



## Journal of Radiobiology: A need of the hour

**T**remendous progress is taking place in biomedical research on both the basic and clinical aspects of radiation induced diseases throughout the world. A substantial part of this is undoubtedly contributed by the biological study of the tissues, a subject which falls in the subspecialty of radiation known as radiation biology (radiobiology). Radiobiology is a rapidly evolving field which is at the forefront of modern research, because of the growing epidemic of radiation induced disease throughout the world (1-4).

Recently, radiobiological models are widely used to predict the outcome of radiation therapy based on dose distribution characteristics. The need for these models has emerged as radiotherapy practice has evolved. As a result, radiobiology has emerged as one of the leading domains of the subspecialty of radiotherapy.

Many biomedical journals are published in English language each year, mostly from the western part of the world, to cater to the increasing numbers of scholarly articles. Their number has increased markedly in recent years in the field of radiation science, and the related fields of oncology, biology and physics. More recently, many online and open access journals have also made an entry into the area of biomedical publishing.

Almost every issue of the major journals in the specialties of radiation contains a number of papers on radiobiology subjects. In spite of the above plethora of journals related to radiotherapy, oncology, biology and physics, there is no title in the biomedical journals on the subject of radiobiology. Therefore, there is an urgent need for a readily and easily accessible medium for timely, efficiently, and widely disseminating this research for the benefit of radiation science community as a whole and especially clinicians involved in the care of radiation induced complications (5-7).

As a matter of fact, I was thinking for quite some time on this suggestion, and was excited when Dr Milad Baradaran floated the idea of this journal a couple of months ago. I responded to him in no time, which explains my enthusiasm with this adventure. There are several reasons for my extraordinary euphoria on this idea.

Research groups from developing countries have

published many papers in the recent past on the aspects of the radiation induced complications and they often found it quite difficult to publish their works in mainstream radiation journal (8,9). The research from the developing countries receives lowest priority scores in international journals. Moreover, there are also issues of delay, cost,

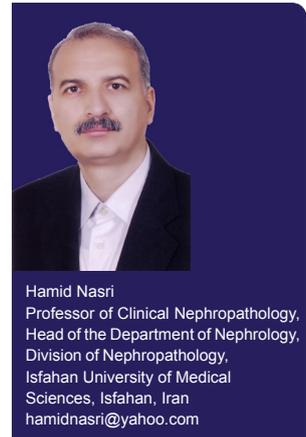
length of the article, access to the journals and so on. Many of the major journals also charge the authors for extra printed papers and the color photographs.

The scientific community in Islamic Republic of Iran has been at the forefront of biomedical research and publications (1,10,11). Some quality peer-reviewed journals are being published from Islamic Republic of Iran in the field of radiation sciences. As such, Islamic Republic of Iran is a proper place for the publication of this new journal on radiobiology. Against the backdrop of the above facts, the journal of radiobiology is the need of the hour ([www.Jradbiores.ir](http://www.Jradbiores.ir)).

It is a welcome addition to the growing list of scientific journals, in general and journals related to the fields of radiobiology from developing countries, in particular. It will serve as both a reference source for innovative research and an educational tool for radiation scientists.

It is truly an international journal as reflected by the origin of the members of editorial board. The journal also has associate editors from different parts of the world and will publish original articles, review articles, case reports, and practice guidelines relating to both the basic and clinical aspects of radiobiology. To start with, the journal will be published biannually; its frequency will be increased in the future.

The journal welcomes articles from all over the world, with priority given to those articles originating from the developing countries.



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### ■ Implication for health policy/practice/research/medical education

Radiobiology is a rapidly evolving field which is at the forefront of modern research because of the growing radiation induced diseases throughout the world. Recently, radiobiological models are widely used to predict the outcome of radiation therapy. As a result, radiobiology is considered as one of the leading domains of the subspecialty of radiotherapy.

### Author's contribution

HN was the single author of the paper.

### Conflict of interests

The author declared no competing interests.

### Compliance with Ethics Requirements

This article does not contain any studies with human or animal subjects.

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### Ethical considerations

Ethical issues (including plagiarism, data fabrication, double publication) have been completely observed by the author.

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