

# Global Neurosurgery: Its Time Has Come

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The world is shrinking. We, as neurosurgeons, are enjoying an ever-increasing opportunity to communicate with each other via email, WhatsApp, webinars, virtual visiting professorships, and on and on. This ‘movement’ provides much-needed augmented access to experts and each other worldwide. This, simply put, is the essence of the term ‘Global Neurosurgery.’

‘Global neurosurgery’ is increasingly referenced in manuscripts and social media. Of course, neurosurgeons have traveled the world for educational purposes for over 100 years. However, in those days gone by, only the elite few were afforded the opportunity for such travel and education. Accompanying the marked increase in opportunities to communicate and educate, the term ‘global neurosurgery’ now takes on a new meaning. In a sense, it is a banner phrase that heralds the introduction and implementation of the latest communication and education access to all neurosurgeons. Global neurosurgery has become the words on the banner of a new and exciting movement – i.e., disseminating neurosurgery knowledge, skills, and hopefully, resources to all neurosurgical world reaches.

The Journal of Global Neurosurgery (JGNS) will serve as a conduit for such education and communication. It will serve as a communication tool for aspiring authors and seasoned authors alike. I, as the Editor-in-Chief of World Neurosurgery, welcome this wonderful addition to the neurosurgery education milieu. We at World Neurosurgery have received well over 8500 manuscripts in 2021. We cannot publish them all. In fact, 70-80% are rejected. Many of the rejections are good but below the threshold for publication in World Neurosurgery. Having another option like the Journal of Global Neurosurgery will provide greater access to publication and, more importantly, give an augmented opportunity to write and publish. According to Ignatius Esene and Kee B. Park, assistant Editor-in-Chief and Editor-in-Chief, respectively, of Journal of Global Neurosurgery, “The mission of Journal of Global Neurosurgery is two-fold:

1. To create an open-access journal for the publication of articles in the field of global neurosurgery that is available at no cost to both authors and readers
2. To help support research capacity by creating equity for authors from low and middle-income countries to help increase neurosurgical research across the world.”

Esene and Park address barriers to a publication that include the costs associated with publishing and access and the unfamiliarity of research methods and challenges in data collection, research infrastructure, protected research time, and language. The Journal of Global Neurosurgery, in part, helps address and overcome these barriers. Esene and Park state, “The new Journal of Global Neurosurgery was created to overcome some of these barriers with a vision of equitable access to research and research capacity for all neurosurgeons by empowering researchers from LMICs and freely disseminating ideas and knowledge about global neurosurgical inequities to inform the path to universal access to neurosurgical care through quality scientific publishing.”

I vigorously emphasize both the importance and timeliness of the global neurosurgery movement. I and World Neurosurgery welcome the new addition to the worldwide neurosurgery publication world. I am sure that the Journal of Global Neurosurgery will flourish and serve a huge purpose in the fight for equity and neurosurgical care for all. I commend Esene and Park, as well as their team, for taking on this arduous task.