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(1722 - 1809):  
father of percussion  
(Refer to pages 103-104)

## Linking up and out

W C G Peh

The Singapore Medical Journal (SMJ) has long been indexed in Medline, with its citation and abstract data being included in the United States of America National Library of Medicine (NLM)'s PubMed system. Following on our implementation of making all SMJ articles available online on our own website at least two weeks in advance of receipt by post of the printed journal<sup>(1)</sup>, the editorial team has, with the appointment of a journal webmaster, now successfully started direct electronic submission of article citations and abstracts to NLM's PubMed system. Electronic submission will ensure that your citations and abstracts will be made available to the public much more rapidly. Assignment of Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) will also be sped up.

To ensure the widest possible audience for articles published in SMJ, the editorial team has also arranged for SMJ to be connected to LinkOut. LinkOut is a feature of Entrez (the text-based search and retrieval system used at the National Center for Biotechnology Information [NCBI] for the major biomedical databases) that is designed to provide users with links from PubMed and other Entrez databases (such as Genome, Nucleotide, Protein, and Taxonomy) to a wide variety of relevant web-accessible online resources. The goal of LinkOut is to facilitate access beyond the Entrez system to extend, clarify, or supplement information found in the Entrez system.

By clicking onto the green icon (Fig. 1) located on the left side of the SMJ article citation listed on PubMed, a customised SMJ icon will now



**Fig. 1** Page from the PubMed website shows the green icon located on the left side of the citation of a SMJ article, indicating that this citation has a LinkOut feature. Clicking this green icon will lead the user to the abstract shown in Fig. 2.

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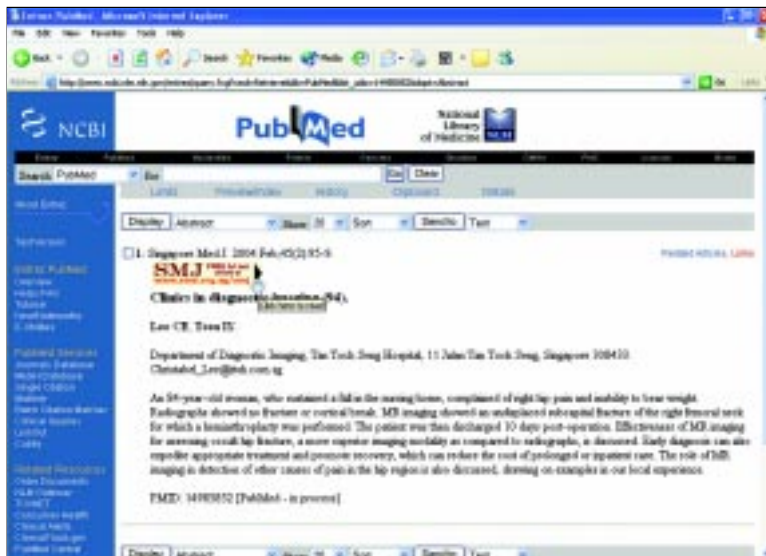


Fig. 2 Page from the PubMed website shows the customised SMJ icon as part of the article abstract. Clicking onto this icon will bring the user to the full-text of the article on the SMJ website.

*To ensure the widest possible audience for articles published in SMJ, the editorial team has also arranged for SMJ to be connected to LinkOut.*



Fig. 3 Page from the PubMed website shows an alternative way of using the LinkOut feature. Clicking the word Links on the right side of the citation will produce a pull-down menu. Clicking "LinkOut" from the pull-down menu will lead the user to the page shown in Fig. 4.



Fig. 4 Page from the PubMed website shows the LinkOut display obtained by clicking "LinkOut" from the Links pull-down menu located on the right side of the SMJ article citation. The full-text of the article on the SMJ website can then be easily accessed.

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be displayed (Fig. 2) as part of the abstract. By further clicking on this icon, a researcher anywhere in the world logging on to PubMed will be linked to the full-text of the article on the SMJ website. One can also access the full-text of the article by clicking "LinkOut" from the Links pull-down menu located on the right side of the SMJ article citation (Figs. 3 & 4). This feature will be beneficial not only to our authors and international researchers and readers, but also give increased exposure to other articles on our SMJ website. We have successfully LinkedOut the December 2003, and January and February 2004 issues of SMJ, and will be prospectively LinkingOut future issues as our articles go online.

From this issue onwards, authors can therefore expect the citation and abstract data of their articles to be available on PubMed, as well as the PubMed LinkOut to the full-text of their articles, by the time they receive the print version of SMJ. To access the latest issue of SMJ on PubMed, go to [www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed) and type "Singapore Med J."

We are also pleased to launch the "Pictorial Essay" series in this current issue. These articles are meant to be teaching exercises with the message in the figures and their legends. The amount of text should be kept to a minimum. Written by experts, emphasis is placed on the quality of the illustrations, utility of the message, and timeliness of a particular topic. Although the first article in the series is coauthored by a radiologist and a pathologist<sup>(2)</sup>, images are by no means confined to radiological or pathological ones. We welcome manuscripts with all sorts of images that are able to succinctly illustrate clinically- relevant topics, for example, endoscopic images and dermatological photographs. Please refer to the latest instructions to authors, available online at [www.sma.org.sg/smj/instructions.pdf](http://www.sma.org.sg/smj/instructions.pdf).

Let me have your feedback. Send us your best manuscripts. We will work together to make SMJ better. 

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2. Muttarak M, Chaiwun B. Imaging of giant breast masses with pathological correlation. Singapore Med J 2004; 45:132-9.