Clinical Rheumatology: building-up on past success

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It is my distinct pleasure to introduce you to this January 2014 issue of *Clinical Rheumatology* (CR), my first issue as the newly appointed Editor-in-Chief. As I start my 5-year period, I am filled with great excitement and enthusiasm for the potential that we have to enhance the journal. I am determined to continue the excellent work of my predecessor, Dr. Paul Davis, who has guided *Clinical Rheumatology* into a place of prominence in the rheumatology community. I firmly believe, as Dr. Davis did, that *Clinical Rheumatology* is a truly international journal of rheumatology, and as such, it fills a special niche that is needed to elevate our field.

Clinical Rheumatology is a rheumatology journal devoted to publishing original clinical investigation and research in the general field of rheumatology with special emphasis on clinical aspects. *Clinical Rheumatology* succeeded *Acta Rheumatologica Belgica*, which was originally founded in 1945 as the official journal of the Belgian Rheumatology Society. At present, *Clinical Rheumatology* is the official journal of the International League of Associations for Rheumatology (ILAR) and focuses on publishing high-quality rheumatology articles for an international audience. As a long-standing reviewer, contributor, and past member of the Editorial Board, I am personally acquainted with the high-quality, peer-reviewed papers that have been published in CR for the past many years. It is, therefore, my goal to continue this path to success that is not possible without your efforts and the support of an outstanding editorial team.

I have assembled an illustrious group of Associate Editors by maintaining Drs. Adewale Adebajo (UK), Cesar Ramos-Remus (Mexico), and Jane Zochling (Australia), from the previous editorial team. This will provide continuity and facilitate the smooth running of the journal during this transition period. They will be joined by our new

associate editors Drs. John D. Reveille (USA), Graciela Alarcon (USA), and Zhanguo Li (China) who were chosen for their proven academic success and expertise in their respective disciplines. Our Associate Editor team reflects the international community of ILAR.

The aim of the editorial board is for *Clinical Rheumatology* to reflect the field of rheumatology in its wider aspects. Hence, *Clinical Rheumatology* aims to cover and publish all the recent and established developments in clinical and experimental research as well as the management and evaluation of diagnostic and treatment procedures linked with the inflammatory, immunologic, metabolic, genetic, and degenerative aspects of rheumatic disorders.

Clinical Rheumatology is committed to publish the most relevant, original, and practical articles related to our specialty. And as already mentioned, it will continue to have a strong emphasis on clinical aspects, but it is our hope to be able to expand into more basic research in the not too distant future and eventually find a balance that will be attractive to both clinicians and basic researchers.

Original publications, short communications, editorials, outstanding imaging studies, and reviews in relation to these topics will be accepted for publication. Letters to the editor are welcome as enhancement to discussions. Case reports are no longer accepted, but instead, authors are invited to submit a Case-Based Review: a case report of extreme clinical interest incorporating a mini literature review in an area of new knowledge. Articles in languages other than English may be submitted but will be translated into English at the expense of the authors if accepted.

Both basic and clinical rheumatology has expanded at a rapid pace in recent years, and it is our intention to bring these new developments to our rheumatology community in a timely fashion. *Clinical Rheumatology* is in a position to be the bearer of this new information and herald innovative ideas and changes in our field. The impact of this journal will continue to increase with the involvement of each and every one of you contributing original and novel ideas in our field.

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