

## Editorial

# Quality in Primary Care 2012

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*Quality in Primary Care* completed its 10th year and 20th volume as a peer-reviewed journal in 2012, a year which has seen health systems around the world increasingly recognise the pivotal role of primary care for higher effectiveness, greater safety and better patient experience, and an environment where quality improvement, leadership and teamwork are seen as integral to primary care.

Highlights of the journal this year have been a special themed issue on interprofessional education,<sup>1</sup> with Keith Stevenson as guest editor, and closely related to this, the Position Paper led by Marianne Samuelson and colleagues from the European Forum for Primary Care on interprofessional collaboration.<sup>2</sup> As Hugh Barr eloquently stated in his guest editorial for the themed issue entitled 'Quality, everybody's business', 'No one profession can respond adequately to the demands of today's practice, least of all primary care, where more and more services are located.'<sup>3</sup>

Interprofessional working and education is an international issue, and work on another Position Paper on Interprofessional Education, led by Loes van Amsterdam,<sup>4</sup> is due to be published in the journal next year. In another editorial on leadership for quality, Amanda Howe and co-authors state 'we do not know where things are going wrong, we do not know what to do about it if we are aware of problems, and we apply our individual energies in isolation where shared organisational action could be more effective and less onerous'.<sup>5</sup>

*Quality in Primary Care* will become ever more important as a vehicle for communicating advances in the science of quality improvement and its application to family and community practice. This is reflected in the range, quality and origin of submissions to the journal which are increasingly international. International collaboration is also greater, with over 17% of articles by researchers from more than one country. Last year we received 77 submissions to the journal. These were from the United Kingdom (32 submissions), Australia and New Zealand (10), mainland

Europe (16), the United States and Canada (13), South America (1), the Middle East and Asia (4).

Most articles submitted in 2011 were research papers (51); other formats included editorials or guest editorials (6), articles on quality improvement in action (4), short reports (2), discussion papers (8), practitioner perspective (1), international exchange (4) and quality digest (1) articles. For articles submitted in 2012, the average time (for articles published or rejected) was 233 days from submission to publication, acknowledgement 3.5 days, initial decision 105 days and submission to final decision 161 days. We initially reject around 50% of unsolicited papers, although some of these are published following extensive revision and resubmission. Overall, excluding commissioned articles and editorials, 80% of papers were accepted or accepted subject to revision.

Articles in the journal are receiving an increasing number of citations, with a higher proportion of articles being cited since its inception. The unofficial impact factor for *Quality in Primary Care* (number of citations per article per year over the previous two years calculated using [www.scimagojr.com](http://www.scimagojr.com)) continues to increase, from 0.60 in 2010 to 0.97 in 2011.

I would like to thank all the members of the editorial board for contributing unstintingly to the journal. Peer reviewers are carefully selected for expertise in their field, and I am grateful for their important contribution to the success of the journal. A full list of peer reviewers is included below. I would like to thank Sue Bowler, the Editorial Assistant for the journal, Viet Hai Phung, who has provided editorial support, and Andrea Hargreaves, Journals Manager at Radcliffe, for their work on the journal over the past year.

We look forward to your ongoing support, whether as a reader, contributor or reviewer. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you, our readers and contributors, all good wishes of the season and success for the next year and beyond.

## Reviewers in 2012

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Adolfo Ariza  
 Andrea M. Wessell  
 Ann-Brit Zakrisson  
 Bernadine Pinto  
 Byrd Quinlivan  
 Carsten Hendriksen  
 Chiara Bonetto  
 Christos Lionis  
 Coral Sirdifield  
 Daren K Heyland  
 David Cunningham  
 Donald Barr  
 Andrew Hall  
 Andy Meal  
 Caroline Bulsara  
 David Haggstrom  
 Hans van der Wouden  
 Isobel Cameron  
 Jonathan C. Hill  
 Jonathan Graffy  
 Jackie Street  
 Jane Lewis  
 Jon Duke  
 Kevork Hopayian  
 Kelly J. Kelleher  
 Kerri Wright  
 Margaret C. Watson  
 Mary Stergiou-Kita  
 Michela Tinelli  
 Nicholas Steel  
 Nick Theobald  
 Peter Bower  
 Roderick Orner  
 Ruth Webster  
 Ryan Combs  
 Sophie Desroches  
 Stephen Barenkamp  
 Stephen Gillam  
 Stephen Neville  
 Therese Zink  
 Tilley Pain  
 Tim Lesar  
 Tim Swanwick  
 Elizabeth Evans  
 Gareth Morgan  
 Gary Abel  
 Hana Burgess  
 James Jarrett  
 Janet Walker  
 Janko Kersnik  
 Jo Middlemass  
 John Sharvill  
 Jos H. Verbeek

Karen Windle  
 Kath Checkland  
 Katherine Checkland  
 Keith Stevenson  
 Ken Brown  
 Kenneth A. Schwartz  
 Laura Militello  
 Leslie Hicks  
 Marina Bianchi  
 Markos Klonizakis  
 Megan Crawford  
 Simon Kyle  
 Meghan Gannon  
 Michelle Hargreaves  
 Olga Koslowska  
 Patricial Kenney  
 Paul Milne  
 Brian McKinstry  
 Carole Upshur  
 Chris Salisbury  
 Graham Lappin  
 Michael Ashburn  
 Malcolm Lewis  
 Nigel Sparrow  
 Richard Baker  
 Sharon Lawn  
 Walter Vandereycken  
 Christian Mallen  
 D. David Persaud  
 Sophia Chan  
 Puja Myles  
 Richard Puleston  
 Sarah Redsell  
 Sarah Tonkin-Crine  
 Sian Oram  
 Stefan Greß  
 Steven Ornstein  
 Surinder Singh  
 Tjalling de Vries  
 Trevor Simpson  
 Val Wilson  
 Viet-Hai Phung  
 Zahid Asghar

### REFERENCES

- 1 Stevenson K. Learning and working together in primary care: interprofessional education and quality. *Quality in Primary Care* 2012;20:165–6.
- 2 Samuelson M, Tedeschi P, Aarendonk D, de la CC and Groenewegen P. Improving interprofessional collaboration in primary care: position paper of the European Forum for Primary Care. *Quality in Primary Care* 2012; 20:303–12.
- 3 Barr H. Quality: everybody's business. *Quality in Primary Care* 2012;20:167–8.

- 4 van Amsterdam L and Bruijnzeels M. Interprofessional education: a vital concern and a lever to better primary care. *Quality in Primary Care* 2012;20:239–41.
- 5 Howe A, Mathers N and Steel N. 'Doing' quality: an agenda for GP leadership to improve patient care. *Quality in Primary Care* 2012;20:313–15.

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