

**May everybody witness the fruitful events!**

In recent years there has been an explosion in ophthalmic publications, both online and conventional. The proliferation of media has improved the ability of scientists, educators and clinical practitioners to disseminate their knowledge, experience and skills to their colleagues around the world. The availability of the latest advances in media technology, however, may not have dramatically changed the pattern of communication of experience in the developing world.

The demand for and the interest in the practice of the conscientious and judicious use of the best current evidence (Sackett et al 1996) in making clinical decisions has increased in recent years (Green ML, 2006). The launching of the Nepalese Journal of Ophthalmology in this context is expected to remove some of the hurdles the ophthalmic community has faced in the dissemination of clinical and scientific achievements in the region and to make available another "ophthalmoscope" to the global community of eye-health professionals.

It is important to emphasize that ophthalmic journals should aim to provide recent and useful information to clinicians for its application in practice (Gill et al 1996). A high quality of the published research works will certainly help realize this goal. We believe that anonymous peer review of the articles before being accepted for publication improves the quality of the journal. It is, however, the responsibility of the readers of any journal to evaluate the scientific and methodological quality and generalizability of the published articles. Systematic review articles by experts in the field might be of more value than traditional textbooks for clinicians in our part of the world. The editorial board of the Nepalese Journal of Ophthalmology hopes to receive such submissions.

This issue of the journal is focused on translating experiences into clinical practice, stimulating ophthalmologists, particularly of the new generation, to conduct scientific research work and publishing their achievements and clinical experience. Such publications could be instrumental in encouraging practitioners to recognize scientific publications as an essential component of the noble philosophy of holistic and compassionate patient care with social accountability.

The usefulness of the journal will be judged on the basis of healthy and creative comments and criticism from the readers, which will be published in subsequent issues of the journal.

...तत्त्वार्थेन च पण्डितम् i.e., *the pandits* or the learned people can be convinced by telling the truth to them. Let me try to submit to the learned ophthalmic scientists that if the beginning is "half of the work done", we have realized half of a decade-long dream by launching the journal. Such an endeavour should stimulate the dynamic and tirelessly-practising ophthalmologists. The other half of the dream consists of regular publication and steady improvement of the journal, which will depend on our constant efforts, genuine commitment and devotion as well as conscientious advice and generous assistance of experienced ophthalmic scientists.

The timely publication of this historical issue has been possible only because of the persistent efforts of the entire editorial board, encouragement by the national and international advisors and by many other well-wishers of the journal. I feel privileged to extend my thanks to all involved in this worthy endeavour.

**सर्वे भद्राणि पश्यन्तु !** May everybody witness the fruitful events!

### References

- Gill P, Dowell, Neal RD et al (1996). Evidence based general practice: a retrospective study of interventions in one training practice. *BMJ* 312: 819-821.
- Green ML (2006). Evaluating evidence based practice performance. *Evid. Based MED* 11:99-101
- Sackett DL, Rosenberg WC, Muir Gray JA et al (1996). Evidence based medicine: what it is and what it is not. *BMJ*; 312:71-72.