

# BLOCKCHAIN™ IN HEALTHCARE — T O D A Y —

## Notes from Our Publisher

It is with pride that I present to you the product of a team effort—*BHTY* debut articles. We share them with you to evaluate, adopt, engage, challenge, or champion. It is up to the community to determine.

*Blockchain in Healthcare Today* is a platform where all can converge to share, learn, contribute, vet, and build a new framework for the future of patient care, and backbone for a new health system, created with the assistance of blockchain technology.

We thank and congratulate all the authors appearing in this debut and all the authors that submitted manuscripts for review. You are pioneers and visionaries, all. Personal thanks is extended to each, as you endeavored to publish in a new publication.

My desire is that the initiative assists the accumulation and acceleration of validated successes using the technology. Please know *BHTY* is unique in that we hold failures and successful outcomes in equal esteem. Failures are not traditionally lauded, yet those events may offer more insight to propelling success. In this instance, it is my hope that altruism and courage inspire a balanced body of work to perpetuate a trusted union within the community.

As publisher, I opted to launch a traditional scholarly peer review journal anticipating the

unfamiliar territory of the editorial mission. The healthcare sector, at large, must build familiarity and confidence with the technology and understand its vast applications. The *BHTY* online journal platform provides the broadest, most rapid adoption to scale proficiency and agility with the technology for leadership, early adopters, and ultimately, all stakeholders to harness. Conformity at the outset should engender acceptance for both journal and use of the technology.

Our plan for *BHTY* entails transforming the journal for the blockchain and expanding its reach with international editions. In addition, we plan a global health citizenry initiative. We will announce this at the *BHTY* conference—stay tuned.

*Blockchain in Healthcare Today* endeavors to be impartial, objective, egalitarian, and collegiate in essence and *raison d'être*. I believe our Editorial Board members reflect these values. Board member selections are based on expertise, integrity, passion, commitment, willingness to contribute, work ethic, and ingenuity. I cannot thank each and every member enough for all their continued achievements and assistance in presenting the journal to you. Peer review is a voluntary role, and these individuals, ardent enthusiasts and users of the technology, are commended.

Should you be interested in joining the Board, reach out. The *BHTY* board members may not be

employed at a commercial enterprise. Two board members stepped down moving to the commercial side, Jim Nasr and Sean Manion. We sincerely thank them for their service as they continue to propel a forward reaching agenda in healthcare.

The original plan was to launch the journal in January. It is now March. In fairness to authors who submitted manuscripts, I wanted to include as many peer reviewed articles to present a robust issue, as the technology impacts many facets of the industry. This is reflected in the content. We encountered a software upgrade that presented some technical issues. In addition, two board members stepped down and we opted to begin the review process again for those submissions impacted. A shift in authorship and corresponding author(s) occurred, and of course, the peer review process usually takes several revisions before a paper is accepted.

We will extend peer review turn around in future. We expect to publish a continuous flow of articles on a rolling basis; and this will allow reviewers more flexibility considering personal and professional schedules. You are encouraged to register as a subscriber to receive future article alerts [here](#).

The article acceptance rate was 50%. For those declined, submissions were either too general, a rehash of what already appears on the web and media at large, or not written or formatted properly. We encourage authors to review and follow [General Information for Authors](#) on the site. Questions are welcome, and we are happy

to assist where possible. We will feature a session at the upcoming *BHTY* conference on how to write an original research manuscript. The conference is scheduled for October 24<sup>th</sup>, Lerner Hall, Columbia University, New York City. Details will be released soon.

I would be remiss if I did not thank our editor-in-chief for his leap of faith with *BHTY*. I recall smiling all day the day he agreed to take on the role.

In closing, our tag line is “Building Trust through Truth.” I can’t think of a more earnest phrase or brighter beacon for a scholarly journal to aspire to, particularly for this sector. Hold us to it. We look to the community to validate the initiative and build consensus behind it. Thank you.

Thanks to *BHTY* Managing Editor, John Russo, PharmD, for his support and dedication to the success of *BHTY*. Mentor and friend. His guidance, commitment, diligence, kindness, and humor inspire me. I am blessed to know him, and we are thankful for his contributions to the journal. Thanks too to Johnny H., and Joe Z, (who introduced me to blockchain).

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