



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Antiviral Research

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/antiviral

Editorial

Antiviral Research, at its 30th anniversary, remembrances from its Editor-in-Chief

The Journal *Antiviral Research* was conceived and born in 1980, and launched in 1981. We thus celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the Journal, which, as I will further elaborate upon in this Editorial of the Antivirals Congress at the occasion of “30 years of *Antiviral Research*”, started at a time very few antiviral drugs were around. These were idoxuridine, trifluridine, ribavirin, amantadine, and vidarabine, but, with the discovery of new antiviral agents (to become antiviral drugs later on) such as acyclovir and bromovinyl-deoxyuridine, and the cloning of both human interferon- α and - β , “spring was in the air”, and under the impulse of Huub Schellekens we, Alfons Billiau and I, took on a new initiative, which at the time, may have looked as both daring and adventurous, and perhaps risky as well, as we did not have any previous experience in editing a Journal, and success was not guaranteed.

The new Journal may have been regarded as an adventure, in addition to the other duties, research, and teaching, that were linked to our (Alfons’ and my) job as Professor at the University. Also connected with the journal, at least in the early days, were Rolf Zinkernagel and Harald zur Hausen, who later would win the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. As for any infant growing up, it took 10–15 years for the Journal to adolescence and another 10 years to maturation, but with George Galasso, Rich Whitley and Earl R. Kern having acceded to the rank of Editors, the Journal quickly came of age. Thus, time has now come to reflect on the past, cherish the present, and indulge in future perspectives. The Journal has steadily grown to a respected player in the field, worthy of Elsevier’s vested tradition.

This meeting (Antivirals Congress) in Amsterdam has been convened by the Publisher, and I was entrusted with the chairmanship, probably because I was the oldest around and associated for the longest time with the Journal. The concept of this Anniversary meeting is different from the annual ICAR (International Conference of *Antiviral Research*) meetings. In fact, the Journal is by 5 years senior to the ICAR meetings, the first of those (it was not called the first, as we did not know or even anticipate there would be a second one, being held, in 1985, in another Dutch city, Rotterdam).

For this Anniversary meeting, an original scientific program was developed, covering as plenary sessions, the following: 1. Setting the scene; 2. Emerging viruses; 3. Virus–host interactions; 4. Drug discovery; 5. Antiviral resistance; 6. New antiviral drugs; 7. Unmet needs; 8. Thirty years of “*Antiviral Research*”; 9. Responses to future challenges.

Commemorating the 30th anniversary of the Journal *Antiviral Research*, it is my privilege to welcoming you “on board” of a most stimulating and rewarding scientific experience, which I hope will

be exemplary for the future progress and success in a burgeoning, scientific field, that of Antiviral Research, and the fruits it may bear in the future to the benefit of human health and mankind.

1. The period 1980–1988

The journal *Antiviral Research* started in 1980 with as birthday some time in January. On 3rd January 1980 Prof. A. Billiau (from our Institute) wrote to Ir. Louis P. Ter Meer (from Elsevier) that we were ready to start and recruit the members of the Editorial Board, and by the end of January 1980 we had most of the Editorial Board members in place, and by March 1980 the journal was ready to go (see brochure) (Table 1). The concept, however, started about 9 months earlier when I received a letter from Dr. Huub Schellekens (23rd May 1979) and to which I responded on 1st June 1979. Soon after the journal was launched in 1980, the first manuscripts were coming in, and for a number of years (1980–1988) the Journal had a slow start with about 20–30 papers published per year. The meeting in Rotterdam (First International TNO Conference on Antiviral Research (Netherlands Organization of Applied Scientific Research), Rotterdam, The Netherlands, 30th April–3rd May 1985) [in retrospect the first International Conference on Antiviral Research (ICAR) was also the place where the International Society for Antiviral Research (ISAR) was born, under the stimulating influence of George Galasso].

By 1987 the Board had slightly changed: where A. Billiau and E. De Clercq remained the Executive Editors, and H. Schellekens remained on board as Associate Editor, the two other Associate Editors Royce Lockart Jr. and Rolf Zinkernagel had by 1987 been replaced by Raphael Dolin and George Galasso.

An American Co-Editor was installed in 1987. This was R.J. Whitley. Shortly thereafter, but independently from the preceding move, A. Billiau resigned as Executive Editor.

The ISAR was established in the spring of 1988 and adopted *Antiviral Research* as its official journal. This also meant that the Society which in 1988 counted already over 500 members would have a greater voice in the Journal’s management, particularly the Editorial Board, according to a letter of G. Galasso written to prospective authors of mini-reviews for the journal (24th October 1988).

2. The period 1988–1995

From 1988 the journal *Antiviral Research* was adopted as the official journal of the newly created International Society for Antiviral Research (original Directory Board members were Earl R. Kern, George J. Galasso, William M. Shannon, Richard (“Rich”) J. Whitley,

Table 1

ANTIVIRAL RESEARCH	Executive Editors	
	A. BILLIAU	E. DE CLERCQ
		Rega Institute University of Leuven Minderbroedersstraat 10 B-3000 Leuven Belgium
Antiviral Research	Associate Editors	Editorial Board
To date crucial literature on antiviral research has been distributed across various journals and often submerged in subjects of lesser interest to the medical virologist. Antiviral Research has been created to provide comprehensive and interdisciplinary coverage of a field of growing contemporary significance.	R.Z. LOCKART, Jr. (Associate Editor for the Western Hemisphere) E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Company Central Reserch & Development Department Experimental Station Wilmington, Delaware 19898 U.S.A.	K. Berg, Aarhus C, Denmark P.M. Biggs, Houghton, U.K. L. Borecky, Bratislava, Czechoslovakia P. Chandra, Frankfurt-am-Main, FRG E. De Maeyer, Orsay, France H.J. Eggers, Köln, FRG E. Helgstrand, Södertälje, Sweden M.R. Hilleman, West Point, PA, U.S.A. C. Huygelen, Rixensart, Belgium Y. Kawade, Kyoto, Japan E.D. Kilbourne, New York, NY, U.S.A. B.D. Korant, Wilmington, DE, U.S.A. P. Langen, Berlin-Buch, DDR T.C. Merigan, Stanford, CA, U.S.A. D. Pavan Langston, Boston, MA, U.S.A. W.H. Prusoff, New Haven, CT, U.S.A. M. Revel, Rehovot, Israel G.B. Rossi, Rome, Italy D. Shugar, Warsaw, Poland R.W. Sidwell, Logan, UT, U.S.A. L.W. Stitz, Rijswijk, The Netherlands P.E. Taylor, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada J. Taylor-Papadimitriou, London, U.K. P.F. Torrence, Bethesda, MD, U.S.A. W. Weimar, Rotterdam, The Netherlands G.H. Werner, Vitry-sur-Seine, France H. zur Hausen, Freiburg-im-Breisgau, FRG
Aims and Scope	R.M. ZINKERNAGEL (Associate Editor for the Eastern Hemisphere) Institute of Experimental Pathology University of Zürich Zürich Switzerland	
Antiviral Research will publish original papers and review articles pertaining to the effective control of virus infections in animals and man as well as in plants or lower organisms. Its scope will encompass:	H. SCHELLEKENS (Associate Editor for Review Articles) TNO Primaat Centrum Lange Kleiweg 151 Postbus 5815 2280 AV Rijswijk The Netherlands	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The mechanisms of natural and acquired host resistance against virus infections including aspecific cellular resistance; interferons; cellular and humoral immunity in virus infections; chemotherapeutics which influence host resistance. The development of new vaccines or novel forms of serotherapy against viral diseases including virological characterization of vaccine strains or vaccine preparations; preparation and characterization of antiviral immunoglobulins; safety and efficiency assessment; field trials. The development of new antiviral chemotherapeutics including chemistry; in vitro activity; mechanism of action; activity in animal model systems; clinical trials. 		
Publication Schedule and Subscription Information:		
1981 Volume 1 in 6 issues (First issue scheduled for January)		
Subscription Price: US \$92.75/Dfl. 180.00 including postage		

A. Kirk Field, Alfons Billiau and Erik De Clercq). The Editors-in-Chief of *Antiviral Research* became E. De Clercq and R.J. Whitley, with as Section Editors Hans Eggers, Hugh Field, George J. Galasso, Earl Kern, Peter Palese, William H. Prusoff and Richard ("Dick") Walker. Many new members of the Editorial Board were accepted and several others who had been on the Board from the very beginning rotated off. As Editors-in-Chief, E. De Clercq and R.J. Whitley wrote an Editorial in *Antiviral Research* vol. 8 (1989), which even as of today still could easily stand as representative for the present vocation of *Antiviral Research*.

"To reflect the true vocation of Antiviral Research, the Editorial Board has been thoroughly restructured so as to clearly represent 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 (animal models)
- and, finally, their efficacy in clinical trials."

Even before we got re-started, Hugh Field and Dick Walker would resign as section Editors in 1989, thus sacrificing the British

representation at the (editorial) top of the Journal. Paul Taylor in his letter of 6th March 1989 argued this was not an American "takeover", although I felt that at this side of the Atlantic Ocean I had the full weight of the Journal on my shoulders.

Still in 1989, the ISAR was well structured with R.J. Whitley as its first President, E. De Clercq as Vice President, E.R. Kern as Secretary and W.M. Shannon as Treasurer (score for the US against the rest of the world 3 to 1). By the time we met for the Third ICAR in Brussels (22–27 April 1990), *Antiviral Research* had definitely come of age and I pledged in my address at the Third ICAR for the unique trilogy of ICAR, ISAR and AVR. My association with Elsevier was often constrained by endless corrections, for example, in the name and affiliation of Raymond Schinazi. Typical were my attempts to install Charles Shipman on the Editorial Board of *Antiviral Research* (18th January 1993). I finally succeeded, not long before Charles Shipman's retirement. In 1990 we had 600 (2/3) out of the 888 ISAR members from the USA (as compared to 25 from Belgium), duly reflecting the predominance of the USA over the rest of the world, including Belgium. But, *Antiviral Research* survived, and thrived, despite the competition of a new journal, Antiviral Chemistry and Chemotherapy, and another one (International Antiviral News) created in 1995 (the latter would later disappear). Meanwhile (1995), H.J. Field had become President of the Society (ISAR), Earl Kern, President-Elect, Koen Andries, Secretary, Jack Secrist III, Treasurer, G.J. Galasso, Past President, R.J. Whitley, Program Coordinator (a position that later on would be cancelled), and myself I remained for a while member of the Board of Directors.

From May 1st 1995, a new Editorial structure for the journal *Antiviral Research* was installed: with Erik De Clercq, Earl R. Kern and Richard J. Whitley, as Editors-in-Chief, and George J. Galasso,

Table 2



Antiviral Research

Announcement

Please note that from May 1st 1995 there will be a new Editorial structure in place for Antiviral Research, as follows:

Editors-in-Chief

Erik de Clercq

Rega Institute, University of Leuven, Minderbroedersstraat 10,
B-3000 Leuven, Belgium

Earl R. Kern and Richard J. Whitley

The University of Alabama at Birmingham, Antiviral Research Editorial
Office, 309 Bevell Biomedical Research Building, 845 Ninteenth Street
South, Birmingham, AL 35294-2170, USA

Associate Editor for Reviews

George J. Galasso

Department of Health and Human Services, PHS, NIH, Bldg 1, Room 152,
Bethesda, MD 20892, USA

Dr. Kern, therefore, has been added to the list of Editors-in-Chief. At the same time the separate role of Section Editors will be discontinued, and we take this opportunity to thank the Section Editors, both past and present, for their support and contributions over the years.



as Associated Editor for reviews (Table 2). At the same time, the category of Section Editors was “disbanded”.

3. The period 1995–2001

When on 1 May 1995 the new Editorial structure was put in place, Dr. Earl Kern had moved up to the rank of Editor-in-Chief. In 1996 Hans Eggers and Peter Palese were replaced in the Editorial Board by Brigitte Rosenwirth and Luis Carrasco, respectively. For many years I had been dealing with Paul Taylor as the managing

Editor at Elsevier. Therefore, it came as a surprise that he was suddenly replaced by a certain Adriaan Klinkenberg.

Meanwhile, Earl Kern had moved up to President of ISAR. In 1998, at the time of the 11th ICAR in San Diego, the *Antiviral Research* Editorial Board looked as shown on the enclosed leaflet (herewith enclosed) (Table 3). Also in 1998, there was an (unsuccessful) attempt of International Medical Press (IMP), which were already publishing International Antiviral News, Antiviral Therapy and Antiviral Chemistry and Chemotherapy (AVCC), to acquire the Journal *Antiviral Research* as well. [The impact factor of *Antiviral*

Table 3

Antiviral Research

Editorial Board

Editors-in-Chief

Erik De Clercq, Rega Institute, University of Leuven, Minderbroedersstraat 10, 3000 Leuven, Belgium

Earl R. Kern and

Richard J. Whitley, The University of Alabama at Birmingham, Antiviral Research Editorial Office, 309 Bevill Biomedical Research Building, 845 Nineteenth Street South, Birmingham, AL 35294-2170, USA

Associate Editor for Reviews

George J. Galasso, Director, National Foundation for Biomedical Research, 1 Cloister Court, Bethesda, MD 20814-1462, USA

Editorial Board

M. Baba, Kagoshima, Japan

L.A. Babiuk, Saskatoon, SK, Canada

J. Balzarini, Leuven, Belgium

S. Baron, Galveston, TX, USA

D.I. Bernstein, Cincinnati, OH, USA

A. Billiau, Leuven, Belgium

K.K. Biron, Research Triangle Park, NC, USA

R.T. Borchardt, Lawrence, KS, USA

L. Carrasco, Madrid, Spain

F. Coutlee, Montreal, PQ, USA

G. Darby, Beckenham, UK

F. Dianzani, Rome, Italy

J.C. Drach, Ann Arbor, MI, USA

A.K. Field, Worcester, MA, USA

H.J. Field, Cambridge, UK

A. Fridland, Memphis, TN, USA

G.J. Galasso, Rockville, MD, USA

C.A. Gleaves, Portland, OR, USA

O. Haller, Freiburg, F.R.G.

F.G. Hayden, Charlottesville, VA, USA

A. Holý, Prague, Czechoslovakia

J.W. Huggins, Frederick, MD, USA

J.-L. Imbach, Montpellier, France

H. Kirchner, Lübeck, F.R.G.

B. Korba, Rockville, MD, USA

S.M. Lemon, Chapel Hill, NC, USA

P.S. Lietman, Baltimore, MD, USA

B.W.J. Mahy, Atlanta, GA, USA

J.C. Martin, Foster City, CA, USA

J.W. Mellors, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

P. Middleton, Vancouver, BC, Canada

H. Mitsuya, Bethesda, MD, USA

B. Öberg, Huddinge, Sweden

J. Palefsky, San Francisco, CA, USA

C.-F. Perno, Rome, Italy

W.H. Prusoff, New Haven, CT, USA

C.G. Ray, Seattle, WA, USA

D.D. Richman, San Diego, CA, USA

B. Rosenwirth, Rijswijk, The Netherlands

S.L. Sacks, Vancouver, BC, Canada

R. Schinazi, Atlanta, CA, USA

R.M. Schooley, Denver, CO, USA

J.A. Secrist, Birmingham, AL, USA

I. Sela, Rehovot, Israel

S. Shigeta, Fukushima, Japan

C. Shipman, Ann Arbor, MI, USA

R.W. Sidwell, Logan, UT, USA

J.-P. Sommadossi, Birmingham, AL, USA

P.F. Torrence, Bethesda, MD, USA

J. Wilber, Emeryville, CA, USA

P. Wutzler, Erfurt, Germany, and

N. Yamamoto, Tokyo, Japan

ELSEVIER

Last update= 22 March 1998

Table 4

THE ONLY JOURNAL DEDICATED EXCLUSIVELY
TO ANTIVIRALS

ANTIVIRAL RESEARCH

A Multidisciplinary Journal of Antiviral Agents, Natural Host Defence Mechanisms, Interferons and Antiviral Vaccines. An Official Publication of the International Society for Antiviral Research

Coverage Profile

Full-length original articles, short definitive papers and review articles on:

- Effective control of viral infections in animals and man as well as in plants or lower organisms.
- Mechanism of natural and acquired host resistance against viral infections – including aspecific cellular resistance, interferons, cellular and humoral immunity in viral infections, chemotherapeutics that influence host resistance.
- The development of new vaccines or novel forms of serotherapy against viral diseases, including virological characterization of vaccine strains or vaccine preparations; preparation and characterization of antiviral immunoglobulins; safety and efficiency assessment; field trials.
- The development of new antiviral chemotherapeutics, including chemistry, in vitro activity, mechanism of action; activity in animal model systems; clinical trials.

Editors-in-Chief Erik De Clercq, Rega Institute, University of Leuven, Belgium.

Earl R. Kern and Richard J. Whitley, The University of Alabama at Birmingham, AL.

Research in 1997 was 2.291 (as compared to 1.607 for Antiviral Chemistry and Chemotherapy)]. However, the advances made by IMP to acquire *Antiviral Research* remained in vain. *Antiviral Research* did not fall for these advances and remained faithful to, and felt sheltered by, Elsevier.

In 1999 it was clearly stated by the Business Development Department (Life Sciences from Elsevier) that *Antiviral Research* was the only journal dedicated exclusively to antivirals (Table 4).

The next attempt for a take over came from Blackwell Science. I did not reply but my colleagues (i.e. Dr. Kern, Dr. Biron and Dr.

Table 5

Editor-in-Chief**Erik De Clercq**, Rega Institute, University of Leuven, Minderbroedersstraat 10, B-3000 Leuven, Belgium.**Editors****Dale L. Barnard**, Utah State University, 5600 Old Main Hill, Logan, UT 84322-5600, USA.**Mike Bray**, Integrated Research Facility NIAID/NIH, Fort Detrick MD 21702, USA.**José A. Esté**, IrsiCaixa, Hospital Germans Trias i Pujol, C. Canyet s/n, 08916 Badalona, Spain.**Subhash Vasudevan**, Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School, 8 College Road, Singapore 169857.**Editorial Board**

G. Androl, Leuven, Belgium	G. Gossolin, Montpellier, France	B. Öberg, Huddinge, Sweden
M. Baba, Kagoshima, Japan	P.D. Griffiths, London, UK	J. O'Connell, Pearl River, NY, USA
J. Balzarini, Leuven, Belgium	L. Gubareva, Charlottesville, VA, USA	A. Patrick, San Diego, CA, USA
B. Berkhout, Amsterdam, The Netherlands	E.G. Hayden, Charlottesville, VA, USA	C.-F. Perno, Rome, Italy
D.I. Bernstein, Cincinnati, OH, USA	A.Y.M. Howe, Collegeville, PA, USA	R.B. Pollard, UC Davis, CA, USA
K.K. Biron, Research Triangle Park, NC, USA	J.W. Huggins, Fort Detrick, MD, USA	M.N. Prichard, Birmingham, AL, USA
T. Block, Doylestown, PA, USA	C. Jonsson, Birmingham, AL, USA	G. Prince, Rockville, Maryland, USA
R.W. Buckheit, Frederick, MD, USA	D. Kimberlin, Birmingham, Alabama, USA	R.F. Schinazi, Decatur, GA, USA
L. Carrasco, Madrid, Spain	J.J. Leary, Research Triangle Park, NC, USA	J.A. Secrist III, Birmingham, AL, USA
T. Cihlar, Foster City, CA, USA	G. Leroux-Rodière, Gent, Belgium	S. Shigetani, Fukushima, Japan
T. Compton, Cambridge, MA, USA	P. Ljungman, Stockholm, Sweden	D.E. Snider, Logan, UT, USA
H.J. Field, Cambridge, UK	S. Locarnini, Victoria, Australia	M. St. Clair, Research Triangle Park, NC, USA
W.R. Fleischmann, Galveston, TX, USA	C. McGilgan, Cardiff, UK	H. Takaku, Narashino, Japan
A. S. Galebov, Sofia, Bulgaria	J.J. McSherry, Albany, NY, USA	A. Vilotinck, Antwerp, Belgium
C.S. Gibbs, Foster City, CA, USA	L. Nussens, Leuven, Belgium	E. Zoulim, Lyon, France
B. E. Gilbert, Houston, TX, USA	J. Noyte, Leuven, Belgium	

Publication information: *Antiviral Research* (ISSN 0168-3542). For 2010, volumes 85–88 are scheduled for publication.

Table 6

ANTIVIRAL RESEARCH (Leuven Office)**Manuscripts received and accepted**

Year	AB	EDC	Total (Leuven)	Total accepted (Leuven)	%
1980	6	7	13	4	30.7
1981	17	18	35	25	71.4
1982	15	30	45	28	62.2
1983	20	44	64	24	37.5
1984	17	28	45	30	66.6
1985	14	35	49	26	53
1986	9	33	42	18	42.8
1987	13	48	61	41	67.2
1988	2	57	59	30	50.8
1989	-	51	51	32	62
1990	-	52	52	36	69.2
1991	-	47	47	22	46.5
1992	-	47	47	22	46.5
1993	-	59	59	32	54.2
1994	-	69	69	38	55.1
1995	-	65	65	32	49.2
1996	-	53	53	34	64.1
1997	-	46	46	26	56.5
1998	-	41	41	18	43.9
1999	-	50	50	27	54.0
2000	-	37	37	27	72.9
2001	-	46	46	30	65.2
2002	-	45	45	28	62.2
2003	-	53	53	30	56.6
2004	-	62	62	23	37.1
2005	-	78	78	31	39.7
2006	-	113	113	42	37.2
2007	-	101	101	47	46.5
2008	-	110	110	50	45.5
2009	-	147	147	60	40.8
2010	-	115	115	70	60.8

Sidwell) showed (apparently) some appetite, but, finally no changes in the relationship between *Antiviral Research* and Elsevier were implemented. (Table 5)

4. The period 2001–2010

Since its inception, the Editorial Board of *Antiviral Research* had been changing continuously [1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006]. The latest version is that of 2010 (5), as appeared in the beginning of the year. At the Publisher's side, equally frequent changes occurred. On 9th December 2002, Hendrik van Leusen was replaced by Lisa Tickner. Hendrik looked forward to the opportunity to work with us, the Editors, again, a nice wish which never came through. Lisa Tickner, then put in charge, wondered about the future of *Antiviral Research*, but, meanwhile, the impact factor had gone up, and compared to our direct competitor at the time (AVCC), *Antiviral Research* did not do so badly. George Galasso kept complaining about Elsevier's dedication in defending the Journal. George, as one of the founding members of ISAR and ICAR, resigned as the Associate Editor for reviews in 2005, officially because he had been moving too far away from research. This left us with the three Editors-in-Chief, Whitley, Kern and myself, and for a while, we took over the function of Editors for reviews as well, until Mike Bray stepped in as the Editor for reviews, a function he did (and is still doing) with care and devotion. At the Publisher's side, Paul Taylor had re-appeared on the scene, as it soon became evident to endorse the new man in charge of *Antiviral Research*, Floris de Hon. In the meantime the Journal's impact factor had risen to 3.4. By the end of 2009, Rich Whitley and Earl Kern abdicated (or were advised to do so) and I expressed my desire to stay on as Editor-in-Chief (Mike Bray was consolidated in his function as the Editor for reviews) and three additional Editors were appointed: José Esté, Dale Barnard and Subhash Vasudevan, essentially to cope with the steadily increasing inflow of manuscripts. I had been following the inflow from the beginning, for all countries, so that even from a quick inspection, it was obvious that mainly responsible for the increased in-

flow were the papers coming from the People's Republic of China. We have kept track (meticulously) of the papers received at the Leuven office from 1980 till 2010 (Table 6). For the Alabama office (E.R. Kern and R.J. Whitley) records on the papers received and accepted, are available for the years 1989–1994 and 1999–2009. They followed a similar trend as the papers received and accepted at the Leuven office.

5. Outlook

Antiviral Research has entered its second generation (30-years era). Of the “old” Editors, G.J. Galasso, R.J. Whitley and E.R. Kern have gone, and as founding Editor, I am now joined by four “new” Editors, D.L. Barnard, J.A. Esté, S. Vasudevan, in addition to Mike Bray, who had already replaced G.J. Galasso as Review Editor for several years. The Journal has consolidated its role as the leading publication medium in all areas of Antiviral Research, particularly focused on fundamental aspects, but eagerly welcoming clinically oriented research as well; it has recently been attracting papers from emerging fields, such as plant viruses and veterinary viruses. Among its authors and readers, *Antiviral Research* wants to extend its position to the whole world of Antiviral Research, overspanning the five Continents.

Erik De Clercq
Rega Institute for Medical Research,
K.U.Leuven,
Minderbroedersstraat 10,
B-3000 Leuven,
Belgium
Tel.: +32 16 337341; fax: +32 16 337340.
E-mail address: erik.declercq@rega.kuleuven.ac.be

Available online 14 July 2011