

Symposium | Academia : [Symposium 23] The Future of Psychiatry and Its Journals: Insights from Editors-in-Chief

📅 Fri. Sep 26, 2025 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM JST | Fri. Sep 26, 2025 12:00 AM - 1:30 AM UTC 🏛️ Session
Room 1 (Main Hall A)

[Symposium 23] The Future of Psychiatry and Its Journals: Insights from Editors-in-Chief

Moderator: Yong Chon Park (Emeritus professor at HanYang University), Itsuo Asai (Heart Clinic Medical Corporation)

[SY-23]

The Future of Psychiatry and Its Journals: Insights from Editors-in-Chief

Itsuo Asai⁵, Kimberly Yonkers¹, Chee Ng², G. Eric Jarvis³, Tadafumi Kato⁴ (1. UMass Chan Medical School (United States of America), 2. University of Melbourne (Australia), 3. McGill University (Canada), 4. Juntendo Medical School (Japan), 5. Heart Clinic Medical Corporation (Japan))

[SY-23-01]

Grow Your Academic Profile Through Publishing

*Kimberly A Yonkers¹ (1. UMass Memorial Health and UMass Chan Medical School (United States of America))

[SY-23-02]

Asia-Pacific Psychiatry: Partnerships in promoting research publication in the region

*Chee Ng¹ (1. University of Melbourne (Australia))

[SY-23-03]

Transcultural Psychiatry: A journal's past, present and future

*George Eric Jarvis¹ (1. McGill University (Canada))

[SY-23-04]

The Role of Society Journals in Academic Publishing: The Mission of Psychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences

*Tadafumi Kato¹ (1. Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science, Juntendo University Graduate School of Medicine (Japan))

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Keywords : Publishing、psychiatry、Periodicals as Topic、Peer Review、Research、Editorial Policies

In this symposium, we will hear from the editors-in-chief of four journals Editors. They will discuss the journals' functions, challenges, and future : Yonkers Kimberly, Professor of Psychiatry at UMass Chan Medical School, former Editor-in-Chief of the online APA journal, *Psychiatric Research and Clinical Psychiatry* and current Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease*, will discuss how writing for journals can help authors grow and succeed, inspire colleagues, and invigorate their institutions; Professor Chee Ng of the University of Melbourne, Editor-in-Chief of the *Asia-Pacific Psychiatry*, the official journal of the PRCP, will discuss how journals can be a tool for collaboration among researchers and psychiatric societies to develop and share innovations in psychiatric advancement and clinical practice. Professor G. Eric Jarvis of McGill University, Editor-in-Chief of *Transcultural Psychiatry*, the journal of the WACP, will discuss the journal from a historical perspective, the problems it faces today, and its future development. Professor Tadashi Kato of Juntendo Medical School, Editor-in-Chief of *Psychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences*, the official journal of the Japanese Society of Psychiatry and Neurology, will discuss how to maintain and improve the quality of academic journals in an increasingly diverse world where there are many non-peer-reviewed print publications. We hope that the audience will develop a deeper interest in academic publishing and actively contribute to the journals from a variety of perspectives to enhance the professional, practice and policy development in psychiatry.

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[SY-23-01] Grow Your Academic Profile Through Publishing

*Kimberly A Yonkers¹ (1. UMass Memorial Health and UMass Chan Medical School (United States of America))

Keywords : Academic psychiatry、 Publishing、 Faculty development

Academic publishing is a triple win for the author. It shows her personal expertise, it enhances the reputation of her institution of work and it educates her colleagues about medical issues. Unfortunately, most residency training does not provide a curriculum for publishing. There are now several standard formats from the Equator Network (<https://www.equator-network.org/reporting-guidelines/>) that articulate best practices for publishing clinical trials, reviews, research protocols and observational studies. Not only do these formats enhance the quality of study reports, they can help guide writers as they traverse their writing journeys. This talk will discuss strategies to writing, the various formats as well as tips for getting published.

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[SY-23-02] Asia-Pacific Psychiatry: Partnerships in promoting research publication in the region

*Chee Ng¹ (1. University of Melbourne (Australia))

Keywords : Academic psychiatry、 publication、 research collaboration

This presentation will focus on the future of academic publishing in psychiatry from the perspective of Asia-Pacific Psychiatry (APPY). As the official journal of the Pacific Rim College of Psychiatrists and the Asian Federation of Psychiatric Associations, APPY is an international psychiatric journal focused on the Asia Pacific Rim region, that highlights the diversity in psychiatric behaviour, treatments and outcomes related to regional differences. In an increasingly open access world where diversifying journal output is necessary for long-term sustainability, it is essential to ensure improvement in academic publishing process and tools via technology development. More importantly, partnership with the research community in promoting research publication in the region becomes highly critical. The discussion will consider how journals can facilitate collaboration among researchers and psychiatric societies to develop and share innovations in psychiatric advancement as well as translation into clinical practice. In addition, the discussion will also explore emerging challenges in the future for the journal.

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[SY-23-03] Transcultural Psychiatry: A journal's past, present and future

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Keywords : Transcultural Psychiatry、Journal、Past、Present、Future

Background: Transcultural Psychiatry was founded in 1956 and was initially a newsletter before becoming the Transcultural Psychiatric Research Review until 1997, when it adopted its current name. Editors-in-chief have included Eric D. Wittkower (1956-1981), Raymond Prince (1981-1991), Laurence J. Kirmayer (1991-2023), and G. Eric Jarvis (from 2023).

Objectives: This presentation will review the journal's founding and history, the problems it faces today, and its future priorities.

Methods: Data will be drawn from the Journal's website, archived issues, published accounts, and oral history. Examples of current dilemmas will be taken from submissions, editorial decisions, and anonymized email messages. Future priorities will stem from anticipated publishing and editing trends.

Results: Transcultural Psychiatry was founded during the refugee crisis following WWII and the decolonization of old-world empires. Wittkower was a refugee, having fled Nazi Germany in 1933, and this lent a personal aspect to the journal and its focus. Despite influence by anthropology, the Journal has always retained a focus on clinical concerns. In 1997, under the leadership of Laurence J. Kirmayer, the Journal was revitalized, modernized, and given a new name and publisher. The Journal resists a purely open access model, which would excluded authors from less resourced countries. Going forward, the journal will need to streamline its procedures and incorporate AI into its operations, while maintaining its mission to readers from the Global South.

Conclusions: Transcultural Psychiatry is the first journal of its kind. As a bridge between clinical psychiatry and the social sciences, it occupies a unique niche in the publishing world. Its outreach to the Global South and reputation as a champion of diversity ensures that it will flourish in the years to come.

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[SY-23-04] The Role of Society Journals in Academic Publishing: The Mission of Psychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences

*Tadafumi Kato¹ (1. Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science, Juntendo University Graduate School of Medicine (Japan))

Keywords : Scientific publishing、Journals、Academic Society

Academic journals serve a critical role in upholding the quality of scientific research through rigorous peer review. At the same time, they are central to the evaluation of researchers' achievements, making the roles of editors and reviewers especially significant. Researchers often seek validation and visibility by submitting to high-impact journals. However, the repetitive cycle of rejection and resubmission—often needs unproductive format or style adjustments—raises questions about its true value. In recent years, the rise of open access (OA) journals has transformed the publishing landscape. While OA provides broader accessibility, concerns have emerged regarding the quality of peer review in some journals. A structural issue lies in the financial model of publication fee-based OA journals, which may incentivize volume over quality. Both commercial subscription-based journals and OA journals have their respective strengths and challenges. Against this backdrop, society journals such as Psychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences (PCN) are gaining renewed attention. Operated by the Japanese Society of Psychiatry and Neurology, PCN is committed to maintaining high scientific standards while offering a supportive environment for authors. Through these efforts, PCN achieved a 2024 impact factor of 5.0, placing it in the top quartile (Q1) among 282 journals in the Psychiatry category. This presentation will explore the evolving role of academic journals in scholarly publishing and highlight the initiatives undertaken by Psychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences, the official journal of the Japanese Society of Psychiatry and Neurology.