

From the editor

News and comments

As you read this first issue of Volume 7 of *Cardiology in the Young*, we sincerely hope that the only changes you find are ones deemed to be for the better. This is the first issue of the Journal to appear under the imprint of Greenwich Medical Media Ltd (GMM). GMM is a new company in the field of publishing which concentrates on medical books and journals. It is based in London and enjoys close associations with Oxford University Press. The London base now puts Publisher and Editor-in-Chief in very close proximity! In these days of electronic publishing, a field in which GMM is also closely involved, distances of mileage are not such a problem, but proximity does have its advantages. What is much more important is distances in philosophy and attitude. In this respect, we can confirm that our new association endorses totally the mission statement and aims established for the Journal under the stewardship of World Publishers. Thus, we remain committed to publish in timely fashion all material of suitable scientific standard. The proximity of editorial and production facilities should certainly facilitate this aspect of our activities. The major impediment to rapid production existing at present has been alluded to in several of our recent commentaries, namely the build-up of a large quantity of high-quality manuscripts awaiting publication. Already we hold sufficient manuscripts to fill our first three issues of 1997, and further work continues to arrive with regularity. Recognizing the need to expedite the publication of existing papers, we have already taken the decision to increase the number of pages in each issue by at least 16. Then, commencing in 1998, we will move to a schedule of publication of six issues per volume. We will retain the innovation introduced by World Publishers of providing free access to colour illustrations for all who need this facility. We will also retain the arrangement for printing the Journal in Hong Kong, since, in our opinion, it would be difficult to improve on the quality provided by our present printers.

As announced in the last issue of Volume 6, we have also taken steps to "refresh" our Editorial Board. This is not to imply that the old Board was in need of total refreshment, but a degree of

change always produces innovations and improvements. We have been impressed by the enthusiasm universally expressed by the new members invited to join the Board. All have indicated their commitment to continue to improve the standards of the Journal. We take this opportunity of thanking all the retiring members of the Board. It was their initial enthusiasm and support which enabled us to reach our present standards, perceived already as high from our acknowledged biased position.

We have also taken this opportunity of increasing the scope of material published within the Journal. Thus, you will find the first of a new series in this issue devoted to the increasingly important topic of Continuing Medical Education. The first topic highlighted is one which, hopefully, will be of interest to all concerned with cardiology in the young, namely the description and categorisation of congenitally malformed hearts. To provide some initial continuity, this review, and the planned subsequent two or three, will come from the home stable. We have already asked our Editorial Board members to consider submitting reviews in this field. We extend the same invitation to all of you, and we are not limiting our remit simply to matters of medical education. We would be more than interested in publishing suitable material provided by those working in the field allied to medicine, notably nursing and technical areas.

Finally, we take this opportunity to reassure all of you, including our Board members, who have commented on the need to obtain citation status for the Journal. We have already submitted to Index Medicus but, unfortunately, we were unsuccessful. We will resubmit as soon as this is permissible. Once accepted, citation is retrospective. We are also taking, immediately, the necessary steps to achieve citation with other agencies such as Excerpta Medica and Current Contents. In short, as editors and publishers, we are excited about the opportunities provided by our new collaboration. If we are to achieve this potential, we need your support. We hope we can continue to count on it. Please feel free to write with your opinions.

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