

Five Hundred Twenty Five Thousand Six Hundred Minutes



What is in store for PJP for 2023? I am aiming to meet with the board soon not only to take stock of what has been gained over the last five years, but also, to plan for the journal's future. Coming up with clear and actionable strategies to increase copy flow and submissions, boost readership and visibility,

and further enhance operational efficiency and sustainability would be critical, and we would need more brilliant minds to think these through.

Based on my experience, medical journals get indexed when their contents are relevant and contribute to public knowledge, they follow international standards of ethical and scientific publication, and their issues are consistent and sustained. Given PJP's relative stability as a publication, thanks in large part to the support by the Philippine Society of Pathologists, a modest goal I am setting for this year for the journal is to finally be eligible for indexing in the WHO Western Pacific Region Index Medicus, the WHO index of medical/scientific publications for the region. This will first require endorsement by the National Journal Selection Committee of the Philippines under the Department of Science and Technology Philippine Council for Health Research and Development.

As I was recently assigned by the Society as Chair of the Committee on Academic and Research Pathology, I am also hoping to finally get down to actively helping build capacity of PSP's members in generating research outputs. This Committee's work will hopefully bridge the gap between implementing research and publishing findings. Our bottom line is producing local data that will improve not just our profession and practice as pathologists, but also contribute to better patient management.

I guess it is normal to feel sentimental when one year ends and another one begins. For me, this sensation happens as soon as December—not September—hits, beginning as a mild flutter of seasonal excitement. As weeks pass, that anticipation quickly and inevitably degenerates into worry due to parallel deadlines gaining momentum. The feeling culminates to that last minute of the last hour of the last day of the last month of the year, like the final grains of sand sifting through an hourglass. At the final minute countdown, right at the cusp of midnight, I hover somewhere in the middle of anxiety and excitement, between frustration and fulfillment, maybe even suspended between things as polar as happiness and melancholy.

Amid the fireworks lighting up the night sky, the cheers and laughter of family, friends, and neighbors, the savory and social media-friendly feast in most dinner tables, COVID-19 on its third year, there still remains, thankfully, that singular moment to reflect on the year that was, and the promise and potential of the upcoming one. In that brief moment of calm and peace, everyone gets to get back to Day One, filled with hopes of making another trip around the sun. I remember sheepishly the other side of the closing year's highlights, where some things may not have gone the way I would have wanted them to, or the embarrassing mistakes I have made, the previous year's resolutions and plans that did not push through. In that safe minute, I am able to forgive myself and give my Self another chance. Five hundred twenty five thousand six hundred of it.

With the coming 2023, I am expressing my gratitude for the continued support to the journal, not only by the Philippine Society of Pathologists, but also its members who, despite their busy schedules, find time to write and publish, review as peers, cite relevant articles in their research, or read what the journal has to offer.

Amado O. Tandoc III, MD, FPSP

Editor-in-Chief

<https://doi.org/10.21141/PJP.2022.19>