

Dear Colleagues,

First, I would like to welcome you to the 17th ASEAN Federation of Endocrine Societies Congress, November 13-16, 2013 in Jakarta. The theme of the congress is "Toward Brighter Future of Endocrinology – Metabolic Care in ASEAN Region: From Bench to Clinical Practice." The purpose of this congress is to share the latest knowledge and experience in the field of endocrinology among ASEAN colleagues as well as our expert guests from outside the ASEAN. We hope the scientific program of the congress will bring us to the new insight of basic concept and management of the disease.

With the earth's increasing population, the demand for medicine to improve the quality of life is also growing. On the other hand, we are still not able to solve many health problems. Diseases transition and reemerge and new emerging diseases, including non-communicable diseases, have become our new problem, mostly related to non-healthy lifestyle. Much progress continues on drug development to treat many diseases. We also continue to make changes in health care policies and hope these will improve the care of people with chronic disease.

Availability of recent information in many journals or sharing information through workshops, or symposia is still needed to prove the evidence of new drugs or new policies. In this case the availability of JAFES is very meaningful to inform new results of research or new standards of treatment in the field of endocrinology among ASEAN countries. The manuscript number submitted to JAFES has increased during several last years and JAFES is routinely printed and released in the right schedule.

Point of view transition offers an opportunity for change. It is now time to look forward. We next have to think about the impact factor of the journal that can be used to see JAFES ranking within its category. The key to ensuring success is human factor; changes are not only for editorial members, also for the country contributors who submit original manuscripts routinely. A good sense of belonging to JAFES is the most powerful energy to improve the journal.

I have no doubt that JAFES will be even better in the future but the road to be a prestigious journal will be long and takes hard work. With the good communication, availability of IT system, competent Editorial Board, worldwide team, rather than exclusive team, especially in manuscript handling, JAFES will become a strong scientific journal whose citation impact will incrementally continuously to rise.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our colleagues from the Philippines, particularly Dr. Elizabeth Paz Pacheco who leads the Editorial Board of JAFES excellently. My heartfelt appreciation to all Editorial Board Members, Editorial Board Advisers, Associate Editors' Members and Editorial Staff, who have done the best, worked extremely hard and made extraordinarily contributions to the JAFES, and are passionate to prepare JAFES and make the journal available routinely.

Achmad Rudijanto
Chairman of Indonesian Endocrinology Society