Journal of 3D Printing in Medicine Foreword

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To all of our readers, the Future Medicine editorial office would like to wish you a happy new year and introduce you to the third volume of the *Journal of 3D Printing in Medicine*. I would like to start the year by thanking our readers, esteemed Editorial Board, peer reviewers and contributing authors for their continued support. We very much look forward to working with you all in 2019 and seeing the journal continue to progress. In this foreword, we will present some highlights from the last 12 months in addition to looking forward to the year ahead.

Content Highlights

The *Journal of 3D Printing in Medicine* has had another great year in 2018. The journal published a large number of superb articles, comprising of a broad spread of content representing the diverse field of 3D printing in medicine.

The top read article of 2018 (as of October 2018) was an editorial entitled '3D printing in dentistry' written by Srinivasa Prasad *et al.* [1]. Dentistry is a field where 3D printing is already starting to make an impact, and this editorial highlights the role of 3D printing in diagnosis, treatment and education in dentistry. Our second-most-read article was an editorial that discussed the role of tissue-mimicking 3D printing in the personalised treatment for cardiovascular problems [2]. Written by Zhen Qian and Mani Vannan, this article concluded that this method of treatment is showing promise and will have an important role in the future. Another article which proved very popular with our readers was an intriguing case study entitled 'Enhancing the approach to hip dysplasia: the impact of 3D printing on a unique case of diaphyseal aclasis' [3]. This paper, written by Danoob Dalili *et al.*, investigates how producing patient-specific anatomical models using 3D printing has reduced the need for invasive surgery. Finally, a special report authored by Taciana Pereira *et al.* entitled 'State of the art biofabrication technologies and materials for bone tissue engineering' [4] also attracted a great deal of attention. This article discusses the history and potential of using bioprinting in bone tissue engineering. This range of article topics reflects the ever-expanding field of 3D printing in medicine and we encourage any submissions exploring these topics in the future.

Readership demographics

It is always interesting to consider the impact of our content, and as the journal grows, our readership demographic also changes. This year the USA came top again for readership of the *Journal of 3D Printing in Medicine* with 32%, with Asia (29%) and Europe (28%) following closely (see [Figure 1](#)). While our content continues to have an impact across Europe and the West, we expect to see continued growth in emerging scientific communities and hope to continue our work toward reaching a truly global audience.

Social media

The *Journal of 3D Printing in Medicine* remains active across social media and you can follow our latest updates on Twitter (@3DPrinting_med) and linkedin [5]. We use Twitter to discuss the most recent research in the field of 3D printing, the latest news, journal highlights and newly published articles. Through these mediums, we continue to enjoy engaging with our readers and experts in the field.

3DMedNet

The *Journal of 3D Printing in Medicine* is proud to work alongside 3DMedNet [6], a free-access online resource that provides up-to-date, essential research and information on 3D printing in all medical fields, from the dentistry to

Figure 1. *Journal of 3D Printing in Medicine* readership demographic 2018.

bioprinting. 3DMedNet offers easy access to breaking news, exclusive features and interviews provided by Future Science Group.

Conclusions

As always, we welcome any feedback from our readers, whether that be key topics that you feel should be covered or where you see the field going in the future. We welcome unsolicited research, review and opinion article proposals and would be delighted to hear from you if you are interested in submitting to the journal. In particular, we are looking for submissions surrounding the following key topic areas:

- 3D printing and bioprinting as they relate to:
 - Implants and prosthetics
 - Medical devices and device components, such as hearing aids, dental implants and surgical implements
 - Surgical guides
 - Tissue engineering
 - Organ replacement
 - Biological materials for drug and toxicity screening
 - Pharmaceutical research and fabrication
- Regulatory and safety issues
- Development of 3D printing equipment and technology
- Patent and copyright issues
- Health economics

We greatly look forward to collaborating with you next year and hope to see the *Journal of 3D Printing in Medicine* growing and having even more impact in the scientific community in 2019.

Financial & competing interest's disclosure

Mike Gregg is an employee of Future Medicine Ltd. The author has no other relevant affiliations or financial involvement with any organization or entity with a financial interest in or financial conflict with the subject matter or materials discussed in the manuscript apart from those disclosed.

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