

Farewell message from the Editor-in-Chief



I have been Editor-in-Chief of the Japanese Journal of Clinical Oncology (JJCO) since 1 April 2002 when I was appointed as the president of the then National Cancer Center (now known as the National Cancer Research Center).

Unlike Cancer Science, which is the official journal of Japanese Cancer Association, or International Journal of Clinical Oncology, which is that of the Japanese Association of Medical

Oncology, JJCO does not have any relationship to or support from a specific association. In spite of that, however, the journal has continued to progress healthily thanks to the continuous support of the readers, editors, reviewers, Oxford University Press staff and others.

As a newly appointed Editor-in-Chief, I focused that the scope of the journal on cancer in Asia, clinical trials in Japan and epidemiological notes.

I also made a conscious effort to expand the review articles section, resulting in series such as Urologic Cancer in Asia, Cancer Trends in Asia, JCOG review series, Basic Trends of Japanese Pharmaceutical Companies, and so on.

The Impact Factor (IF) is merely one index for assessing the quality of journal, however, if it is high, you can expect good quality papers to be submitted.

As shown in Fig. 1, JJCO's IF gradually increased over the years, but is now stagnant at around the 2.0 mark.

Dr Hideo Kunitoh will be starting as the new Editor-in-Chief of the journal from 1 January 2018. Dr Kunitoh has already made a huge contribution to supporting JJCO as the Executive Editor over a long period of time. His dedication to editing the journal has been remarkable. In everything from his initial screening of newly submitted manuscripts—whether they should be sent to reviewers

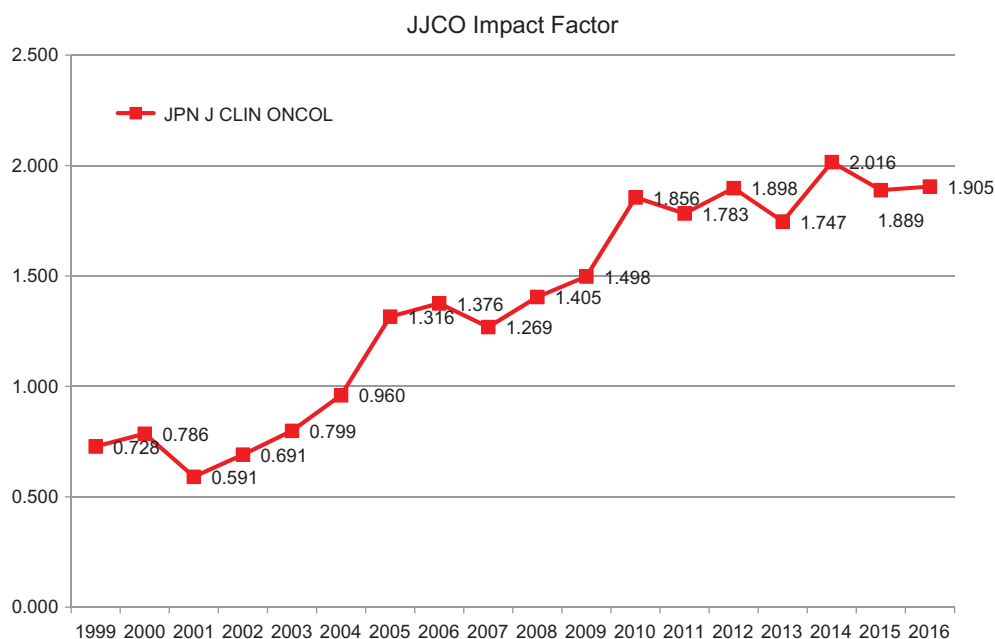


Figure 1. JJCO Impact Factor Trend.

or immediately rejected—to his response when trouble occurs, such as dealing with duplicate submissions, his decisions have always been prompt and appropriate. In short, Dr Kunitoh is a very capable man with courage and conviction.

As such, I am very happy to leave the position of Editor-in-Chief knowing that Dr Kunitoh will be taking over this journal.

I would like to express my appreciation to all the readers, editors, reviewers and Oxford University Press staff for their continuous support of my job while I served as Editor-in-Chief. I will step down on

31 December, however, I will continue to support Dr Kunitoh and his team to further expand this journal. Thank you very much.



*Tadao Kakizoe, Editor-in-Chief
Japanese Journal of Clinical Oncology*