

## **Recommendations by EMMJ5 Medical Journals Conference**

### ***EMAME members***

1. Establish, if not yet available, national associations of medical editors, in order to:
  - \* promote capacity development of editors
  - \* advocate for research for health, and
  - \* strengthen links with researchers and policy-makers.
2. Establish links and alliances with local institutions in order to make effective use of available resources and capacity to:
  - \* Raise awareness of issues relating to authorship and publishing, and
  - \* Build capacity of authors in writing, and of editors in biostatistics and research methodology.
3. Share information, knowledge and experience with editors in the region, through local meetings and exchange visits, as well as improved use of the listserv and website.
4. Organize local meetings and training activities in collaboration with the trainers available in the countries and Region.
5. Involve young people in the management and editorial processes of the journal in order to promote editorship and sustainable publishing.
6. Promote gender balance on editorial boards in order to ensure optimal representation of the community served by the journal.
7. Support bridging the know-do gap between researchers and policy-makers by including summaries, policy briefs and consolidated recommendations within the content of research articles.
8. Ensure journal websites are maintained and up to date.
9. Ensure journal content is submitted to WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean for indexing on a regular, uninterrupted basis.

10. Propose any changes considered desirable in the EMAME constitution to the Executive Council.
11. Propose venues for hosting of future conferences, EMMJ6 and EMMJ7.

*EMAME Executive Council:*

12. Review the current objectives and Constitution and propose revisions.
13. Establish subcommittees to consider issues relating to visibility of journals and peer review and provide relevant recommendations to the Executive Council.
14. Promote EMAME, its role and objectives in countries of the Region where activities and membership are currently limited.
15. Promote alliances and synergy with related networks, such as, for example, the Eastern Mediterranean Evidence-Informed Policy Network (EM-EVIPnet) and the Eastern Mediterranean Regional Academic Institutions Network.
16. Promote bridging the know-do gap between researchers and policy-makers by encouraging journals to include summaries, policy briefs and consolidated recommendations within the content of research articles.

*WHO:*

17. In collaboration with the Bahrain Cochrane Center, conduct retrospective handsearching of journals in the Regional Office library for reports of randomized controlled trials, and explore opportunities to conduct similar handsearching of journals not currently deposited in the library but available at country level.
18. Continue to support capacity-building in the Region on medical journal publishing, including indexing.
19. Continue to support the objectives of EMAME, including future conferences, and seek alliances and means of sharing knowledge with other regional associations.
20. In collaboration with EMAME develop a framework to promote better use of published research in health policy making.
21. Explore the possibility of upgrading the indexing system of IMEMR and developing criteria for evaluation of journals in order to improve them.