



A Message From the Editor

As YOU may already have noticed in the previous issue, there have been changes made to the *European Journal of Cancer*—and more are yet to come! Here, I shall briefly comment on current modifications and those planned for the future.

Firstly, the Journal's new Editorial Board is now complete, with the addition of two new Associate Editors, Professor Michel Bolla (Radio-oncology) from Grenoble, France and Professor Jan Willem Coebergh (Cancer Epidemiology and Prevention) from Eindhoven, The Netherlands. Three of the new Associate Editors are presented in the News Section of this issue of the *European Journal of Cancer*, and the remaining three Associate Editors, as well as the Experimental Oncology Editor, will be presented in the next issue. The new Board of Consulting Editors is also complete, and we look forward to an interesting and stimulating collaboration.

Secondly, beginning in this issue, we are starting a new section entitled "International Cancer News". In the past, the *European Journal of Cancer* was considered by some to react slowly, or not at all, to oncological scientific and professional events, especially at the European level, leaving this area completely open to its competitors. This shall be redressed with the appointment of a News Committee chaired by Professor Françoise Meunier at the European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC) Central Office in Brussels, Belgium, which is closely connected with the new Federation of European Cancer Societies (FECS) Secretariat in the same building, and which liaises with the European Association of Cancer Research (EACR) and the European School of Oncology (ESO), for which the *European Journal of Cancer* is the official journal (see "International Cancer News"). This new section will periodically report on news "From the Globe", "From Europe", "From the Nations", "From the Literature" and as necessary "From the Journal".

Thirdly, changes have been made to the format of the *European Journal of Cancer*, which hopefully will please readers; all articles (except Letters) will start on a new page and authorship

will be identified on the first page. In addition, for the benefit of the author's literature classification, the category of each paper will be indicated.

Fourthly, we have tried to restructure the Journal's contents according to suggestions from readers, authors and Editorial Board members, which should facilitate the selection of main topics of interest for our heterogeneous readership.

Fifthly, from Issue 11, a section on "Forthcoming Meetings" will be added to the Journal, as suggested by many readers and a number of new (and old) Editorial Consultants. The meetings' calendar will centre on oncology meetings of general importance and on those favoured by the societies for which the *European Journal of Cancer* is the official journal, that is the EACR, EORTC, ESO and FECS with its several membership societies. However, detailed announcements containing aims and content etc., will be regarded as advertisements by the publisher and will have to be paid for by the organiser.

Last but not least, let me state that additional and probably more important changes for the *European Journal of Cancer's* scientific future have been introduced "behind the scenes", and are not easily perceived. The reviewing process has been revised, standardised and accelerated; authors should now receive final editorial decisions within 6–8 weeks from submission, and publication time of accepted papers in 1996 should be within 6 months of submission. Any manuscript which, in the opinion of the reviewers, requires major revision shall no longer be acceptable for publication in the *European Journal of Cancer*.

I consider it the duty of the editors and publisher to advance the scientific and educational standards of this respected and comprehensive *European Journal of Cancer*, and to develop its impact on experimental, translational, clinical and epidemiological cancer research at an international level.

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