

# RES MEDICA

Journal of the Royal Medical Society



## Editor's Note

**John Jungpa Park** MTh, BMedSci (Hons)

Editor-in-Chief

Correspondence email: [editor@royalmedical.co.uk](mailto:editor@royalmedical.co.uk)

## Abstract

A welcome note from the Editor-in-chief of Res Medica.

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Welcome to the latest edition of the *Res Medica*.

This latest issue comes at an exciting time in the life of this *Journal*.

The *Journal* is now published in an open access electronic format, making it free to access for all readers across the world. As proud heirs of the *Res Medica*, we have also begun to digitise our archive with the assistance of Library and University Collections at the University of Edinburgh.

The *Res Medica* is the Journal of the Royal Medical Society. Founded in 1957 by members of the Royal Medical Society,<sup>1</sup> it was intended to entertain a wider medical audience, beyond the “four walls” of the society, to share, debate and discourse topics of medicine, surgery and education.<sup>2</sup> The vision of the *Journal* began with a spirit of initiative and creativity knowing that it would be of use to the wider medical community in Edinburgh.

We are exceptionally proud to continue in the strong tradition of the Society and the *Journal*; that is, to provide medical students and doctors an open and unparalleled platform to share, debate and discourse topics of medicine and surgery across the United Kingdom and beyond. Today, at the heart of this *Journal*, there is a vibrant medical community, and over 50 student doctors, trainee doctors, clinicians and academics were involved at each stage of the publication process: including reading, writing, reviewing and editing articles.

This issue contains some outstanding articles covering a variety of clinically relevant areas. We publish the first study to look at patient perceptions of medical student dress (See *Jabbal et al.*), and a clinical case report on a rare sleep

disorder diagnosed in a ‘lazy’ University student (see *Yoon et al.*). You might also want to read why a pet parrot became sick because of the wallpaper (see *Haslam*). Two articles relate to anatomy; one about the anatomical teaching in UK medical schools (See *Pond*), and the other, a memorial of Professor Matthew Kaufman written by Owen Dudley Edwards (See *Edwards*).

At a time of change, we reflect back on the founding principles and we dedicate this issue to two editors of the past: James A Gray, the founding Editor, and Sir John Bruce, Honorary Editor. We especially thank the contributions of the editors, reviewers, authors and also the Library and University Collections team, who have been helping us to digitise our past issues.

As it has been said in times past, let it be said again: *Floreat Res Medica*.

## References

1. The Royal Medical Society is a medical students’ society founded in 1737 and began when a half a dozen students met together regularly for a month to dissect the human body and increase their knowledge of anatomy. Its philosophy of self-education aims attracted some of its best students, including William Cullen, Charles Darwin, Sir James Young Simpson, Joseph Lister, William Withering, Thomas Addison, Thomas Hodgkin. Even Albert Schweitzer was a member of this Society. Gray JA. History of the Royal Medical Society, 1737-1937. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1952.
2. Gray JA. Editorial. *Res Medica*, Winter 1957, 1(1): 9-10 doi:10.2218/resmedica.v1i1.285