New Year Greetings from the Editor-in-Chief of Epidemiology and Health (epiH)

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A Happy New Year 2022 from Epidemiology and Health (epiH).

On behalf of the member of EpiH, I would like to express my gratitude to the authors and readers for their contributions last year. Year 2021 is among the most memorable years for epiH. In last July, epiH was included in the Clarivate’s Journal Citation Report for the first time. It was not long after I was appointed editor-in-chief on June 1. EpiH received a good Journal Impact Factor (JIF) of 3.282, ranking 142nd out of 374 journals in the “Public, Environmental & Occupational Health” category. EpiH was founded in 1979 under the name of “Korean Journal of Epidemiology”, and 30 years later, it was reborn as an English journal by changing its name to “Epidemiology and Health (epiH)”. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the seven former editors-in-chief for their great leadership. In particular, Ki Moran, who served as editor-in-chief from June 2013 to May 2021, made remarkable achievements in listing EpiH in the most important journal directories including MEDLINE, SCOPUS, Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), Korea Citation Index (KCI), Emerging Sources Citation Index (eSCI), and Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE).

In addition to the first JIF, there were remarkable developments last year. EpiH has become an important international journal in the fields of epidemiology and public health. In 2021, a total of 784 manuscripts were received from 76 countries, of which 645 (82.3%) submitted from outside of Korea. Among them, 103 articles (13.1% acceptance rate) were published, including 62 from Korea, 18 from other Asian countries, 9 from America, 8 from Europe, and 6 from Africa. By publishing 23 research papers and perspectives on COVID-19 issues, epiH has contributed to coping with the pandemic public health crisis.

Thank you very much for the dedicated contributions of not only the authors but also reviewers and editors. Last year, 187 scholars served as external reviewers for the submitted papers. In particular, I would like to express my great gratitude to professors Kim Daejung (reviewing 7 papers), Bae Sang-hyuk (reviewing 7 papers) and Park Boyoung (reviewing 6 papers). Thank you so much to the 24 editors who were in charge of the internal and external review process of the submitted papers. Associate editor Kim Jong-Hun managed as many as 96 papers; Kim Hyeon Chang, Park Hyesook and Cheong Hae-Kwan managed more than 80 paper; Ki Moran and Yim Hyeon Woo managed more than 50 papers. I would like to thank the editorial staff members, Lee Young-Ju and Choi Young Ju for handling the rapidly increasing number of papers without any problems. Appreciate also to Lee Soon-young, president of the Korean Society of Epidemiology, and the board of directors for their full support.

Hopefully in 2022, we can successfully overcome the COVID-19 pandemic, restore the collapsing healthcare system, and reverse worsening health inequality. Finally, I would like to express my sincere respect to fellow epidemiologists and health care professionals around the world who are working hard for that.