A short history of the Canadian Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

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The first issue of the Canadian Journal of Hospital Pharmacy was published in March/April 1948, under the title Bulletin of the Society of Hospital Pharmacists. The first editor was P.C. Statia, a Southern Ontario hospital pharmacist who provided all of the content for that inaugural issue, including the first editorial, which dealt with the purpose of the publication, as well as articles on isopropyl alcohol in hospitals and curare. The name of the Journal was later changed to The Hospital Pharmacist and later again, in 1969 (volume 21), to the Canadian Journal of Hospital Pharmacy.

In the early years, the Journal office was located in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and some Associate Editors from that time (Betty Riddell, Orest Buchko, Murray Brown, and Bruce Schnell) have remarked that “work on the journal was a condition of employment at University Hospital”.

In 1982, the editorial office of the Canadian Journal of Hospital Pharmacy was relocated to the Society’s national office in Toronto. The retiring editorial staff members were honoured at a special dinner held on Tuesday, October 5, 1982, during the 35th Annual Meeting of the Society in Regina, Saskatchewan. The retiring editor, Jack Summers, was presented with a bound copy of the editorials he had written during his 20 years as editor.

After the move to Toronto, the Journal underwent substantial reorganization under the editorial direction of B. Jane Gillespie and significant growth under the direction of Susan Tremblay (from 1985 to 1992). CJHP has been a peer-reviewed journal for more than 25 years. It is directed at pharmacy health care professionals, primarily those in institutional practice. Although the focus has changed over the years, it is now probably best described as a general, all-purpose journal. In addition to the original research appearing in CJHP, our authors describe the state of current practice through case reports, original clinical observations, and review articles covering a wide range of practice areas. Recent issues (2001 to present) of the journal appear on the CSHP Web site (www.cshp.ca), and its articles are indexed by Scirus, International Pharmaceutical Abstracts, and EMBASE.

Front covers of CJHP over the years. Starting at bottom left, the January–February 1949 issue shows a pharmacist in a dispensary, and the July–August 1950 issue displays an early CSHP logo. Many of the 1950s issues had pictures on the cover, but in 1960 the contents were displayed, as on the September–October issue shown. In the early 1980s the front cover design was uniform, with a different colour for each issue; the Winter 1983 issue, in blue, is shown. In the late 1980s and throughout the 1990s, the cover once again displayed the issue contents, as for this April 1988 issue. From 1990 to 1995, abbreviated titles were displayed, and from 1996 to 1998, full citations appeared, as on the June 1998 issue shown here. The first cover in this series, for February 1990, was printed incorrectly, without the blue strip along the left margin. In January 1999, we began to use the abbreviation CJHP on the front cover along with an image of some type, as shown here for the September 2001 issue.

References

Scott E. Walker, MScPhm, FCSHP, is Editor of CJHP.

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