

Editorial

In 1973 Urological Research was published in response to the increasing volume of original work related to the urinary tract. Five years later, the wide range of topics that has appeared in the journal is a clear testimony to the progress in the investigation of problems related to urology.

Research remains indissolubly linked with clinical practice. However, there is a tendency for busy clinicians to regard research, and especially animal and laboratory research, as too remote from their everyday problems. To counter this, it has been the policy of the Executive Editors to encourage those papers where a clinical problem has been presented and investigated. But so many problems are not quite so easily solved and the solution requires indirect methods often using animal models or sophisticated laboratory methods. Thus the separation between "clinical research" and "laboratory research" is highly artificial.

The responsibility for progress in medical care lies as much with the clinician as with those undertaking medical research. The clinician must actively participate in solving the problems by stating these problems clearly and emphasising areas of need. Those who pick up the challenge and undertake research must report their investigations both concisely and intelligibly so that the non-specialist can appreciate the progress that has been made and the problems that have been encountered.

The Executive Editors wish to encourage this dialogue between clinical research and laboratory based research. We will continue the policy of publishing editorials, reviews and problem-orientated clinical and laboratory investigations. To emphasise this policy the journal has adopted a sub-title "A Journal of Clinical and Laboratory Investigation."

G. D. Chisholm
Managing Editor