



BALKAN MEDICAL JOURNAL

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF TRAKYA UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Citation Abbreviation: Balkan Med J (Formerly Trakya Üniversitesi Tıp Fakültesi Dergisi)

EDITORIAL

The journal "Trakya Üniversitesi Tıp Fakültesi Dergisi" changes its title to "Balkan Medical Journal"

"The only thing unchanged is change"

Dear Colleagues,

As the editor-in-chief of the journal, I would like to inform you that we have decided to change the official title of the journal from "Trakya Üniversitesi Tıp Fakültesi Dergisi" to "**Balkan Medical Journal**". For more than 20 years, the *Trakya Üniversitesi Tıp Fakültesi Dergisi* has been published to disseminate biomedical scientific knowledge. However, the title was not universally applicable and this made it difficult to monitor citation reports. Authors and reviewers from other countries found it difficult to search in the online search-engines and to reach the website, because of the difficulty in pronunciation and syllabication. Furthermore, during manuscript preparation, the journal title is thought to be a factor when preparing the references section (1). We, as the editorial board of the journal, believe that an ideal journal title should be brief, clear, unique, indicative of the scope of publication, and easily remembered. The title **Balkan Medical Journal** meets all these criteria and also has the potential for greater global acceptance. The abbreviation of the title is now **Balkan Med J**, which also meets criteria for easy citing.

As a result of globalization and rapid development of online communication, the English language has inevitably become the means of academic communication. Thus, in order to respond to these developments and become a widely distributed journal worldwide, especially in the Balkan Region, we have also decided to publish our papers in English, which is the current *lingua franca* of international science. Previously accepted papers in Turkish will be published in Turkish, but new submissions will be accepted in English. The journal is of course continuing as an open access journal and all articles may be freely downloaded in pdf form at the journal's website. It is our hope that the Balkan Medical Journal will be the leading medical journal in its region.

Through this official announcement, we kindly request you to use the new title, i.e. Balkan Medical Journal, in your future communications with us. All previously accepted manuscripts will be published with the new title by the year 2011. I would like to thank all authors and reviewers, without whose contribution no journal can survive. I would also like to once again express my personal gratitude to Prof. Murat Dikmengil, the Dean of the Medical Faculty and Prof. Enver Duran, the Rector of Trakya University who supported us during difficult times, all editorial committee members, and international advisory board members for their efforts and contributions in making the journal a prestigious one.

Kind Regards,

Levent ÖZTÜRK
Editor-in-Chief

Reference

1. Aydingoz U. Ways to improve a journal's impact factor in the online publication era. *Diagn Interv Radiol* 2010;16:255-6.