

Editorial Communication

THE READERS will discover on the front cover of the journal our new link with the European Association for Cancer Research. At the same time the old bond with the European Organization for Research on Treatment of Cancer (EORTC) is reaffirmed and the chronological order of the two associations is respected.

Actually, the European Journal of Cancer was created at the initiative of the Administrative Board of EORTC in 1964 and Pergamon Press undertook the task of publishing it. The importance and influence of a periodical reporting the results of research and the development of a medical discipline cannot be overestimated. This affects at first only the geographic area designated by the title of the journal. But if the journal is successful, and with the increasing international communication of clinical and laboratory research between countries, rather than remaining a local journal, it takes its place as a full member in the world fraternity of scientific periodicals. A scientific journal is not just an organ for the publication of articles. By its editorial policy, its editorial board and the edi-

torial assistance of the whole scientific community represented by the referees, the medical journal has a direct and irreplaceable educational value which equals in importance its usefulness as an instrument of communication. The medical research journal deeply affects the intellectual life of the medical and health communities which it reaches. This is why it is only natural that serious medical societies and organizations should wish to be associated with a periodical which prolongs their action through the printed word. Therefore the Editorial Board as well as the EORTC express their satisfaction with this association and the resulting grouping of European cancer research by means of a common publication medium. The *European Journal of Cancer & Clinical Oncology* takes pride in its selection by the new affiliation and sees in it an encouragement to persevere in its editorial policy to publish high quality medical and biological research on cancer.

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Editor.