Publishing Raw Data and Real Time Statistical Analysis on e-journals

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One of our own Ultrasound@OBGYN.net [3] participants has published an article in the British Medical Journal proposing the use of electronic publication to include the original data with research articles. The article, by David J R Hutchon, consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist. Memorial Hospital, Darlington, County Durham DL3 6HX, proposes several advantages to having the original data available to the readers.

“Potential advantages of providing raw data and statistical software within the web version of a published paper include:

- Raw data remain available in the foreseeable future for other workers to analyze further
- The data can be easily copied into other applications, making analysis by others a practical proposal
- The data are available for effective meta-analysis
- The statistical analysis is available to be checked by peer reviewers and readers
- Internet publication has in practical terms unlimited capacity for data storage
- Most journals will support a web version in the next few years."

This is an innovative and new approach to publishing research, and should help to validate research results. The Internet will clearly become a more important medium for scientific researchers to share their work. The Internet will also be the main source of computer based applications for the rapid dissemination of research results. The developments that are occurring today can be described as the Electronic Revolution. David Hutchon is at the forefront of this movement. We welcome the opportunity to learn more about his work and share his ideas with our readers.

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Links:
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