subcommittee

• Jeff Fairbanks

• John Glover

• Kenneth Hogstrom, elected AAPM President-elect in 1998

• Colin Orton, Editor of Medical Physics

• John Pacyniak

• Alex Turner, Chair of ACMP

The following individuals have served as Editor-in-Chief of the JACMP:

• Peter Almond – 2000 – 2002

• Ed McCullough – 2003

• Michael Mills – 2004 – 2007

• George Starkschall – 2008 – 2012

• Michael Mills – 2013 - present

### IV. THE CURRENT MISSION AND OPERATIONAL MODEL OF THE JACMP

The Journal of Applied Clinical Medical Physics (JACMP) is an applied journal, which publishes papers that will help clinical medical physicists perform their responsibilities more effectively and efficiently for the increased benefit of the patient. The journal was established in 2000 and is an open access journal published bi-monthly.

Anyone with Web access may register with the JACMP web URL: <http://www.jacmp.org>. Find Register in the top banner and follow the instructions. Then, under User Home, find My Account; Edit My Profile. Under Roles, check the boxes for Reader, Author and Reviewer. Return to User Home. You will find you have an Author identity. Look to the right and you will find “New Submission”. Follow the Submission Guidelines on the top of the home page that tells you how to prepare your submission.

A submission from an Author will be assigned to an appropriate Section Editor for selection of Reviewers. Two Reviewers will offer comments and suggestions to the Author, which must be addressed to the satisfaction of the Section Editor. This process may be repeated at the request of the Reviewer or Section Editor. After acceptance, the contribution will be copy-edited and sent back to the Author for final proofreading. The Editor-in-Chief will review the paper and make a final decision for inclusion in the JACMP.

This journal provides open access to all of its content on the principle that making research freely available to the public supports a greater global exchange of knowledge. Such access is associated with increased readership and

increased citation of an author’s work. For more information on this approach, see the Public Knowledge Project (<https://pkp.sfu.ca/>), which has designed this system to improve the scholarly and public quality of research, and which freely distributes the journal system as well as other software to support the open access publishing of scholarly resources. See Table 1 for some perspective on the ideal operational model for an open access journal.

The Board of Editors of the JACMP is organized according to the following categories:

• 1 Editor-in-Chief

• 2 Associate Editors-in-Chief

• 64 Associate Editors in Radiation Oncology Physics

• 11 Associate Editors in Imaging Physics

• 2 Associate Editors in Radiation Protection

• 2 Associate Editors in Management & Professional Topics

• 1 Associate Editor in Radiation Measurements

• 1 Associate Editor in Non-Ionizing Topics

In 2014, the JACMP published 184 articles from approximately 400 submissions; it currently has 190 articles under review. As of April 7, 2015, the JACMP recorded the following activities:

• The JACMP database has 6029 registered readers, authors, reviewers and editors.

• The JACMP recorded 261,793 sessions from 152,826 unique IP addresses in 2014.

• We estimate the JACMP has about 50,000 users

• JACMP Peer Review is Double-Blind

• Typically there are 180 days or less from submission until final disposition of the manuscript

• Submissions are about 30% from the United States, 10% from Canada and 60% from the rest of the world

• JACMP is published on the Public Knowledge Project Open Journal Systems platform

• The JACMP utilizes Canadian copyeditors, layout editors and proofreaders

JACMP Current website access and download activity:

• Total Articles Accessed 2000 - present

o 2000 – 2004 (.pdf estimated) 250,000

o 2005 – present (.pdf) 2,380,440

o Total (.pdf estimated) 2,600,000

• Total Articles Access in 2014 324,733

• Total Articles Accessed in Q1, 2015 94,129

• One year after publication, the median JACMP .pdf article has been accessed ~700 times

• Three years after publication, the median JACMP .pdf article has been accessed ~1,500 times

• Ten years after publication, the median JACMP.pdf article has been accessed ~3,000 times

Table 2 below present the Top-four accessed JACMP .pdf articles in the past five years (2010 – 2014); as of April 7, 2015.

With a free to submit, free to publish and free to access model and over 15 years of continuous publication, the JACMP likely represents the limit of academic journal penetration into the worldwide medical physics community. It has become the world leader for clinical medical physics academic community.

good as its authors, reviewers and section editors. My thanks to all of these extraordinary individuals that have created the success the JACMP enjoys today.

Article	Number of .pdf accesses as of 4/7/15
Vol 12 # 2 Dose tolerance limits and dose volume histogram evaluation for stereotactic body radiotherapy (2011)	12,399
Vol 14 # 2 Dosimetric characterization and use of GAFCHROMIC EBT3 film for IMRT dose verification (2013)	10,168
Vol 12 # 2 Computed tomography dose index and dose length product for cone-beam CT: Monte Carlo simulations (2011)	8,997
Vol 13 # 3 Clinical commissioning and use of the Novalis Tx linear accelerator for SRS and SBRT (2012)	8,950

Table 2 Top JACMP articles and number of .pdf accesses as of April 7, 2015

#### V. FINAL THOUGHTS

The JACMP provides benefit to the patient and dissemination of scholarly work without restrictions to a worldwide audience. This has not come without a lot of volunteer effort and personal sacrifice. All reviewer and section editor work is volunteered. The JACMP is only as

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