IDI: Building a Bridge of Communication Between China and Other Nations in the Field of Infectious Diseases

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A century ago, an imported plague epidemic broke out in North-east China. At that time, Mr. Liande Wu was the person responsible for handling the outbreak situation. China promptly took measures such as quarantine, isolation, and diagnosis and treatment and successfully eliminated the severe infectious disease that shocked the world in 4 months. At present, the COVID-19 epidemic broke out in Wuhan, China. Under the leadership of the Communist Party of China and Chinese authorities, China has adopted comprehensive measures such as early detection and diagnosis, treatment, and isolation to control the epidemic within 3 months, embodying China’s considerable anti-epidemic spirit: life is supreme, the whole country is of one mind, regardless of life and death, respecting science, and destiny together. The prompt actions taken, efficiency, and experience that China has shown indicate that it has gradually been at the forefront of the global fight against infectious diseases. However, with the exception of China and a few countries, COVID-19 remains to threaten human health worldwide.

Since the founding of the People’s Republic of China, China has made a series of major achievements in the field of infectious disease prevention and control that have attracted attention globally. In the field of prevention and treatment of major and common infectious diseases, regardless of system and platform construction or talent team training, technical reserves, and technological innovation, China has reached the international frontier level in the corresponding fields, effectively protecting the health of Chinese citizens and contributing to the prevention and control of infectious diseases all over the world. For example, Professor Feifan Wu was the first Chinese to discover a significant pathogen (chlamydia). Along with Chinese experts, he developed China’s own rabies vaccine, diphtheria vaccine, vaccinia vaccine, yellow fever vaccine, and the world’s first typhus vaccine. The vaccinia vaccine developed by Chinese scientists enabled China to eliminate smallpox 16 years earlier than the world. Chinese scientists, represented by Professor Youyou Tu, successfully extracted artemisinin to treat malaria and “saved millions of people worldwide”. Thus, Professor Youyou Tu became the first Chinese to win the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine on October 8, 2015.

However, existing English-language journals in China are falling far behind the nation’s total scientific research output in terms of quantity and quality. Many excellent research results are not made public because of the lack of convenient channels and suitable platforms for publication and dissemination, especially in the field of infectious diseases. In October 2019, the China Association for Science and Technology decided to launch a new high-quality English-language journal in contagious and infectious diseases as a part of the High Notch New Journal Project in its Excellence Action Plan. The Chinese Medical Association Publishing House’s Infectious Diseases & Immunity (IDI) journal survived fierce competition from potential candidates to undertake its vital mission.

IDI is sponsored by the Chinese Medical Association (CMA) and supported by the Chinese Medical Association Publishing House, the largest medical publishing organization in China. IDI’s goal is to disseminate new information and results related to infectious diseases to researchers and clinicians worldwide, including those on epidemiology, clinical evaluation, diagnosis, treatment, and control of infectious diseases, with particular emphasis on the links between infectious diseases and immunity. IDI is committed to building a world-class academic communication platform, which will publish high-quality scientific research papers on infectious diseases and immunity rapidly and to a broader audience. We will also host a series of academic conferences and workshops, particularly for young physicians and researchers across the world. Meanwhile, IDI will release important expert consensus opinions and guidelines to make authoritative information in specialized fields widely available.

Moreover, IDI has a strong editorial team. The editor-in-chief is supported by eight associate editors, national or international top-notch experts in infection and immunity, and more than 30 academic leaders serving as editors or assistant editors.
IDI cooperates with the world’s largest medical publishing platform—the Wolters Kluwer Publishing Group from the Netherlands—and uses the advanced open access (OA) publishing model to promote IDI’s widespread dissemination.

Our mission is to promote the development of science and technology in infectious diseases and immunity in China and the world, thereby contributing to global public health.

We welcome your submissions to the journal and participation in our events!

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