Congratulatory Comment

Congratulatory comment from the Takemi Program in International Health at Harvard

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It is a great pleasure to welcome the *Journal of Global Health Sciences (JGHS)* to the international conversation on health. This new journal reflects the stunning transitions in East Asia in health and development over recent decades. With this launch, the Korean Society of Global Health states that they are ready to participate and support the global conversation with the publication of scientific articles, commentaries and opinions. That role will be important in generating new ideas and critiquing conventional thinking, so that we can address the profound challenges now confronting global health, from climate emergencies, to pandemic outbreaks, to pharmaceutical pricing. New voices—and new publications—will help us think creatively about the science and the policies required to address these troubling global problems. The journal's first issue marks an auspicious start. Welcome, *JGHS*, to the challenges of contributing to the scientific knowledge and policy debates in global health.

This congratulatory comment is especially important for me, because the Editor-in-Chief for *JGHS* is Dr. Juhwan Oh, a former Takemi Fellow, whose transition to global health occurred during his time in the Takemi Program in International Health at Harvard during 2008–2010. Since that time, Dr. Oh has become a leader in global health, not only in Korea but around the world. I am confident that Dr. Oh will marshal the vision, the determination, and the standards to transform *JGHS* into a major participant in global health science and debates. From the Takemi Program at Harvard, we are proud that one of our alumni has taken on this formidable role and challenge.

Finally, on a more personal note, I know that creating a new journal is not easy (as founding Editor-in-Chief of *Health Systems & Reform*, a journal now completing its fifth year of publication in 2019). New systems need to be created (for peer review, for soliciting and selecting potential articles, for social media, for publication, for more); and those new systems require learning, adjustment, and revision, especially in early years. Assuring high quality for articles requires more than just peer review; it requires responsible colleagues with high standards in different fields. Deciding to create and lead a new journal is brave and requires courage and perseverance. I wish you well, Dr. Oh, on this decision to start a new journal; I know that your readers have high expectations for *JGHS*, and look forward to each new article. I can also assure you that you will learn much on this journey, sometimes from unexpected places, the best kind of learning.