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Editorial

A survey about the establishment of the Libyan Journal of Dentistry (LJD)

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ABSTRACT

Aim: This questionnaire was performed to introduce LJD and to know the feedback of the readers about the first published issue.

Methods: About 75 copies of the questionnaire were distributed. Only 61 who were answered and returned. The collected answered questionnaire were tabled and analyzed.

Results: About 72% of the respondents have heard about LJD, about 95% of them were believed in the importance of creating a LJD at this time, and 16% of them have accessed to our journal web site.

INTRODUCTION

The scientific journals publish specialized researches in a specific field after they have been judged by a number of specialists in the same field. These journals are the first platform used by researchers to publish their latest findings or to criticize and discuss results of research previously published. Therefore, we try to push the scientific research in our field through the seed of the Libyan Journal of Dentistry where we suggest that the journal will overcome the difficulties for the researchers to publish their scientific work and to play an active role in the level of sophistication and advancement of education at the academic level.

Electronic publishing is a new area of information dissemination. The electronic scientific journal is specifically designed to be presented on the internet. They have come into existence promoting the rapid dissemination capability, and availability on the Internet^(1,2).

The Libyan journal of dentistry (LJD) is the official journal issued by Faculty of Dentistry, University of Benghazi. LJD is an established as online, peer-reviewed journal that publishes articles in all fields of dentistry. Peer review methods are employed to maintain standards of quality, improve performance, and provide credibility.

LJD receives and publishes original articles, review articles, case reports, etc. Review system is performed by at least two independent reviewer's approval followed by the acceptance of editorial board members

The aim of this article is to introduce LJD and to show the feedback of the readers who benefit from it.

Materials and Methods

A questionnaire was prepared consisting of five questions. It was conducted at the Faculty of Dentistry after the publication of the first issue of the journal during the period (2017). The questionnaire was included the faculty members, postgraduate students and dentists from outside the college. The questions revolved around whether the targeted knew about the existence of LJD and how they heard. In addition, the targeted opinion about the importance of the LJD and why. Then the questionnaire explored the opinion of the readers about the published first issue after visiting LJD web site. About 75 copies of the questionnaire were distributed. Only 61 who were answered and returned. The collected data were tabled and illustrated in representative graphs.

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Results

The following are the results regarding the first questionnaire after publishing the first issue of the Libyan journal of dentistry (LJD) during the period (2017):

Table1: The results of the forth questions regarding the Libyan journal of dentistry (LJD) questionnaire.

Number	Question	Yes			No
1	Have you heard about LJD ?	44			17
2	How have you heard about LJD ?	Friend advice	Via internet	Others	
		17	13	14	
3	Do you believe that such Journal is necessity for the time being ?	58			3
4	have you accessed to our journal web site ?	10			51

Table 2: The percentage of the responses to each question in the questionnaire by the target group.

Number	Question	Yes			No
1	Have you heard about LJD ?	72%			28%
2	How have you heard about LJD ?	Friend advice	Via internet	Others	
		39%	29%	32%	
3	Do you believe that such Journal is necessity for the time being ?	95%			5%
4	have you accessed to our journal web site ?	16%			84%

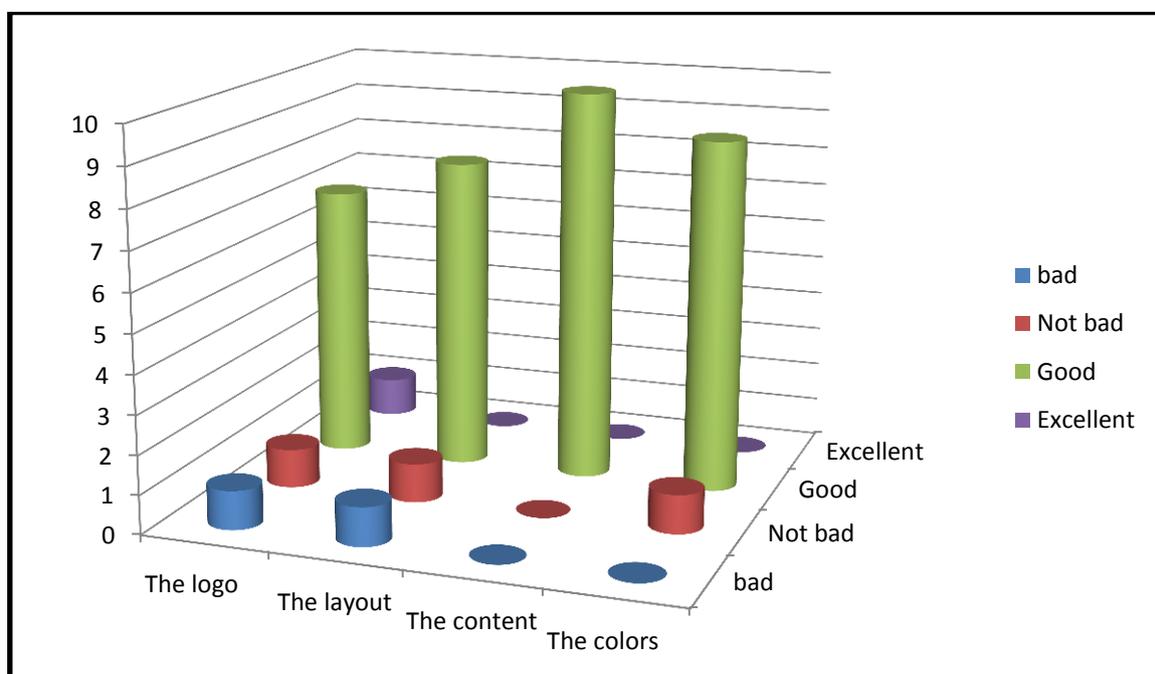


Figure 1: The graphic representation for the fifth question results about rank of LJD.

DISCUSSION

Through this questionnaire, we found that 95% of the respondents believed in the importance of having a scientific journal. In response to the question why, the most of answers were about the revival of scientific activity and development of dental research, which in turn plays an effective role in pushing forward the postgraduate studies and continuing education. Furthermore, the journal will contribute to overcoming difficulties in publishing scientific articles for faculty members which in turn helps raise their scientific competence and career. As this is consistent with their understanding for the scientific academic writing reasons.

There are many reasons for scientific articles writing. The most compelling reason for many professionals to start writing is to fulfill specific job requirements by employers that include promotion to an academic position, professional accreditation in the form of continuing education, and improving prospect of success in research grant application. Publications can also be regarded as an asset that enables authors to gain recognition and acknowledgement as experts in a particular field at national and international levels. Publication in peer-reviewed journals also gives international recognition for an individual, department, university, and institutions⁽³⁾.

Although the percentage of respondents who heard about the journal was about (72%), few have visited the site of the journal (16%) and those who knew about the existence of LJD through the Internet was (29%). This may be explained by the deficient in the interest to be kept up with the advances of scientific research and using internet. Therefore, the continuous efforts is needed to encourage the use of the internet to reach the widest definition by LJD.

Where in the responses to the fifth paragraph of the fifth question, there were suggestions on establishing strong criteria for selecting scientific articles to be accepted and disseminated, and the need to emphasize continuous updating.

At the end, this questionnaire is only a way to pay the readers' attention on the first issue of the journal. And further questionnaires will be conducted later after the issuance of new editions of the journal to see the readers opinion which is an important element for successful continuity of your journal.

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