

## Another great year of learning.....

Another academic year is passing quickly and the never ending stream of medical learning fills us with wonder, excitement and the usual pre-examination stress. The Dalhousie Medical Journal (DMJ) is also ushering in another great year, our 6th since its revival in 1995.

This issue contains a wide variety of topics to sustain your interest. Can you imagine going for surgery under general anesthetic and then hearing voices or feeling the surgeon's every move? Awareness under general anesthesia is uncommon but has serious implications for patients, leading in some cases, to post-traumatic stress disorder and other poor outcomes. You can read more in Luke Chen's very thorough and interesting review of this issue on page 21. An article by Dr. Brian Cummings, entitled 'Sir Frederick Banting: The Anti-Semite and Bigot?' not only casts a new light on one of the most revered Nobel laureates, but gives us a better appreciation of the academic-research environment in Canada at the turn of the last century. Our article on the air medical transport of cardiac patients in Nova Scotia provides a fascinating glimpse of how this five-year old helicopter service is being used to transport critically ill patients from rural maritime communities to tertiary care centres in Halifax. A retrospective case review by Dr. Charles Maxner helps to characterize and define the longterm prognosis for acute bilateral simulta-


neous optic neuritis, a condition that can result in acute vision loss. Finally, don't miss the diagnostic challenge, whether or not you're radiologically challenged.....the sudden severe headache sounds like a subarachnoid hemorrhage, but is it? Find out more on page 30.

From soliciting and reviewing the articles to designing and distributing the finished product, this issue of the DMJ is brought to you by a dedicated team of hard-working medical students. We've rebounded from some setbacks along the way - including two disastrous computer crashes - but we're working to prevent these from recurring in the future. We're proud of the finished product and hope that you enjoy reading this issue as much as we've enjoyed producing it.

Thank you for your interest and support.

Kamal Sharma  
Kate Lazier

Editors-in-Chief



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# Dalhousie Medical Journal Instructions for Authors

The *Dalhousie Medical Journal* will consider manuscripts in English which deal with any aspect of medicine including basic science, clinical medicine, surgery, medical education, medicolegal affairs, medical humanities and public health. An accompanying cover letter signed by all authors should state that the manuscript has not been published by another journal, nor is it under consideration by another journal.

Two (2) copies of the text, are required. A camera ready copy, or disk copy, of all figures, line drawings and graphs are required as well. In addition, a disk copy in Word 98 or Word 6.0 for Mac is requested. References should be listed at the end of the paper and end-note functions should not be used.

Manuscripts should be printed on standard 22x28 cm (letter-sized) paper. Submissions should be 3000 words (approximately 15 pages double spaced) or less. This word limit does not include references or figures. Longer submissions may be considered with prior permission from the Associate Editor-Reviews and the Editor-in-Chief. Pages should be numbered consecutively.

**Title page:** The title page must include the following information: 1) authors' full names, degrees and affiliations 2) first author biography 3) mailing address 4) e-mail address 5) phone number (home and work). The following information should be included if applicable: 1) pager number 2) Tupper Box # 3) fax number 4) year in educational program. To facilitate the anonymous peer review process, the title page should be the only page containing the authors names.

**Abstract:** The abstract should appear on the second page and should be no longer than 250 words. It should state the purpose of the paper, basic procedures, main findings and the principal conclusions.

**Text, Acknowledgements:** These should conform to the *Uniform requirements for manuscripts submitted to biomedical journals* (CMAJ 1994;150:147-154). These are on reserve in Dalhousie University's Kellogg Library under reserve call #971.

**References:** References are to be numbered in the order they appear in the text. The reference section should be located after the acknowledgements at the end of the text, following the sample formats given below. Complete information should be given for each reference, including titles of journal articles, names of all authors and editors, and inclusive pagination.

## Journal article

1. Johansson E, Aspirisi T. Missing cruciate ligament in congenital short femur. *J Bone Joint Surg* 1983;65A(8):1109-1115.

## Chapter in book

2. Hahn JF, Mason L. Low back pain in children. In: Hardy RW Jr, ed. *Lumbar disc disease*. New York: Raven Press, 1982:217-28. (Seminars in neurological surgery).

## Book

3. Katz J. *Common orthopedic problems in pediatric practice*. New York: Raven Press, 1981:125-7.

**Tables:** Tables should be numbered in the order in which they are referred to in the text. Each should have a brief title. Column headings and descriptive matter in tables should be brief.

**Figures:** Each figure should be planned to fit into either one or two columns of text. Photographs and illustrations must be black and white and of good quality. Figures should be numbered in the order in which they are referred to in the text. Labelling should be limited to the essential components of a figure. Figure captions should be typed on a separate page at the end of the manuscript. Electronic copies of photographs and illustrations are preferred in TIFF or PICT format (resolution should be 600 dpi), and in separate files. MS PowerPoint (97 or earlier versions) is also acceptable. Attention should be given to be certain the graphics have adequate resolution.

**Drug Names:** Both nonproprietary (generic) and trade names should be given for all drugs mentioned in the text.

## Submission by mail or in person:

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Submission by e-mail:

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Manuscripts can also be dropped into the *DMJ* dropslot in the door to room 2L-B8 (DMSS storage room) in the Sir Charles Tupper Building (Link), Dalhousie University.

# The Dalhousie Medical Journal Needs Your Support

The *Dalhousie Medical Journal* is a peer-reviewed journal published by students in the Faculty of Medicine at Dalhousie University. It is the only one of its kind in Atlantic Canada. Although the Journal is financially self-sufficient based on advertising, support from our patrons allows for the development and expansion of the *DMJ*. The funds donated are used to equip and maintain the Dalhousie Medicine Publications Office, a joint project of the *DMJ* and the Dalhousie Medical Students' Society. The office is also used by the *DMSS* Handbook committee, the yearbook staff, and other student initiatives that require publishing assistance.

We plan to purchase a fax/printer/copier, and indeed a scanner has already been purchased with your generous support. Additionally, we pay for a variety of services including: phone and long-distance, internet access, and equipment maintenance. Continued support will allow for the operation and expansion of the Publication Office.

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