

# ORIGINAL ARTICLE



## Ten Years with the Journal of Research on History of Medicine (RHM)

### Abstract

The journal of research on history of medicine (RHM) starts to be published from Feb. 2012. It passed its first decade of life by publishing current issue. By analyzing these 10 volumes, it shows that there are 284 articles that are written by 342 authors from 18 countries. These authors are affiliated to 90 institutions, that Shiraz University of medical sciences has the most contribution among them. In addition, the share of Iranian authors is more than other countries significantly. The journal is indexed in 14 indexing and abstracting databases. It needs to set a program for improving the quality of international cooperation, indexing of the journal and published papers for next decade.

**Key words:** Medical journalism, History of medicine, Persian medicine, Publications

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## Introduction

Journal of Research on History of Medicine (RHM) has started to be published at February 2012 and we are celebrating 10th year's birthday of it by publishing 2021 November issue (Figure 1). This journal is published by Research Office for the History of Persian Medicine at Shiraz University of Medical sciences. We has started to publish this journal aiming to find “a way to introduce the science tradition and medical scientific methods” throughout the history and “to help the medicine, we are on our way to examine and analyze its history”. (Mehdizadeh, 2012, pp. 1-2) The office of journal and Research Office for the History of Persian Medicine is located in historical 200 years old building, namely Behbudistan Namazi (Figure 2). Haj Mohammad Hassan Namazi dedicated this building as endowment to care patients in 1925 (Figure 3). (Nadim, and Adabinia, 2020, pp. 239-244)

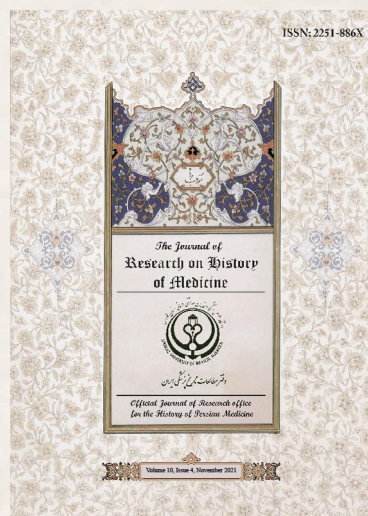


Figure 1. The cover of the Journal of Research on History of Medicine (Photo is taken by the author)



Figure 2. Behbudistan Namazi; left: When it was built (the copyright of this picture is anonymous because it is very old), right: Nowadays (Photo is taken by the author)





Figure 3. Left: The original sign of Behbudistan Namazi, right: Current entrance gate of Behbudistan Namazi (Photo is taken by the author)

Now, after 10 years publishing the journal of research on history of medicine continuously, in this paper the analysis of the content of the journal is presented. It helps us to find the status of the journal and try to improve it during its 2nd decade of publishing.

### Editorial of the journal

The editorial team of research on history of medicine has minority change during these 10 years. In advance, Dr. Gholamreza Hatam, Dr. Alireza Mehdizadeh, and Dr. Arman Zargaran were Chairman, Editor in Chief, and Deputy Editor, respectively. Later, it was changed and Dr. Mehdizadeh and Dr. Zargaran are Chairman and Editor in Chief, respectively since 2019 up to now. (Zargaran, 2019, pp. 1-2) The editorial team of the journal consists of faculties with different related professions including:

Dr. Alireza Mehdizadeh (Chairperson, Associate professor of medical physics, head of research office for the history of Persian medicine at Shiraz University of medical sciences; since 2012 to now)

Dr. Arman Zargaran (Editor in Chief, Assistant professor of history of medicine at Tehran University of medical sciences; since 2012 to now)

Dr. Manizheh Abdollahi (Assistant Editor, Associate professor of Persian literature at Shiraz University of medical sciences; since 2012 to now)

Dr. Hosein Kiani (Assistant Editor, Associate professor of Arabic Language and literature at Shiraz University; since 2012 to now)

Dr. Ehya Amalsaleh (Language Editor, Professor of English language at Shiraz University of medical sciences; since 2012 to now)

Dr. Mostafa Nadim (Assistant Editor, Associate professor of History at Shiraz University; since 2019 to now)

Dr. Ali Razmkon (Assistant Editor, Neurosurgeon, since 2012 to 2018)

Dr. Pouya Faridi (Assistant Editor, Monash University, since 2015 to 2019)



Alireza Tutoonchi (Executive manager, since 2012 to 2016)

Also, Zahra Rajabpour Shirazi as office of journal and Maryam Shokri in the research office for the history of Persian medicine are working in the journal. Furthermore, there are an international advisory editorial board including:

Dr. Abdolali Mohagheghzadeh (Shiraz University of Medical sciences, Iran), Dr. Anthony Skrobonja (Croatian Scientific Society for the History of Health Culture, Rijeka, Croatia), Dr. Ashkan Mowla (State University of New York, United States), Dr. Ali Gorji (Institute of Physiology I, University of Münster, Germany), Dr. Mónica Ferentzi (Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary), Dr. Inga Karaia (Tbilisi State Academy of Arts and President of ICOM National Committee in Georgia, Georgia), Dr. R. Shane Tubbs (Pediatric Neurosurgery, Children's Hospital, Birmingham, AL, United States), Dr. Mohammadali M. Shoja (Pediatric Neurosurgery, Children's Hospital, Birmingham, AL, United States), Dr. Domenico Santoro (Unit of Nephrology and Dialysis, Department of Medicine and Pharmacology, University of Messina, Messina, Italy), Dr. Sirus Gerami (Department of Veterans and Pioneers, Delhaize University, Canada), Dr. Glen M. Cooper (Einstein Center Chronoi, Freie University, Berlin, Germany), and Dr. Halil Tekiner (Erciyes University Faculty of Medicine, Kayseri, Turkey).

#### **Language of the journal**

The journal was started to be published as a three lingual journal at first. Authors could publish their papers in English, or Persian or Arabic until end of 2018. But, it makes some difficulties to get more high quality indexings for the journal. Therefore, the policy of journal was changed and the journal was published only in English since 2019 to now. (Mehdizadeh, 2018, pp. 193-194)

#### **Abstracting and indexing of the journal**

Abstracting and indexing of the journal is too important to increase the visibility of the published articles. Therefore, journal of research on history of medicine aims to index in high quality abstracting databases. Currently, journal of research on history of medicine is indexed in DOAJ, EBSCO, Index Copernicus, ISC, HINARI, SID, Google scholar, Open J-Gate, Geneva Free Medical Journals, Free Medical Journals, EMRmedex, Iran Medex, Magiran and Electronic Journals Library. Also, it is under review by ISI web of Science for indexing in ESCI.

Furthermore, this journal is Scientific-Research rated by the Iranian Medical Journals Commission. Journal of research on history of medicine is published under supervision of UNESCO Chair for the history of traditional medicine.

#### **Authors and articles**

There are 284 articles which were published in the journal of research on history of medicine during past 10 years. The detail of these published articles are summarized in Table 1.



**Table 1:** Published articles in the journal of research on history of medicine in the 10th volumes published

Volume	Issue	Editorial	Original	Biography	Bibliography	Review	Letter to Editor	Short Communication	Book Review	Report	Other	Obituary	Commentary	Announcement	News	Total	Total in a Year
1	1	1	2	2			2									7	26
	2	1	3	1		1										6	
	3	1	2			1	1	1								6	
	4	1	4		1	1										7	
2	1	1	4							1		1				7	28
	2	1	4					1		1						7	
	3	1	3	1			1				1					7	
	4	1	4			1	1									7	
3	1	1	5					1								7	29
	2	1	4			1		1								7	
	3	1	3			1	1			1						7	
	4	1	4				1	1					1			8	
4	1	1	3	1	1		1									7	28
	2	1	5							1						7	
	3	1	4				1	1								7	
	4	1	5	1												7	
5	1	1	5													6	27
	2	1	4								1	1				7	
	3	1	5				1									7	
	4	1	4	1			1									7	
6	1	1	5													6	27
	2	1	3		1		1					1				7	
	3	1	5								1					7	
	4	1	5				1									7	
7	1	1	5				2									8	26
	2	1	5													6	
	3		5					1								6	
	4	1	5													6	
8	1	1	5										1			7	29
	2		5				1									6	
	3	1	5					1						1		8	
	4	1	5					1							1	8	
9	1	1	5				1	1								8	32
	2		6				2									8	
	3	1	5				1	1								8	
	4	1	5				1	1								8	
10	1	1	5				1	1								8	32
	2	1	5				2									8	
	3	1	5				1		1							8	
	4	1	5				2									8	
Total		37	176	7	3	6	27	13	1	4	3	3	2	1	1	284	



There are 174, 96 and 13 papers in English, Persian and Arabic, respectively. In addition, one article was published trilingual (in Persian, English and Arabic).

There are 342 authors who contribute to write these 284 papers. Among them, 90 authors have more than one articles and 252 ones have only one article. In Table 2, the authors who contribute to write at least 6 articles in this journal is listed.

**Table 2:** The authors who contribute to write at least 6 articles in the journal of research on history of medicine

No.	Author	Article type	Number	Total papers
1	Arman Zargaran	<i>Editorial</i>	22	44
		<i>Original</i>	13	
		<i>Short Communication</i>	3	
		<i>Announcement</i>	1	
		<i>Obituary</i>	2	
		<i>Report</i>	1	
		<i>Review</i>	1	
		<i>Other</i>	1	
2	Alireza Mehdizadeh	<i>Editorial</i>	8	15
		<i>Original</i>	7	
3	Mostafa Nadim	<i>Original</i>	13	15
		<i>Short Communication</i>	1	
4	Seyyed Alireza Golshani	<i>Letter to Editor</i>	1	11
		<i>Original</i>	8	
		<i>Bibliography</i>	1	
5	Hassan Yarmohammadi	<i>Biography</i>	2	10
		<i>Original</i>	10	
6	Manizheh Abdollahi	<i>Editorial</i>	3	9
		<i>Original</i>	4	
		<i>Short Communication</i>	1	
		<i>Letter to Editor</i>	1	
7	Abdolali Mohagheghzadeh	<i>Original</i>	2	7
		<i>Review</i>	2	
		<i>Short Communication</i>	1	
		<i>Memorial</i>	1	
8	Masoumeh Dehghan	<i>Obituary</i>	1	7
		<i>Original</i>	7	
9	Behnam Dalfardi	<i>Original</i>	6	7
		<i>Report</i>	1	
10	Ehsan Mostafavi	<i>Original</i>	7	7
11	Soleyman Heidari	<i>Original</i>	7	7
12	Gregory Tsoucalas	<i>Original</i>	4	6
		<i>Review</i>	1	
		<i>Biography</i>	1	
13	Konstantinos Markatos	<i>Original</i>	3	6
		<i>Review</i>	1	
		<i>Biography</i>	1	
		<i>Letter to Editor</i>	1	
14	Konstantinos Laios	<i>Original</i>	5	6
		<i>Letter to Editor</i>	1	



No.	Author	Article type	Number	Total papers
15	Mahboobeh Farkhondehzadeh	<i>Original</i>	5	6
		<i>Bibliography</i>	1	
16	Georgios Androutsos	<i>Original</i>	4	6
		<i>Review</i>	1	
		<i>Letter to Editor</i>	1	

Although, A.Zargaran and A.Mehdizadeh have most articles among authors, most of them are editorials, obituary, announcement and report. It is due to their roles as Chairperson or Editor in Chief.

These 349 authors belongs to 18 countries from Asia, Europe, Africa, America and Australia continents according to their affiliations (Table 3).

**Table 3:** The number of authors from each country contributed to RHM based on the affiliations

No.	Country	Number
1	Iran	281
2	Greece	19
3	India	15
4	Saudi Arabia	12
5	USA	5
6	Croatia	3
7	Turkey	3
8	Egypt	2
9	France	1
10	Azerbaijan	1
11	Pakistan	1
12	Venezuela	1
13	Bahrain	1
14	Georgia	1
15	Australia	1
16	New Zealand	1
17	Italy	1
18	Germany	1

There are 90 individual institutes among the affiliations, used by these 349 authors. The frequency and distribution of use of these affiliations and countries are mentioned in the Figure 4 and Table 4, respectively.



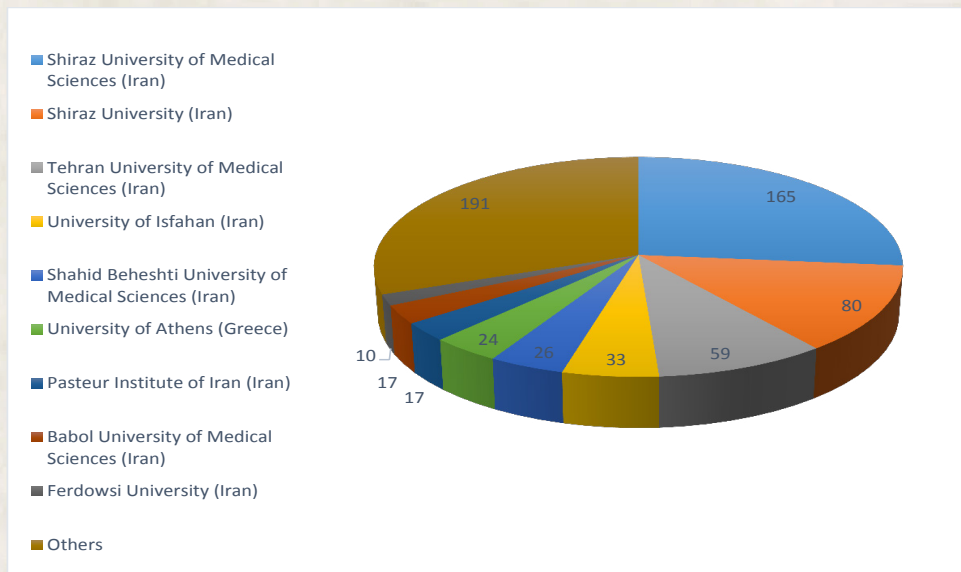


Figure 4. Distribution of institutions affiliated by authors (whose are more than 10 times)

Table 4: Distribution of the authors' countries based on the affiliations

No.	Country	Number
1	Iran	119
2	Greece	45
3	India	15
4	Saudi Arabia	14
5	USA	5
6	Croatia	4
7	Turkey	3
8	Egypt	2
9	France	1
10	Azerbaijan	1
11	Pakistan	1
12	Venezuela	1
13	Bahrain	1
14	Georgia	1
15	Australia	1
16	New Zealand	1
17	Italy	1
18	Germany	1

Also, top 21 institutions that their researchers have most contribution to RHM during these 10 years are listed in the Table 5.





**Table 5:** Top 21 institutes that contribute to RHM according to the authors' affiliations

Row	Institute	Country	Number
1	Shiraz University of Medical Sciences	Iran	165
2	Shiraz University	Iran	80
3	Tehran University of Medical Sciences	Iran	59
4	University of Isfahan	Iran	33
5	Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences	Iran	26
6	University of Athens	Greece	24
7	Pasteur Institute of Iran	Iran	17
8	Babol University of Medical Sciences	Iran	17
9	Ferdowsi University	Iran	10
10	Konstantopouleio Hospital of Nea Ionia	Greece	9
11	Iran University of Medical Sciences	Iran	9
12	Shahed University	Iran	9
13	University of Thessaly	Greece	8
14	Ministry of Health and Medical Education	Iran	7
15	Al Imam Mohammad Ibn Saud Islamic University	Saudi Arabia	7
16	Urmia University of Medical Sciences	Iran	7
17	Islamic Azad University	Iran	7
18	Mazandaran University of Medical Sciences	Iran	7
19	University of Zanjan	Iran	6
20	Tehran University	Iran	6
21	Jouf University	Saudi Arabia	6

### Conclusion

The results show that journal of research on history of medicine succeeds to publish continuously during past 10 years and absorbs international cooperation very well. It is indexed in 14 indexing and abstracting databases. However, it needs to set a program for improving the quality of international cooperation, indexing the journal and published papers for next decade.

### Conflict of Interest

None.

### References

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Zargaran, A., 2019. New Strategies and Policies for the Journal of Research on History of Medicine, 2019. *Journal of Research on History of Medicine*, 8(1), pp. 1-2.

