



Editorial

The State of the Journal 2025

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Article Received: July 15, 2025

Article Published: August 15, 2025

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Welcome to Issue 1 of Volume 9 of the Philippine Journal of Allied Health Sciences (PJAHS).

Writing this editorial always brings both reflection and anticipation, reflection on how far we have gone, and anticipation for the work that lies ahead. This year's opening issue marks the beginning of a particularly meaningful period in our history, as we move toward the 20th founding anniversary of PJAHS in 2026.

Founded in 2006 through the vision and commitment of the University of Santo Tomas – College of Rehabilitation Sciences (UST-CRS), PJAHS has served as a platform for scholarly exchange in allied health sciences in the Philippines and beyond.¹ The journey has not been without challenges. There were periods of dormancy and uncertainty, yet with persistence, the journal was revived, strengthened, and sustained through the support of our authors, reviewers, editorial board, and publisher.^{2,3} Each issue published since our revival has been a testament to the resilience of our community and our shared commitment to advancing evidence-based practice, research, and education in allied health professions.^{4,5}

Over the years, we have taken deliberate steps to uphold and enhance the quality of the journal. These include strengthening our peer review process, expanding our ethical publication standards, acquiring our e-ISSN, and achieving inclusion in the World Health Organization's Western Pacific Region Index Medicus (WPRIM).²⁻⁵ We have also increased the diversity of our publications, both in subject matter and

geographic origin, reflecting a growing network of contributors from different parts of the world.

As we approach our 20th year, it is timely to chart a course for the next decade. Our vision is to further strengthen the journal's global visibility while ensuring that our content remains locally relevant and responsive to the needs of Philippine and regional allied health practice.^{1,2} This entails continuing our efforts toward inclusion in larger bibliographic databases, increasing citation impact, fostering interdisciplinary and international collaborations, and encouraging research that addresses pressing health system priorities. Equally important is maintaining accessibility for both authors and readers, upholding our tradition of free submission and publication, and ensuring that every manuscript we publish meets the highest scholarly and ethical standards.^{3,4}

This issue features seven articles in our regular section, covering a range of topics that underscore the breadth and depth of allied health sciences research. Each article reflects the dedication of its authors and the rigorous evaluation of our reviewers. We trust that the findings presented here will inform practice, inspire further research, and contribute to the continued growth of the field.

As always, I extend my deepest gratitude to our authors for entrusting us with their work, to our reviewers for their generosity of time and expertise, to our editorial board and staff for

their diligence, and to UST–CRS for its unwavering support. Collaboration remains at the heart of PJAHS. We welcome opportunities to work with institutions, professional organizations, and individual scholars who share our mission of advancing knowledge and practice in allied health sciences.

In the coming year, we will begin preparations for the special 20th anniversary volume. We invite our readers, authors, and partners to join us in marking this milestone, not only as a celebration of our past but as a commitment to the future. Let us continue to build a journal that reflects the best of our professions: grounded in evidence, open to innovation, and dedicated to improving the health and well-being of the communities we serve.

References

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