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RESPONDING TO CHANGE

Welcome to the 2025 Issue of the British Student Doctor Journal!

Since the last issue published by the British Student Doctor Journal (BSDJ) there has been continuous change. With new governments, licensing exams, foundation post allocation systems, and medical breakthroughs, the everchanging landscape of medicine could not be more evident. Such change extends to the BSDJ, which has been transformational in our functioning and output. Therefore, it seems fitting that the 2025 issue embodies change and how we respond to it.

This is the first issue published under the **new Editors-in-Chief of the BSDJ, Nicholas Phillips and Sruthi Saravanan**, and we are proud of the change organised at the journal for our authors and readers alike. In fact, the editorial board has seen a lot of change as we welcome new Senior Editors, Associate Editors, Design Editors, and Faculty Advisory Board members to the BSDJ! These updates have facilitated faster response times to authors, whilst maintaining detailed and constructive feedback, contributing to our aims of fostering skills in medical publishing.

In response to our goals of providing medical publishing experience, the BSDJ has also updated our peer review training. To support the new uptake of reviewers we have published official peer review guidelines on our website, and are now conducting both mentored and group peer review sessions to upskill our new reviewers. These workshop sessions are available to all peer reviewers registered with the journal, and the guidelines are open access to all those interested.

Priding ourselves on accessible research and education, the BSDJ has begun extending its resources beyond the journal through the introduction of conference workshops. The 2024 Academy of Medical Educators Conference saw our first BSDJ open workshop, 'From Research to Publication: Maximising Your Chances of Academic Publishing'. As we continue to work towards sharing resources to support publishing for medical students and early career resident doctors, the journal has also been busy creating new opportunities for publication.

Editorial

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Thames Valley NHS Trust

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This new year will mark the introduction of two new competition prizes at the BSDJ, the **Fulchand-Kilgour Excellence in Peer Review Award** and the **Julie Browne Award for Excellence in Educational Scholarship**. These awards have been devised to motivate and promote excellence in medical publishing for medical students and early career resident doctors, as we continually adapt to the barriers facing this group in academic publishing.

The **Fulchand-Kilgour Excellence in Peer Review Award** recognises the peer reviewer who conducts the greatest number of rigorous peer reviews for the respective year, as selected by the Co-Editors-in-Chief. This award celebrates the contributions of Dr. Shivali Fulchand and Dr. James Kilgour, who established the BSDJ to support the development of early career academics.

The **Julie Browne Award for Excellence in Educational Scholarship** will be awarded to the best Education paper published at the BSDJ for the respective year, as selected by the Faculty Advisory Board. Mrs Julie Browne, Honorary Editor of the BSDJ and Chair of the Faculty Advisory board, has made a profound impact on medical education through her leadership, mentorship and unwavering support for future medical educators.

Author, reader and reviewer feedback is well considered at the BSDJ. As you will notice, the 2025 issue is the start of the BSDJ's move towards an 'as-and-when' publishing style. Previously, we had seasonal issues for authors to publish through at different points in the year. However, we will now be continually publishing articles as-and-when the manuscripts complete the copyediting process. This is in response to feedback, ensuring the BSDJ adapts to the current standards in medical publishing, and is best catered to supporting our readership and authors.

Through such change at the journal, we encourage you to welcome and adapt to the change in your own professional development. Research and publication can be a daunting task, but we extend our invitations for you to step into the unknown and submit your manuscript to the BSDJ.

As always, we extend our gratitude to our hard-working and dedicated editorial team, peer reviewers, faculty advisory board and our publisher, Cardiff University Press. We look forward to continuing our mission for medical student publishing throughout the coming years and are excited for what the future holds.

We hope you enjoy the 2025 Issue of The British Student Doctor Journal!

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To discuss an article published in this issue, please contact:

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