70 years of the Journal of Clinical Pathology: Quo vadis?

Tahir S Pillay

It is indeed an honour for me to take over the role of Editor-in-Chief (EIC) for the Journal of Clinical Pathology (JCP) in 2017. Over the past 10 years or so, I have worked with the last two EICs, Runjan Chetty (Toronto) and then latterly with Cheok Soon Lee (Sydney) and am grateful for their contributions in leading the journal to the current level and they have left big shoes to fill.

In an era with the continuing proliferation of journals on a daily basis, much like neoplasms in pathology, there are immense challenges faced by both established and neo-journals alike in maintaining the captive audience and catering for needs of the readers. Another hurdle the journal is confronted with is the spread of superspecialisation and the avalanche of journal quality is citations, I thought it would be interesting to determine which were the most highly cited papers in the JCP and then follow these up with commentaries on the publications by specialists (or the original authors if possible) and an evaluation of how the area has evolved since the publication first appeared. Analysis of the citation data from the Web of Science has revealed the following data: the top five most-cited publications (order of numbers of citations) in JCP1–5 are listed below with the most cited research article being the development for a determination of urea by Fawcett and Scott (figure 1).2

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Figure 1 The two most highly cited papers in the Journal of Clinical Pathology.

REFERENCES

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