

EDITORIAL OFFICE NEWS AND NOTES

JABFM in 2026Dean A Seehusen, MD, MPH¹¹ Medical College of Georgia, Department of Family and Community Medicine, Augusta University<https://doi.org/10.3122/jabfm.2026.260072R0>**Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine**

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I am deeply grateful to be assuming the role of Editor of *JABFM* from a long-time personal mentor, Dr. Marjorie Bowman. I also thank her for agreeing to stay on as Editor Emerita. Having been a part of the editing team since 2007, I anticipate more continuity than change. At the same time, I do envision some changes that will make the Journal more timely and more accessible to our readers.

The target audience of *JABFM* remains the practicing American family physician, specifically, diplomates of the ABFM. The goal of *JABFM* in 2026 is to publish original research, secondary analyses, clinical reviews, and opinion pieces that are impactful for the practicing American family physician. To paint a mental picture, I often say, “*JABFM* publishes papers that a family physician can use in their clinic tomorrow.” Additionally, *JABFM* will continue to occasionally publish clusters of papers dedicated to delving deep into topics of interest to the specialty.

Among changes coming to *Journal* is a continuous publishing model that allows papers to be available and indexed soon after they are accepted. This reduces the total number of days any given manuscript awaits publication; good news for authors and for readers. *JABFM* is also in the process of hiring a full-time, in-house, copy editor. This will enhance and standardize the *JABFM* end product.

I also anticipate growing the range of expertise on the editorial team in order to ensure a high-quality product for readers. I anticipate the addition of a statistician, a junior practicing physician-researcher and another PhD researcher to the editorial team.

The editorial team is re-evaluating our current manuscript categories. Original clinical research continues to be the heart and soul of what *JABFM* publishes. We continue to publish brief reports, clinical reviews, and Priority Updates from the Research Literature (PURLs). There are expanded

opportunities to publish high-quality Quality Improvement projects that contain learning points for others. The editorial team would specifically like to publish more meta-analyses and clinical practice guidelines. We hope to see more manuscripts covering innovative clinical care delivery models, professionalism, and the intersection of family medicine and community health. A new manuscript category is Medicine and the Law, which focuses on the practical implications of the legal landscape on how family physicians practice.

A mission that *JABFM* continues to embrace is training and elevating the next generation of family medicine researchers, peer reviewers, and evidence-based medicine experts. The *JABFM* Fellowship continues to advance and mature. The first three years of the fellowship have been highly successful and we are already seeing graduates take leadership roles within the specialty. *JABFM* will continue to enroll two fellows per year and provide a wide-ranging and diverse educational experience in the publishing world for these talented learners.

I look forward to this opportunity and look forward to hearing more from you, the readers. How can *JABFM* serve you better? What do you want to see more of in our pages? Equally important, what would you not want to see changed at the *Journal*? Please send us your thoughts as we move into 2026.

Conflicts of Interest

The author is the Editor of the *JABFM*.