BMJ Quality & Safety seeks a new Editor in Chief

BMJ Quality & Safety is the leading international peer reviewed journal in the field with an impact factor of 6.186 (2016 Journal Citation Reports®, Clarivate Analytics). It provides a rich mix of news, opinion, debate and research for academics, clinicians, healthcare managers and policy makers. It is an interdisciplinary journal that meets the growing demand for rigorous reporting and new thinking on initiatives to improve the quality of health care. The journal integrates the academic and clinical aspects of quality and safety in health care, by encouraging academics to create evidence and knowledge that clinicians value, and encouraging clinicians to value using evidence and knowledge in their efforts to improve quality.

The Health Foundation and BMJ now seek to appoint a new Editor in Chief ahead of the retirement of the current Editor and Deputy Editor in December 2018. This individual or team should have international stature in the field of quality and safety, a distinguished publication record, and editorial experience. The successful candidate will recognise the need to engage the journal’s audiences at all levels and develop its content and global reach. They will establish a vision for the role that continues the momentum created by the current editorial team, advances the journal’s international reputation and profile, and provides engaging and informed content.

The Editor in Chief reports directly to the management committee of the journal consisting of representatives from the Health Foundation and BMJ. The Editor will have responsibility for the editorial strategy and content of BMJ Quality & Safety, with support from their appointed editorial team, and both organisations. Editorial training and technical support will be provided, together with strategic guidance. An annual stipend is provided as well as experienced editorial office support. The Editor in Chief should expect to spend approximately 15-20 hours per week for journal related activities.

The main responsibilities of the Editor-in-Chief include, but are not limited to:

- Provide the highest possible quality of scientific content that augments the knowledge, impact and practice of clinicians and others involved in the field
- Develop and maintain an internationally relevant and coherent scientific strategy and vision for the journal
- Build a supportive team of highly qualified international colleagues to serve as members of the editorial board
- Maintain and ensure the integrity of the review process and publishing ethics providing guidance to authors and reviewers as appropriate
- Encourage submissions of high quality articles
- Develop procedures for effective triage and review of articles to ensure timely and excellent support is maintained for authors and reviewers
- Add value to the journal by commissioning editorials, reviews and related content and any features that serve the interests of the community
- Supervise the journal’s response to appeals, complaints, suggestions from readers and ethical problems regarding published work
Applications for the position should include a CV addressing publication, editorial, and administrative experience as well as a letter of application outlining the candidate’s vision for the journal as well as its strengths, weakness, opportunities and threats (a basic analysis of the journal and its competitors). Applications (or requests for further information) should be sent to: Ms Jennifer Thomas, Publishing Executive, BMJ, jthomas@bmj.com. Closing date for applications is 27 November 2017. Interviews will be held in December 2017 in London. It is envisaged that the successful candidate will work alongside the current editor for a period, and officially take up the post of Editor in Chief in January 2019. The term of office in the first instance is 5 years.