

AVR 00343

EDITORIAL

The prospects for antiviral chemotherapy have gained an enormous momentum. This is attested by the continuous emergence of new virus infections that are in urgent need of an effective treatment, by the relative paucity of antiviral drugs that are presently available and, not at least, by the new acquisitions that have been recently obtained in the field of antiviral drug development.

Antiviral Research is the only Journal that copes with all aspects of antiviral chemotherapy, starting from the inception of an active compound or principle to its ultimate use in the clinic, whatever virus disease it has been designed for.

To reflect the true vocation of *Antiviral Research*, the Editorial Board has been thoroughly restructured so as to represent clearly the different disciplines that are covered by the Journal:

- the chemical synthesis, isolation and identification of new antiviral agents
- the study of their mechanism of action, and elucidation of the molecular targets they interact with
- their pharmacological and pharmacokinetic behavior
- their antiviral activity in various assay systems in vitro (cell culture) and in vivo (animals models)
- and, finally, their efficacy in clinical trials.

Section Editors have been appointed to deal with manuscripts in their particular area of expertise. These Section Editors have been given full responsibility and autonomy to consider, review and accept for publication those papers that have been directly forwarded to their offices. Manuscripts on any aspect of antiviral research and from wherever in the world can of course be directly submitted to either of the two Editors-in-Chief. In addition, the Editors shall be delighted to consider the publication of review articles highlighting recent progress in any area of antiviral research.

While maintaining and even upgrading the standards of the Journal, the Editors aim at adhering to a swift and careful review process of all submitted papers, and these endeavors will be matched by the Publisher's commitment to an equally rapid and efficient publication of all acceptable manuscripts.

With the present issue, *Antiviral Research* has also become the official Journal of the International Society for Antiviral Research, and we trust that this tight association will make both the Journal and Society thrive, to the benefit of the whole scientific community interested in the fight against viral diseases.

Prof. Dr. Erik De Clercq
Prof. Dr. Richard J. Whitley
Editors-in-Chief