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Abstract Information

Abstract Title : Regeneration: of a Journal
Abstract : **Background.** The Calcutta School of Tropical Medicine (STM) formally opened in 1921. In 1953 it began a major publication, the Bulletin of the Calcutta School of Tropical Medicine (BCSTM). This was issued quarterly. Its main function was to serve as a platform for the Faculty members of the school to publish their research work. The Bulletin flourished for 25 years but then “died”. An attempt was made to resuscitate the Bulletin in 2009 but only three issues were produced. The STM has now become the focus of a government initiative to introduce regenerative medicine into West Bengal. Under the inspired leadership of Professor Niranjan Bhattacharya the Department of Regenerative Medicine and Translational Science (DRMTS), opened in April of 2012. One of many challenges is to apply “Regenerative Medicine” to the Bulletin.
Methods: Literature review involving students of DRMTS. Internet review of publishing models.

Results: Reviewing the physical copies of the BCSTM is a journey through history. The first issue of volume one was typewritten. Issue two was printed and subsequent issues developed with adverts (100 rupees for a full page spread) and black and white illustrations. The format remained constant with an editorial, brief research communications, a special feature article, reviews, meeting proceedings and school news. Publishing models are now very different with open access platforms and the ability to hyperlink contents giving a new dimension to sharing knowledge to the benefit of humanity.

Conclusions: The BCSTM is a credit to the vision of our predecessors. There is no doubt, though, that they would not want history and tradition to restrict the vision of their successors. Journals can undergo transition cf. BJPS to JPRAS. The proposal now is to regenerate the spirit of the BCSTM but allow the physical form to rest in history.