

Editorial

THEN, NOW, AND BEYOND

The South African Radiographer was launched in 1961. Its aim was to be a platform to keep members informed of training related matters and other newsworthy and social events. English and Afrikaans material was published. In the late 1970s, following the introduction of a three year training programme, the journal's contents included articles of interest, such as case reports or advances in imaging. Authors submitted typed manuscripts and two carbon copies to the editors. Due to publishing costs an author was restricted to a maximum of six black and white photographs to illustrate pathologies and findings. The manuscripts were not peer reviewed.

In the late 1980s English became the official language of the Society of Radiographers of South Africa as well as the journal. In the mid-1990s the editorial policy was that the Harvard method had to be used by authors. The focus moved from news events to scholarly articles. In 2003 www.sar.org.za was launched; the open journal systems (OJS) software included peer reviewing, online feedback to authors, etc. The editorial policy was to use the Vancouver reference method. In 2021 the journal obtained a digital object identifier (DOI) number. The associated metadata of articles are deposited with Crossref, which is a not-for-profit organisation. It provides a range of services to improve scholarly communication. Other publishers may access the DOIs hence it is important for authors to include the DOI of cited references, if available. This allows for creating a link to referenced citation; the impact of publications can be measured by means of citation tracking. This is not the same as the number of downloads of a publication as a downloaded publication may not necessarily be cited by other authors. Going forward it can be argued that the use of artificial intelligence to write articles could pose challenges to editors and reviewers.

Reviewers are pivotal as submitted material should contribute to the body of knowledge, especially in contributing to patient care, treatment and management. The role of a reviewer is to objectively evaluate the contents of a submission in terms of accuracy of cited literature, methodology, and discussion of results. A reviewer should alert the journal editor if there are potential ethical issues, such as plagiarism or questionable results. The overarching focus of a reviewer should be to provide a constructive, ethical, and unbiased review of a manuscript.

The current OJS platform of the journal provides for a person to register as a reviewer of the journal. Being a registered reviewer of the journal does not mean that one will be invited to review a submission. It is the responsibility of the editorial team to assess whether potential reviewers are knowledgeable with respect to their ethical and professional responsibilities. Perhaps there is a need to provide a webinar on how to review a manuscript to encourage those who may be interested in becoming a reviewer. Alternatively, current reviewers who have reviewed several submissions over the past few years could mentor interested radiographers. It is important to encourage potential authors and reviewers to contribute to the body of knowledge of our profession with confidence and passion.

The authors and reviewers of the articles in this issue are thanked for their support and contributions to our collective professional growth.

Leonie Munro

Co-editor

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Errata

November 2022 issue – Editorial: <https://doi.org/10.54450/saradio.2023.61.1.737>

Line 1 in paragraph 2: *procession charge* should be *processing charge*.

November 2022 issue – Original Article: <https://doi.org/10.54450/saradio.2023.61.1.733>

Page 11: The incorrect qualification for author Ernest Upeh was published in the article *Sonographers' awareness of chaperone policy and impact of chaperone use on transvaginal sonography in Lagos state, Southwest Nigeria*.

Ernest Upeh² BSc, PhD should be **Ernest Upeh² BSc, PgD**