

Editorial

We can hardly believe that we are writing our penultimate editorial as co-editors of the *Journal of Pelvic, Obstetric and Gynaecological Physiotherapy (JPOGP)*, formerly the *Journal of the Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Women's Health*. Suddenly, 3 years doesn't seem such a long time! We started off without any real knowledge of what was expected of us, but have gone on a genuinely enlightening journey. We have had a few anxious moments along the way, but on the whole, we are thoroughly enjoying our roles, not least because of the excellent support from our professional editor, Andrew Wilson, and the very dedicated Journal Subcommittee (JSC).

During our time on the JSC, we have seen social media expand significantly, and these tools are now an integral part of daily life. How many of us regularly communicate on Facebook or are members of the LinkedIn network? Indeed, last year's POGP Conference was covered on Twitter. Rapid developments in this area can be daunting, and it is sometimes difficult to know how to proceed. As the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy media policy states: "Social media offers great opportunities to build relationships, share, influence and learn, but as with any other form of communication, you need to remain professional and legal at all times" (CSP 2014, p. 9).

On reading the contents of this edition of *JPOGP*, we were struck by how many contributions are directly or indirectly related to new media. Alison Hui and Louise Johnson's article on iPhone apps (p. 38) is a prime example of the direct impact that these can have on our practice, as is Janice Falconer and Holly Horsley's report on service redesign (p. 51). Teresa Cook's paper, "Professionalism in practice" (p. 25), also concerns social media issues. Jeanette Haslam and Jo Laycock's article (p. 15) describes the development of our association over the years.

Of course, there were no such things as social media when the organization was conceived, but with global communication, we are now able to involve members from all over the world.

Pelvic, Obstetric and Gynaecological Physiotherapy (POGP) has itself grown with the social media revolution. The group has its own Twitter account and Facebook page, which have made the process of sharing information faster and more widely accessible. These channels have been very useful in the successful relaunch of our professional network, and are helping to promote it to those not directly involved with the organization.

Furthermore, the POGP (<http://pogp.csp.org.uk>) microsite features extended online content. This keeps the membership informed of any events that have not been covered in the *Journal*, and also includes Web-only material such as regional reports. There is also the recently launched e-newsletter, which provides members with up-to-date information and snippets of news.

Social media are definitely here to stay. However, we also believe that there is nothing better than having a paper journal to peruse at leisure or go to for reference. With this in mind, it is important that *JPOGP* continues to develop because it is here to stay too. It is an excellent peer-reviewed academic journal, and we hope that this edition offers articles and reports that will stimulate and educate, and perhaps, inspire some of you to submit material for publication in the future.

Amanda Savage & Wendy Rarity

Reference

- Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP) (2014) *Social Media Guidance for CSP Members*. [WWW document.] URL http://www.csp.org.uk/sites/files/csp/secure/social_media_guidance_for_physio_v1.3.pdf

Copy deadlines

Copy for the Autumn 2015 and Spring 2016 editions of the *Journal* (Nos 117 and 118) must be submitted to the editors by **7 March 2015** and **7 September 2015**, respectively. Please note that academic and clinical articles must be received well before the deadline since time must be allowed so that these can be peer-reviewed. Manuscripts should be presented **double-spaced** with a wide margin, and adhere to the author's guidelines found on pp. 84–87 and on the POGP website (<http://pogp.csp.org.uk/documents/acpwh-journal-writing-guidelines>). Articles for consideration should be sent to Mrs Wendy Rarity, Physiotherapy Department, Cowal Community Hospital, Sandbank Road, Dunoon, Argyll PA23 7RL, UK.