



New Oncologic Imaging Section in the *Korean Journal of Radiology*

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In January 2024, the *Korean Journal of Radiology (KJR)* introduces a newly established Oncologic Imaging section. Simultaneously, the longstanding Nuclear Medicine section, which has been part of the journal since its early years, is being discontinued. These changes reflect the evolving landscape of oncology patient care, including the use of imaging, and the journal's commitment to adapting its focus to meet the needs of its authors and readers. This article aims to explain the rationale behind these changes.

Traditional organ-based oncologic imaging practices are shifting towards a more comprehensive approach that evaluates multiple organs and systems. This change is driven by advances in oncological therapies, which expand the treatment and imaging evaluation opportunities for more patients with metastatic disease than before, and particularly with the emergence of tissue-agnostic oncology drugs. The term 'tissue agnostic oncology drug' refers to a drug that targets a specific molecular alteration(s) (a kind of biomarker) across multiple cancer types, regardless of the organ or tissue of origin [1]. Moreover, modern oncologic imaging often employs a multimodal approach, combining conventional radiologic imaging with nuclear medicine techniques. To accommodate these evolving practices, *KJR* has recently

published a few articles in a distinct subject category of Oncologic Imaging, even though a formal section dedicated to this topic has not yet been established [2].

The *KJR* has recently experienced a substantial rise in the number of submissions it receives, with approximately 100 new manuscripts being submitted each month. To effectively manage this increased volume, *KJR* has adopted a strategic approach, prioritizing nuclear medicine studies that are directly relevant to clinical patient management, particularly in the field of oncological practice. Manuscripts focused on the technical development, modification, or enhancement of nuclear medicine imaging, as well as translational and basic research studies in nuclear medicine, will no longer be considered for publication in *KJR*. Oncologic nuclear medicine studies with strong clinical relevance will be featured in the Oncologic Imaging or relevant anatomical sections of the journal. This journal recommends prospective authors to review recently published articles in *KJR* as examples to gain a clearer understanding of the new selection criteria [3-10].

To estimate the potential impact of this shift, an analysis of recent publications was conducted. Over the last five years (2019-2023), *KJR* published 22 papers in nuclear medicine, comprising of 18 original research articles, three review articles, and one editorial. Notably, most of these publications (19/22) were clinical articles rather than ones primarily dedicated to technical development, modification, or improvement of nuclear medicine imaging, as well as translational and basic research studies in nuclear medicine. Moreover, a significant majority of the published articles (16/22) were on oncologic imaging. Hence, we assert that the prioritization strategy is appropriate.

Finally, I am pleased to introduce Dr. Sungmin Woo as the newly appointed section editor for the Oncologic Imaging section. I have the utmost confidence that Dr. Woo is an

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ideal candidate to expertly manage relevant manuscripts, steering *KJR* towards new heights in oncologic imaging in accordance with the journal's updated vision.



Dr. Sungmin Woo is an accomplished oncologic imaging specialist currently serving as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Radiology at New York University (NYU) Grossman School of Medicine. He graduated from Seoul National University College of Medicine in 2010 and

subsequently completed his residency in the Department of Radiology at Seoul National University Hospital in 2015 and fellowship in Oncologic Imaging at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in 2020. Following his fellowship, he continued to contribute to the center's excellence as faculty and held the position of the Director of Genitourinary Radiology. In August 2023, he joined NYU's newly established Oncologic Imaging Division, bringing his expertise to a thriving academic environment.

Dr. Woo's clinical expertise and research interest lie in oncologic imaging, focusing on gynecologic and urologic cancers. His work delves into the mechanisms of cancer spread to other parts of the body, treatment response, and prognosis. His research endeavors focus on harnessing the power of conventional and advanced imaging technologies, including computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, and positron emission tomography, as biomarkers to improve the diagnosis and treatment strategies. Dr. Woo has over 130 scientific publications in peer-reviewed academic journals. His dedication and expertise have earned him numerous accolades, including the Roentgen Resident/Fellow Research Award (2020), National Academy of Medicine Scholars of Diagnostic Excellence (2022), and US federal grant funding from the National Institute of Health/National Cancer Institute (2022). Further demonstrating his commitment to the advancing field, Dr. Woo actively serves as a reviewer for esteemed journals such as *JAMA Oncology*, *European Urology*, and the *American Journal of Roentgenology*.

Conflicts of Interest

The author has no potential conflicts of interest to disclose.

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