

Letter From the JCTS Editor

Translational Science Coming of Age - Entering a New Decade

It is with great anticipation and a good portion of humility I look forward to the coming years and to follow in George Mashour's footsteps as Editor-in-Chief of JCTS. The journal has had a stellar year with many advances and this is a very solid foundation to build upon. As we are on the brink of entering the third decade of the 21st century, the concept of translational science, once seeming to need an explanation, is becoming increasingly familiar both to the scientific community and the public. Well-trained new investigators versed in this area are emerging from our institutions ready to contribute to advance the field. It is notable that the skillsets needed for a translational scientist (team science, crossing boundaries, communication, systems thinker, process innovator, among others) as outlined by Chris Austin and his colleagues in a recent paper, to a large extent overlap with the soft skillsets that are in high demand for future life scientists.



The journal remains a strong forum to share such innovative advances in training and mentoring, exemplified by several publications in the current issue, such as the reports on a team based translational journal club, on an institutional-wide faculty mentoring program, and on improving self-efficacy for clinical research skills, by Feghali-Bostwick et al, Bonilha et al and Sebastian and colleagues. The next generation will need to juggle the balance between work and life demands and many institutions are developing pathways and initiatives to provide much needed support. The article by Durbin and colleagues emphasize the important role of mentors as part of such a support system, necessary for a productive and well anchored future workforce. JCTS welcomes submission from the entire translational field, as exemplified by the publications on a microsampling methodology and the analysis of barriers to sharing results with study participants by Wang and colleagues and McElfish and colleagues, respectively. Irrespective of area, a common key principle is the adherence to quality, rigor and reproducibility, and efforts to use translational networks to further such goals is the subject of the publication by Schneider and colleagues.

All in all, the current issue truly represents the translational spectrum. As a final comment, I warmly encourage everyone that enjoys reading JCTS publications to contribute by serving as a reviewer. As the journal grows and the number of submissions increase, our goal is to maintain a swift turnaround time and for this we will need your support – how about this as a new year (not to say new decade) resolution?

With our warmest wishes for a Happy Holiday Season and a Prosperous New Year 2020.

Lars Berglund, M.D., Ph.D.
Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Clinical and Translational Science (JCTS)

Translational Science 2020

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Journal of Clinical and Translational Science



Volume 3/ Issue 6 of the Journal of Clinical and Translational Science is available online!

JCTS's mission is to provide a forum for the rapid communication of topics of interest and relevance to the large and diverse community of clinical and translational scientists with the goal of improving the efficiency with which health needs inform research and new diagnostics, therapies, and preventive measures reach the public. The Association for Clinical and Translational Science has partnered with the American Physician Scientists Association (APSA) and the Clinical Research Forum (CRF) to support the growth and development of JCTS.

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Translational Science Today



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