I am deeply moved and would like to congratulate the Journal of Menopausal Medicine (JMM) on their 25th anniversary. The first issue of the JMM was published in November 1995, three years after the founding of the Korean Society of Menopause (KSM).

Today, 25 years after the journal was first published, the first and founding chairman of the KSM, Jin Yong Lee, and the second chairman, Chan Ho Song, who started the JMM, are no longer with us. I feel as if all this happened a long time ago and that a lot of time has passed since then.

A total of 67 issues have been published during the last 25 years. It is not an overstatement that this journal contains the research activities and achievements of the KSM. This was achieved entirely by the support and dedicated contribution of numerous members who study menopause.

Over the past 25 years, the situation in Korea regarding menopause has changed considerably. First, the average life-expectancy of women has significantly increased, and it is expected that by 2030 Korea will be the country with the highest female life-expectancy, surpassing Japan and France. Perhaps, our contention that life after menopause will exceed one-third of total life-span and maybe prolong to more than half of the total life-span may come true. It seems we are at the stage where the concept of “Geripause” is about to be naturally blended with the concept of “Menopause.”

Postmenopausal hormonal therapy has gone downhill since the findings of the WHI study in 2002. Following the reinterpretation of the WHI study, more restrictive and restrained use is now recommended, but the hormonal therapy seems to be in its second “renaissance period.”

In addition, in the areas of osteoporosis, muscular dystrophy, and anti-aging, many studies have been developed and new drugs have been introduced for life after menopause. In the future, “doctors” may experience difficulty in treating women without a medical understanding of women’s lives after menopause.

Therefore, we are optimistic that in addition to the research in these fields, the contents of the journal would become richer, and more research findings would be reported.

Recently, after the internationalization of the journal, it seems be mostly publishing foreign papers. Although this is an encouraging phenomenon, the number of papers from Korea has decreased significantly, hindering our enlistment in the SCI and adversely impacting our reputation. I hope that there will be more contribution from Korean researchers.

In conclusion, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the various executives and members of
the KSM for their dedication toward the journal. I would also like to send special thanks to Professor Hae-Hyeog Lee at the Soonchunhyang University, who has served as the chief of the editorial board for the past one decade.

Once again, I would like to congratulate the JMM on its 25th anniversary and wish everyone the best for a better future.