

## EDITORIAL

### Scientific publishing during the COVID-19 pandemic

As we bring the year to a close, the PJHRD is pleased to present this last issue for the year 2021, alongside an online supplement of thematic papers on COVID-19 (<https://pjhrd.upm.edu.ph/index.php/main/issue/view/32>). The latter is a follow-through to the first COVID-19-related collection published last year.

Totalling 18 articles spanning over 150 pages, this current issue is as yet the lengthiest collection that the journal has produced for a single quarter since its maiden publication in 2015. It is also a signal to an update in our publication model, where we will be publishing papers dealing with the same topic as a supplement to our regular issues.

Achieving this feat has been truly challenging especially since authors, peer-reviewers, and even journal staff have been affected by the pandemic, resulting in extension of our usual peer review, production, and publication timelines. It was not unusual to encounter requests for extension of deadlines from different stakeholders who were either sick; were caring for family members; had to undergo quarantine due to exposure to probable or confirmed cases; had limited access to their computers as a result of enforcement of community quarantine regulations; or were coping with the many effects of the pandemic situation in their personal and professional lives.

Nonetheless, with perseverance and patience, this year's final issue gradually took shape, one article at a time. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our authors, peer-reviewers, and the journal team for their contribution to this endeavor.

This issue is also a testament to the fact that the gears of the scientific enterprise continue to grind even in the midst of what could be this generation's most formidable challenge. Despite the numerous limitations and restrictions we face, academics and scholars still seek answers to issues and questions in the area of human and environmental health, especially those that relate to the most pressing concerns of the population. On our part, the PJHRD reaffirms its commitment to support authors and readers by continuing to disseminate scientific knowledge during these times.

Maraming salamat po!

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Editor-in-Chief

