

Welcome to the Journal of Health and Social Sciences

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Dear Readers,
It gives us enormous pleasure to officially launch the inaugural issue of the *Journal of Health and Social Sciences*.

The Journal is an interdisciplinary, open access journal that focuses on the medical and health sciences. Topics of interest to the journal include all branches of medicine and other disciplines related to health such as psychology, social sciences and public, occupational and environmental sciences. According to the World Health Organization's definition, health is 'a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity' [1]. Therefore, the leitmotiv throughout *Journal of Health and Social Sciences* will be "health" in every way.

According to Leonardo da Vinci, one of the most fascinating figures of history, 'the natural desire of good men is knowledge'. This Italian genius was the author of the 'Vitruvian Man' where art and science intersected

perfectly. Medicine is both art and science. Hence, we tend to believe, as did Will Durant, that 'every science begins as philosophy and ends as art' [2].

The Journal places emphasis on interdisciplinary issues, that are often difficult to publish in a specialised journal. We seek to publish a high-quality, peer-reviewed journal that helps enhance the reputation of our authors. For this reason, J Health Soc Sci is an open access journal, completely free of charge for authors, without any hidden costs for either readers or authors.

Furthermore, because a peer-reviewed journal is not in itself a mark of a certain level of quality, *Journal of Health and Social Sciences* has many academic experts from Italy and other nations as members of its editorial board. We are also proud to be associated with the Italian Society of Integrative Psychotherapy for Social Development (SIPISS) and to have the president of SIPISS as one of our two founding editors.

The Journal peer review process will follow the 'Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals', according to the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) [3]. It will take a form of 'editorial peer reviewed' in which submitted manuscripts will be reviewed by both an internal board of editors and external reviewers.

Journal of Health and Social Sciences is divided into three sections: theoretical, empirical research and correspondence. We will publish several different types of manuscripts, such as letters, commentary, opinions, review, short communications, technical reports, original research, and other types of contributions. The Journal, under its creative commons attribution licence, permits unrestricted, non-commercial use, distribution, and reproduction of all articles in any medium, provided that the work is properly cited [4]. We encourage you to read, share, discuss and reflect on the articles published in the Journal.

We hope that you like the journal and that it

is useful for readers and for scientific progress worldwide. In this spirit, we cite the Declaration on Science by UNESCO [5] in which science is described as the 'need for knowledge, progress, peace and development'. In conclusion, we leave you with this sentiment: 'science in society and science for society', because 'wherever the art of Medicine is loved, there is also a love of Humanity' [6].

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Dr. Francesco Chirico & Dr. Giuseppe Ferrari are Founding Editors of the Journal of Health and Social Sciences

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