Marking the centenary of the Fellowship of Postgraduate Medicine

Donald RJ Singer

The past century has seen major developments in postgraduate medicine. There have also been significant challenges to equitable provision of these medical advances into clinical services and ensuring their safe and effective use both in developed healthcare systems as well as within health services within less developed countries.

The Fellowship of Postgraduate Medicine (FPM) is a British non-profit organisation that was founded after the First World War,^{1,2} with as its first president the pioneering clinician and medical educator Sir William Osler, Oxford Regius Professor of Medicine.³ The FPM led the development in London of postgraduate educational programmes in all branches of medicine. The FPM continues its interest in supporting national and international postgraduate medical education through its international journals the *Postgraduate Medical Journal* (PMJ), founded in 1925, and *Health Policy and Technology* (HPT), founded in 2012, and by organising conferences and workshops. Themes for pending conferences include advances in neuropsychiatry and new guidelines to prevent vascular disease.

Further ways in which the FPM is marking its anniversary include hosting a session at the May 2018 Hong Kong Medical Forum⁴; holding a national Centenary Conference on 7 December 2018 at the Royal College of Physicians in London, providing updates on excellence in clinical practice⁵; introduction of a new Associate Member category for the FPM⁶; and launch of new international awards for excellence in medical writing by doctors in social media.⁶

The December 2018 FPM Centenary Conference will include a poster awards session showcasing national and international studies aimed at transforming health and healthcare.⁵ Talks by expert clinicians will provide updates on best medical practice in diagnostics and new

therapies with regard to common serious clinical disorders, ranging from lung disease to cancer, stroke and cardiac disease, diabetes mellitus, liver problems and other serious clinical diseases.⁵ Speakers will also discuss management of new clinical challenges, including antibiotic resistance, the impact of ageing on comorbidity and other important current challenges for clinical practice.⁵

The new Associate Member category for the FPM will be open to doctors in established postgraduate training posts, to senior doctors in established posts and to other experts who are interested in postgraduate medicine.⁶ Authors and reviewers for the official journals of the FPM—the PMJ and HPT—will be entitled to a reduced membership fee for their first year as Associate Members. Benefits for Associate Members will include a reduction in the registration fee for attending FPM educational events and a reduced annual electronic subscription to the PMJ or HPT journals. See the FPM website⁶ for more details about how to apply to become an Associate Member of the FPM.

The FPM will also launch international awards to recognise best social media writing on medical themes.⁶ To be eligible, articles should be aimed at increasing understanding by the public and health professionals of important health-related issues. Articles published online since 1 January 2018 will be eligible.

Up to five awards of £100 each will initially be made—one for each major geographical region: the Americas, Europe, Africa, South Asia, South-East Asia and Australia/New Zealand. The judging panel will include health professionals from the FPM and from the Editorial Boards of HPT and the PMJ and experts in social media. Winning writers will have the opportunity to publish their award-winning article in HPT or the PMJ, depending on the theme of the article. See the FPM website⁶ for details of how to enter for the writing awards.

Plans at the PMJ include a special issue on Sir William Osler, founding President

of the FPM (the special issue will be edited by Associate Editor Dr John Launer), and publication of papers from the FPM session at the 2018 Hong Kong Medical Forum, which provides clinical updates for around 2500 physicians in the South-East Asia region.⁴ Pending theme issues for HPT will consider the impact of Brexit on healthcare,⁷ progress on heart health policy,⁸ Big Data for health and interoperability.

Further news about plans by the FPM for its centenary year will be posted on the websites of the FPM,⁶ the PMJ⁹ and HPT.¹⁰

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