

# A New Year's Opportunities and Updates

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**W**elcome to a new year! 2024. For those of us born sometime in the mid-former century, it may seem like time is moving faster these days.

For others, during the postpandemic years, with ongoing COVID-19 outbreaks and heightened national and international political turmoil, the new year may seem like a continuation of the same, without an obvious aspect of renewal. In any case, a new year brings with it a chance to feel like there is a beginning, an opportunity for reflection and a time for pursuing best practices. As the editor of the *Oncology Nursing Forum (ONF)*, I would like to use this time to highlight several items of interest for 2024 as we continue to serve our oncology nursing readership that has expanded over the years to include interprofessional scientists and practitioners in addition to oncology nursing scientists and clinicians.

As we continue to focus on publishing the best oncology nursing research, a few areas warrant focus for the new year so that we can continue the role of *ONF* as a premier oncology nursing journal. First, *ONF* needs to continue to receive multiple submissions to continue our dissemination of the best oncology nursing research. We need authors, both senior and junior, to consider submitting to *ONF* first. Our evaluation data collected from authors

indicates that our authors feel supported and satisfied with the editorial process, from submission, to revision, to copy editing, and, finally, to publication. Our time to publication is relatively short, and we communicate with authors throughout the review process. As the editor, I will review abstracts and give authors a quick heads-up about “fit” for manuscripts in development or ready for submission so that they can have an appraisal prior to going through the online submission process.

Next, the publication process at *ONF* depends on a strong peer review system: We need to nurture the development of new reviewers and enhance the processes for our experienced reviewers to meet the demands of the publication enterprise. Peer review is a cornerstone of publishing and “giving voice” to the research that supports the further development of science. At *ONF*, we need to continue to consider the pathway that is necessary for the journal to remain strong by nurturing our reviewers and soliciting *ONF* Editorial Board members with diverse skills, knowledge, and backgrounds. We encourage authors, once published, to apply to be a reviewer for *ONF*. For the continuation and innovation of oncology nursing science, we encourage Oncology Nursing Society members who have at least beginner publishing experience to consider reviewing for *ONF* at least once or twice a year. Since the pandemic, and with the burgeoning number of new healthcare journals, it is increasingly difficult to match reviewers and submissions. This is an international issue in journal publication; the balance between demand (the number of manuscripts submitted) and supply (the number of reviewers) has been disrupted (El-Guebaly

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