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Abstract
The Editorial Team extends a heart-felt “thank you” to those who have given their time and expertise in the past year to participate in this process with the Journal of Appalachian Health. We know that you have many competing pressures on your time, and that you are not financially compensated for the time you spend reviewing manuscripts. We hope that there are other forms of compensation that make the sacrifice worth the effort.

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The editors of any medical journal rely on a cast of characters to support their effort in the production of the ongoing enterprise that is medical publishing. Of particular importance to the veracity and credibility of a journal is the peer-review process. There is no better standard for scientific publication than the vigorous—and rigorous—practice that we call peer review; having experts in each topic area assist in the decision-making activities surrounding the acceptance—or rejection—of a manuscript. It is as close to a sacred oath as can be found; to evaluate each paper with an objective eye that confirms the truth and brings to light the false.

With that in mind, we extend a heart-felt “thank you” to those who have given their time and expertise in the past year to participate in this process with the Journal of Appalachian Health. We know that you have many competing pressures on your time, and that you are not financially compensated for the time you spend reviewing manuscripts. We hope that there are other forms of compensation that make the sacrifice worth the effort.

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