



About JIDC

The Journal of Infection in Developing Countries, JIDC, is an open-access peer reviewed medical journal with a mentoring system that aims to publish research and review papers as well as case reports on the subject of infectious diseases that affect the developing world. This includes laboratories from both developed and developing countries. JIDC welcomes manuscripts from any country but particularly strives to provide all infectious disease researchers from developing countries with an international forum for publishing their research findings. We provide immediate open access of accepted papers on the principle that making research freely available to the public supports a greater global exchange of knowledge. **Importantly, JIDC is a platform for the scientific interaction between the developed and developing world.**

The JIDC Mentoring System

The **Mentoring System** is at the heart of JIDC and is the major reason for its existence. It is important that JIDC is a journal for any lab in any country, developed and developing. To improve science, JIDC allows the interaction between developed and developing countries through the mentoring system. This unique mentoring system's purpose is to facilitate the publication of international research by two means: scientific mentoring and English/communication mentoring. Most international journals are run by scientists with international labs from countries with highly developed economies. JIDC is a journal that provides a platform from which developing country scientists achieve publication and be read in international labs. Our hope is that the research being produced in developing country laboratories will reach an international audience.

The object of research is to increase knowledge of a particular subject. To conduct research but not to share the results, therefore, is to defeat its purpose. The objective of JIDC is to allow researchers in all countries access to a high-quality international journal, not just to read, but more importantly, in which to publish research for others to read. If JIDC is to be a high-quality journal, however, we cannot just publish anything concerning infectious disease in developing as well as developed countries; we need to maintain the quality. There are two ways journals can maintain quality: the first is to accept articles of high quality and the second is to try to improve the quality of the research submitted. At JIDC we do both through our mentoring system.

Steps of the Mentoring System

1. **An article is received by S. Rubino, Editor-in-Chief:** When an article is submitted the Editor-in-Chief decides which Section Editor will manage the manuscript.
2. **To the Section Editor:** The Section Editor then has to decide if the article can be sent out for peer review or sent through the mentoring system. Articles for which the only minor

improvement needed are usually sent to referees for a scientific review. Other articles that are in need of scientific improvement are sent for mentoring. At times, JIDC editors try hard to allow research to be published and so we will often give scientific advice ourselves which goes far beyond that normally given by other journal editors. For example, we may offer advice on how to get access to control strains for certain experiments or we may suggest contacts, usually within developing countries but not always, who may be interested in collaborating. Sometimes the articles require more input than the Section Editor alone can provide. In these cases, the article is sent to our Mentoring Committee.

3. **Out for Peer Review:** Papers that do not require mentoring are sent immediately for peer review. Papers that are deemed by the Reviewers to need more in-depth advice are redirected to our Mentoring Committee. We are very grateful to all referees and mentors who review the submissions to JIDC.
4. **Through the Mentoring System:** The Chair of this committee decides if mentoring is applicable and will then find a mentor for the research. An iterative process of advice and reply then commences between mentor and author. The exact nature of this relationship, as with all mentoring, is not defined and must be allowed to evolve. It may take another year, or more, before the process is completed and the paper is ready for resubmission.
5. **The End Result:** The end result from peer review or mentoring is an article worthy of publication in a high-quality journal. Although it is important to note that a mentored article is not obliged to be resubmitted to JIDC.

Mentoring is a necessary part of teaching and learning in the sciences. Most of us, when we are PhD students usually, attempt to write our first paper, which is corrected by our supervisor and so the process begins. We are all mentored, to a greater or lesser extent, in the art of getting papers accepted for publication.

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