

Editor's Corner

2024—RETROSPECT, 2025—PROSPECT

Since its inception in 2018, the *Global Clinical Engineering Journal* has been steadfast in its mission to become the premier publication dedicated solely to the clinical engineering field. As we mark our sixth year, it is heartening to reflect on how the journal has grown alongside the ever-evolving field of clinical engineering.

A TRANSFORMATIVE YEAR FOR CLINICAL ENGINEERING

The year 2024 witnessed significant advancements in the clinical engineering field, propelled by the increasing integration of cutting-edge technology into healthcare. Clinical engineers and technologists have been pivotal in ensuring the seamless operation of medical equipment and systems, adapting to innovations like artificial intelligence (AI), the Internet of Things (IoT), and robotics. These technologies have enhanced patient care, streamlined processes, and fostered a focus on sustainability through the development of eco-friendly medical devices and practices. The field's dynamic, especially in 2024, reflects a blend of technological progress, patient-centric care, increasing regulations, and sustainable solutions—a testament to the profession's crucial role in modern healthcare.

THE ROLE OF THE GLOBAL CLINICAL ENGINEERING ALLIANCE (GCEA)

The Global Clinical Engineering Alliance (GCEA) also achieved remarkable milestones in 2024.¹ Representing over 45,000 professionals from more than 50 countries, GCEA has united clinical engineers and technologists worldwide to share knowledge, establish best practices, and address global healthcare challenges. Through

initiatives such as the International Clinical Engineering & Healthcare Technology Management Congresses, workshops, webinars, and training programs, GCEA has empowered professionals, particularly in underserved regions, to enhance technical skills, adopt emerging technologies, create professional networking, form new national associations, and develop leadership capabilities.

GCEA has also played a critical role in improving global healthcare resilience. By providing technical assistance, facilitating equipment donations, and sharing expertise in risk control, adverse event management, and crisis response, GCEA has stood as a beacon of support in addressing healthcare challenges worldwide. Additionally, the alliance's publication platform, the *Global Clinical Engineering Journal*, has been instrumental and a partner in disseminating cutting-edge knowledge and research in the evolving field.

A BANNER YEAR FOR THE GLOBAL CLINICAL ENGINEERING JOURNAL

As an integral part of GCEA, the *Global Clinical Engineering Journal* achieved new heights in 2024. Recognized by Scopus, one of the largest scientific abstract and citation databases, the *Global Clinical Engineering Journal* continues to follow the best practices and select proper papers with high quality to publish and share with the readers. As the only international journal that solely focuses on, and is administered by, clinical engineers, we always raise our goal to become the best and the most contributive journal in the category of clinical engineering. The journal has consistently adhered to best practices, publishing high-quality research that addresses the pressing needs of clinical engineering professionals. This year, the journal saw an unprecedented increase in submissions, with over 80 new manuscripts received—a fourfold increase compared to 2023. Website visits

tripled, reflecting a growing global audience of clinical engineering practitioners.

A significant milestone in 2024 was the journal's membership in the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE). By adhering to the ICMJE's "Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals", the journal reaffirms its commitment to ethical publishing practices and high editorial standards. Facing new challenges and increasing submissions in the future, we promise that all the journal editors will take this responsibility seriously and strive to achieve high standards, making the *Global Clinical Engineering Journal* the best platform and among the renowned journals for global clinical engineers on this planet.

The journal's commitment to excellence is evident in its reduced manuscript processing times, ensuring timely and professional service for authors. These accomplishments are a testament to the collaborative efforts of the Editor-in-Chief, the Editorial Board, reviewers, authors, and readers. The guiding principle, "Together, we can make it better" continues to drive the journal's success.

SPECIAL ISSUES AND NEW INITIATIVES

In 2024, the Journal introduced innovative Special Issues focusing on region-specific and cutting-edge topics. Visualizing the next level in publication to reach helps us to stay on the path to being more impactful, larger, and the top platform for all clinical engineers to share their experiences and knowledge, and publish their research and findings. We have organized a new form of Special Issue, aiming to recruit high-quality and region-specific papers, that discuss the most state-of-the-art research in typical areas, and provide our assistance to help potential authors in need to finish their papers. The inaugural Pan Africa CE-BME Special Issue, inspired by the GCEA webinar "Empowering Africa's Healthcare Systems" aimed to highlight the research and challenges unique to Africa's clinical engineering community. Similarly, the Special Issue featuring the 10th Panhellenic Conference on Biomedical Technology showcased the biomedical community's shift from pandemic-focused research to broader healthcare challenges, reflecting the resilience

and adaptability of global biomedical and clinical engineering societies.

Looking ahead, the Journal will explore new Special Issues on topics such as:

- Advancements in traumatology and orthopedics
- Biomechanics and sports science rehabilitation
- Innovations in cardiovascular and ophthalmological research
- Clinical engineering's role in pain medicine and digital health transformation
- Cutting-edge medical technologies for improved patient outcomes

Each Special Issue is curated by expert Guest Editors committed to maintaining the highest publication standards and providing valuable insights to readers. Also, we selected the best papers presented and reviewed in the "10th Panhellenic Conference on Biomedical Technology". With an emphasis on "biomedical technology, clinical engineering, COVID-19 impact, COVID-19 transition, and digital health transformation", this Special Issue shows the reaction to the challenges of the Hellenic Society of Biomedical Technology along with the European and global biomedical and clinical engineering societies. All the selected papers are of scientific and engineering interest and excellence and describe how the clinical engineering research interests shifted from focusing on the pandemic to their typical pursuits, while still being influenced by the events that occurred.

With all the fresh attempts, new Special Issues that might be of certain interest to readers are released in the journal, focusing on some of the most cutting-edge topics in the field, *i.e.*, the new technology and surgical procedures of traumatology and orthopedics, biomechanics and rehabilitation of sports science, advancements in ophthalmological research, new technologies in cardiovascular medicine, clinical engineering in pain medicine, transformation of medical technologies for improving patient care outcomes, technology in oral and maxillofacial surgery, *etc.* All the Guest Editors are professionals in their areas and are willing to develop the Special Issues better. We always emphasize the publication quality and influence of the circle, so for these Special

Issues, Guest Editors and the EiC will strictly select the most suitable papers to be published, in order to create the best reading and research experience.

MOVING FORWARD

As we transition into 2025, the *Global Clinical Engineering Journal* remains dedicated to its mission of serving as the leading platform for clinical engineers to share knowledge, publish research, and advance the profession. With plans to further expand its reach, introduce new Special Issues, and foster global collaboration, the Journal is poised for another transformative year. Together, we look forward to continuing this journey of growth and excellence.

The *Global Clinical Engineering Journal* aims to expand the Editorial Team and welcome new Editorial Board Members who have strong backgrounds in clinical medicine and engineering expertise. In the published paper "Submissions Style Guide for the Global Clinical Engineering Journal", detailed guidance is listed to help authors, especially clinical engineers to prepare their papers and submit for peer review.² We aim to elevate the Journal's global recognition along with being indexed in other main databases with sound impact factors, to meet more practitioners, researchers, and scholars' publication needs. The group of clinical engineers is unique and essential for the healthcare system, and we believe with the journal, more emerging authors and rising stars can benefit by publishing their peer-reviewed high-quality papers and keep contributing to the clinical engineering circle.

We are committed to our mission and origin: the *Global Clinical Engineering Journal* is an international clinical engineering journal, led and managed by clinical engineers, contributing to clinical engineers! To achieve the goals, we may need all the clinical engineers' help, to submit your manuscripts, become volunteer reviewers, read our publications, and disseminate the Journal around your circle!

Together, we can make Clinical Engineering better!

Mr. Zicheng (Arthur) Wang
GCEJ Editorial Office

REFERENCES

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