
LETTER FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Dear Readers

On the occasion of our first issue in 1997, I should like to express my best wishes to all of you and the hope that the year ahead will be gratifying both personally and professionally. You have made the Journal a tremendous success, and your submissions to date number more than three hundred.

This issue finds us at the beginning of our third volume, and I am pleased to announce certain changes. Expanding the number of issues to six per year and increasing the number of pages per issue were essential to allow us to publish in a timely way the manuscripts accepted to date.

The editorial team was also expanded and invited to participate more closely in our task. David Speller, whom many of you have come to know and appreciate through correspondence, continues in his role of scientific editing and commissioning of Continuing Education articles and has enlisted the assistance of Peter Jenks. Ian Phillips has assumed the organization of the editorial process and continues to improve the system. Furthermore, he has assumed the role of liaison between the publisher, the editorial group and the Society. Olivier Lortholary contributes to the initial editorial review of manuscripts and assists in the selection of reviewers. Our Associate Editors play an important part in the review process and I appreciate their input on all issues relating to the content of the Journal and the editorial process. Two of our Associate Editors will assume a closer relationship with the editorial team. Jean-Claude Desenclos, who has been responsible for commissioning articles which reflect the newsworthy aspects of epidemiology, will continue in that capacity but will become more involved with the overall planning of issues. Jean-Claude Pechère will assume responsibility for the commissioning of editorial material in general.

A further change concerns manuscript categories. We have found it difficult to maintain a clear distinction between Technical Reports and Original Articles. Many submissions are difficult to categorize, having interest both in developments in techniques and in the results obtained with these. We have decided not to continue a defined Technical Report section, while remaining happy to publish very short papers dealing with technical matters.

In this issue, we have chosen to dedicate most of our space to the publication of Original Articles, some of which are technical in nature, and Letters to the Editors. The reduction in editorial material which you may notice certainly does not reflect a change in policy, but rather our desire to publish accepted material without further delay. I am confident that you will agree with our priority, and I assure you that we will continue to include Continuing Education articles and News features in future issues.

I am pleased to announce that CMI is now indexed in CAS and EMBASE, and is scheduled for review this spring for inclusion in Index Medicus/MEDLINE.

I am eager to have your comments about the previous issues and the supplements, especially your input on subjects you wish to see in the educational section. Your support is both welcome and more important than ever to keep the quality of the Journal on the rise and to maintain its expansion. We are well aware that our readers' opinions as well as their submissions are our most important resources. Our goal is to produce a journal that is rooted in our Society, and we will endeavor to do so on the basis of your contributions.

With best regards,
Jacques Acar