



Editorial

Dear colleagues,
Greetings from Manipal.

The XXII Annual State Conference of Karnataka Medico-legal Society —KAMLSCON - 2014 is being conducted in —Kundanagari i.e. Belagavi. I welcome you all to this Sweet city of North Karnataka.

It gives me immense pleasure to hand over the Second issue of JKAMLS 2014, a conference issue. This issue is filled with important scientific research articles as well as case reports which will definitely add knowledge to our existing understandings about many issues. The contributions from the authors and editorial board members are worth appreciating in bringing out this conference issue.

Day by day the awareness among the faculty members regarding scientific publications is increasing which is a good sign as far as Forensic Medicine is concerned. I feel happy to receive articles not only from both senior and junior faculty but also from postgraduates in Forensic Medicine.

It is important to adhere to the publications guidelines while considering scientific publications especially by junior faculty who are not much experienced in the field. This helps them to avoid ethical conflicts and legal complications arising out of unscrupulous practice. The originality of the research, maintaining the confidentiality of subjects involved in the research, prior obtained self-explaining complete informed consent, carefully employed easily reproducible and unbiased methods while collecting data, statistically derived sample size and use of appropriate statistical methods to obtain significant results are very much essential for any scientific research.

Another important aspect of ethical publication is avoiding 'Plagiarism'. It is an act of using or closely reproducing the language and thoughts of other authors without permission or crediting the original authors and the representation of that author's work as one's own. More prevalent practice of cut, copy and paste among budding research fellows leads to more and more such incidences. Plagiarism is considered academic dishonesty and a breach of publication ethics. Though it is not a crime per se, it is considered as a serious ethical offence. It can lead to sanctions like penalties, suspension, and even expulsion.

So let us all pledge to follow the ethical route.....

Dr Shankar M Bakkannavar
Editor – in – Chief