Editor’s Page

Approaching the Journal’s Third Year

The Journal of Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance is approaching its third year of existence and much has been accomplished. Over 100 peer-reviewed manuscripts have been published. As those of you who have submitted manuscripts know, the Journal sends all manuscripts for peer review to three experts. These experts are derived either from the Editorial Board or ad hoc. There have been several review manuscripts published in the Journal and these too are subjected to peer review. The rate of receipt of manuscripts submitted to the Journal has been increasing. In the first year, 1998, a total of 30 manuscripts were submitted; in 1999 the number increased by 10%, and in 2000 that number had already increased by 30% by the end of September. The quality of manuscript submission has been high in general, reflecting the excellent work in CMR. The topics have ranged from new strategies for imaging to assess function, the arteries, and perfusion, to spectroscopy to assess myocardial metabolism. The articles are usually clinically relevant and present new information not available elsewhere. In addition to manuscripts, the abstracts presented at the Society’s Annual Meeting have been published as well as the abstracts from the Working Group Meeting on CMR of the European Society of Cardiology. The credentials document developed by the SCMR Credentials Committee (consisting of physicians representing cardiology, radiology, and nuclear medicine) describing the education and experience required to add CMR to a practice of cardiology has been published in issue 3 of this year.

All members of the Society receive the Journal as a benefit, and since the Society is growing so are subscriptions to the Journal. The total number of subscriptions now is approximately 600, which represents a small change between the first and second year of publication.

Our plan for the future is to begin to change approximately 25% of the editorial board starting with Volume 3. Also, in view of the fact that the number of manuscripts submitted is increasing substantially, we will need to consider converting the Journal to bimonthly (six issues per year). Some of the changes will need to be accompanied by more invited papers, perhaps two per issue. Further, there will be better integration between the printed Journal and the Society website.

The Journal is an integral part of the SCMR and will maintain the same high standards as the Society. Constructive suggestions for improvement of the Journal are welcomed by Journal staff and Society. Kindly e-mail suggestions to gpohost@cvnmr.dom.uab.edu.

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