

Editorial

The new joint editors of *Behavioural Psychotherapy* wish to thank the outgoing editor, Desmond Poole, for the excellent job he has done in consolidating and advancing the journal. He leaves the journal in a healthy condition with a steady flow of new material, and has kindly agreed to continue an active role as consulting editor. Thanks are also due to Tim Stockwell who leaves his position of Associate Editor (and becomes a member of the advisory board). Lars-Goran Öst and Janet Carr are welcomed as new Associate Editors.

There are a number of changes to the editorial policy. These are outlined in the revised editorial statement. Most are relatively minor, and reflect the evolution of behavioural psychotherapy as an applied science. One of the more important changes concerns case reports, which should emphasise the experimental investigation of the single case, using single case experimental designs. For the majority of designs submissions should include a baseline period with repeated measures; in all instances the nature of the quantitative data and the intervention must be clearly specified. Non-experimental case studies will only be considered when the treatment approach and/or problem dealt with is considered to be of particular importance and clear indicators of change are provided.

Starting with the following issue, two major changes will be made in the format of *Behavioural Psychotherapy*. Firstly, the clinical, correspondence and book review sections are to be printed in smaller type. This means that the journal will be able to publish more material in each issue. It should also have the effect of reducing the time between acceptance of papers and their publication. Secondly, an accelerated publication section is being created. Behavioural psychotherapy is a fast evolving applied science in which there are considerable benefits from rapid publication of important new findings. The adoption of two streams of reviewing will allow the more rapid publication of a small number of studies without increasing the publication time of other submissions. In order to ensure a reliably swift review and decision process, communications and feedback about manuscripts submitted for accelerated publication will be kept to a minimum. Authors wishing to submit manuscripts for the accelerated publication section should indicate clearly (a) why they think accelerated publication is justified and (b) whether they wish the manuscript to revert to the normal review procedure if not judged to be suitable for accelerated publication. If a manuscript proceeds to normal review, the usual standards and communications will apply. Only a small numbers of papers will be accepted for rapid publication.

It is hoped that, as the official journal of the British Association for Behavioural Psychotherapy, *Behavioural Psychotherapy* will continue to have an important place in a rapidly developing field.