Occupational Medicine

Occupational Medicine is an international scientific journal which was originally published as the Transactions of the Association of Industrial Medical Officers in 1951. It subsequently became the Transactions of the Society of Occupational Medicine in 1966 and then the Journal of the Society of Occupational Medicine in 1975. Our journal has been called Occupational Medicine since 1992, and is the official journal of the Society of Occupational Medicine and the adopted journal of the Occupational and Environmental Medicine Association of Canada. Occupational Medicine is published in English eight times each year, in print and online, and is available online for free to not-for-profit institutes in 67 developing countries. In 2007 our print circulation was 2700 in 56 countries with an even greater number able to receive the journal online. Our journal is for all readers interested in the practice of clinical occupational medicine. It carries editorials, in-depth reviews of major topics or areas of specific interest in occupational medicine, original papers and a section of general interest relating to occupational medicine. Original papers and articles are considered for publication from throughout the world. In a double-blind peer-review process, one to four referees independently evaluate the scientific quality of the submitted manuscripts.

Occupational Medicine's mission is to publish rigorous, accessible and entertaining material that will help occupational health practitioners and allied professionals throughout the world in their daily practice, lifelong learning and career development. We also have a mission to support the activities of the Society of Occupational Medicine. Guidance on how to present your paper for potential publication is given in the Notes for Authors, which are published in this issue (on the inside back cover) or are available on the website (www.occmed.oxfordjournals.org). Communications to The Society of Occupational Medicine should be addressed to: The Chief Executive at 6 St Andrew's Place, Regent's Park, London NW1 4LB, UK. Tel/fax: +44 20 7486 2641/0028; e-mail: OMjournal@som.org.uk

Honorary Editor
J Hobson Stoke-on-Trent, UK

Honorary Assistant Editor
E Murphy Aberdeen, UK

Assistant Editor, Administration
K Codling SOM, London, UK

Assistant Editors
J R Beach Edmonton, Canada
S D Forman Oldham, UK
T Hussain Manchester, UK
A H Mounstephen Fife, UK
P Noone, Dublin, Ireland
D Patel London, UK
E R Waclawski Paisley, UK
N R Williams Birmingham, UK
P Wynn Durham UK

Officers of the Society of Occupational Medicine
President: A B Stevens
Immediate Past President: G Parker
President Elect: O H Carlton
Hon Secretary: E S Wilkinson

Hon Treasurer: A S Allison
Hon Newsletter Editor: I S Symington
Chair Education Panel: M G Braithwaite

International Advisory Board
- T C Aw Al Ain, United Arab Emirates
- J Borak New Haven, USA
- A M Donoghue Perth, Australia
- G Franco Modena, Italy
- J Harrison London, UK
- D Koh Singapore
- J D Meyer Farmington, USA
- B Moen Bergen, Norway
- R Rawbone Manchester, UK
- M Ross Johannesburg, South Africa
- M Shanahan Adelaide, Australia
- J C Smedley Southampton, UK
- K Takahashi Kitakyushu, Japan
- J Verbeek Kuopio, Finland