

TABLE I. Revised points system for promotion by the Dental Council of India

S.No.	Category	Points
1.	Category I: (1) Journals indexed by PubMed–Medline Please see www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed (2) Journals published by Indian/International Dental Specialty Associations approved by Dental Council of India	15
2.	Category II: (1) Medical/Dental journals published by government health universities awarding dental degree or government universities awarding dental degree (2) Original research/study approved by Indian Council of Medical Research/Similar government bodies (3) Author of text/reference book concerned with the respective specialty (4) PhD or any other similar additional qualification after MDS	10
3.	Category III: (1) Journals published by deemed universities/dental institutions/Indian Dental Association (2) Contribution of chapters in a textbook	5
4.	MAY BE CONSIDERED AS OPTIONAL IN CATEGORY-I Journals indexed by the following agencies can be accepted: (1) Web of Science; https://clarivate.com/webofsciencelgroup/solutions/webofscience-platform/ (2) SCOPUS; www.scopus.com (3) All original research articles, systematic reviews, meta-analysis, case reports and review articles published in Web of Science, Scopus and PubMed (4) Owner of Patent Note: A. For any publication, except original research, first author (principal author) will be given 100% points and remaining authors (co-authors) will be given 50% points and up to a maximum of 5 co-authors will be considered B. For original research, all authors will be given equal points and up to a maximum of 6 authors will be considered C. Maximum of 3 publications would be considered for allotting points in Category III D. Publication in Tabloids/Souvenirs/Dental news magazines/abstracts of conference proceedings/letter of acceptance etc. will not be considered for allotment of points. <i>Total score required</i> For Professor and Head of Department: 40 marks Professor: 30 marks Reader/Associate Professor: 20 marks IMPORTANT: A post-graduate teacher would be re-evaluated every three years and shall have at least an additional 15 points in their score	

is also required to have an additional 15 points added to the score, which is re-evaluated every 3 years (Table I).³

The future of application of these criteria and point system is unknown after the introduction of the National Dental Commission⁴

which has come into existence and the rules and regulations for teachers may/may not be changed or modified.

Conflicts of interest. None declared

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- 3 Inspection proformas. Available at <https://dciindia.gov.in/InspectionProformas.aspx> (accessed on 20 Nov 2023).
- 4 The National Dental Commission Act, 2023. Available at [https://egazette.gov.in/\(S\(3a2imc3lf13bsmno52gftopn\)\)/SearchText.aspx?id=309850](https://egazette.gov.in/(S(3a2imc3lf13bsmno52gftopn))/SearchText.aspx?id=309850) (accessed on 20 Nov 2023).

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Publication requirement: Mind the gap

I read with interest the article by Chhavi *et al.* and find the extensive research efforts of the authors commendable¹

I would like to add a few recommendations to the excellent suggestions by the authors of creating a depository of preprints. The latest promotion criteria of the National Medical Commission (NMC) stipulate original articles, systematic reviews, meta-analyses and case-series for promotion.^{2,3} Many indexed journals have a category of Brief or Short communication, Short Paper, Brief research. Unfortunately, this category is not considered by the NMC in the publication criteria. According to guidelines for authors of journals listing this category, a brief research article is 'brief reports of original studies', 'Original research manuscripts containing well-defined study design and sample size, but limited parameters analysed', 'concise reports of preliminary findings, or epidemiological studies with narrowly focused or limited findings', 'articles with limited but original data and having the same format as Original Article'.^{4–9} So maybe the NMC can consider including this category in the eligibility for promotion.

The timeline from submission to acceptance to publication in indexed reputed journals is a long one, as stated in their submission guidelines. Sometimes authors wait for over a year for their manuscript to see the light of the day. The interval between acceptance to publication is the critical one for those eligible for promotion. Eligibility of accepted manuscripts (with concerned journal article processing criteria fulfilled), could also be a recommendation to NMC for promotion criteria.

As the authors have wisely stated the purpose of publications and research methodology workshop as promotion criteria laid down by the NMC is to increase research aptitude and knowledge and thus the quality of biomedical research from India.¹ This can be better achieved through specialized research training and workshops and faculty development programmes to blossom research aptitude. With more stringent promotion norms and limited options the only

winners are predatory journals egging on faculty to churn out substandard research.¹

REFERENCES

- 1 Chhavi N, Srivastava G, Goel A, Aggarwal A. Publication requirement for faculty promotion in medical institutions in India: 'Mind the gap'. *Natl Med J India* 2023;**36**:104–8.
- 2 The Gazette of India. Extraordinary, Part II, Section 1, No. 49. Ministry of Law and Justice. The National Medical Commission Act 2019, published on 8 August 2019.
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Errata

We would like to bring your attention to the following errors in the March-April 2024 issue of the *Journal*.

1. On page 82, in the Short Report titled 'Stigma and discrimination by ... tuberculosis: A study from India', the affiliation of the Krishnamachari Srinivasan has been mentioned incorrectly. His correct affiliation is Division of Mental Health and Neurosciences, St John's Research Institute, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India
2. On page 111, in the Letter from Mangalore, in the paragraph under the subheading *Adenopraxia*, in line 13, the superscript 1 is incorrectly placed.
3. On page 112, in the Letter from Mangalore, the correct citation at the end of the article should be 2024;**37**:111–12
4. On page 116, in the Obituary, the correct citation at the end of the article should be 2024;**37**:115–16
5. On page 117, in the Book Review, the correct DOI number at the end of the article should be DOI: 10.25259/NMJI_574_2024.

We apologise for these errors.

—Editors