Editorial

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On behalf of the Editorial Board and our publisher, Springer, I am pleased to introduce the *Journal of Pediatric Neuropsychology*, the official journal of the American Academy of Pediatric Neuropsychology (AAPdN). Part of the mission of the AAPdN is advancing training and education in pediatric neuropsychology as well as advocating for the appropriate assessment, education, and treatment of children. The *Journal of Pediatric Neuropsychology* is designed to promote this mission.

Over the last 20 years, our profession has seen an increase in assessment batteries, research, and texts that increasingly argues for the advancement of pediatric neuropsychology as a specialty. Although there can no longer be any doubt that pediatric neuropsychology is more than simply a downward extension of the practices of adult/geriatric neuropsychology, much of our methodology has yet to catch up with this maxim. Indeed, increasing knowledge about the longitudinal effects of disruption of the developing central nervous system mandates careful consideration of the rapid and hierarchical nature of neurodevelopment. As such, delayed or failed acquisition of a developmental milestone can result in a pervasive and synergistic effect on a myriad of functional abilities. This necessitates the modern pediatric neuropsychologist to integrate information from multiple avenues and disciplines, including genetics, pediatric neurology, neuroimaging, neuropsychological assessment, psychosocial variables, child psychiatry, neurorehabilitation, education, and biomarkers of disease. These topical issues have led to the creation of our journal as we carry out the mission of the AAPdN.

A key component of our enterprise is for empirical articles to include practical applications and implications for children in clinical, forensic, and school settings. For example, science is bringing advancements in technology to classrooms and special education, and the increased focus on evidence-based interventions, applied behavior analysis, and a response-to-intervention (RTI) approach is changing the way pediatric neuropsychologists are expected to interact with schools. In essence, we need to follow what I have heard Dr. Elaine Fletcher-Janzen advocate on multiple occasions regarding bringing “the bench to the desk;” as scientist-practitioner-scholars in the field of pediatric neuropsychology, we have the responsibility to translate laboratory findings to settings where children must meet the demands of everyday life. Another important element in the advancement of applied practice is basic research, and we also encourage submissions in this area as well.

The *Journal of Pediatric Neuropsychology* publishes original peer-reviewed research focused on the needs of children and adolescents with neurodevelopmental or neurocognitive disorders. Topics the *Journal* may consider publishing include neuropsychological assessment, evidence-based interventions, neurodevelopment, neurorehabilitation, psychopharmacology, neuroimaging, biomarkers, ethical and legal issues, test construction and psychometrics, forensics, and transitions between hospital, home, and school provided these works are framed around issues of salience to pediatric neuropsychology. Manuscripts submitted to our journal will undergo blind peer-review by our Editorial Board, including our Associate Editors, Drs. Antolin M. Llorente, Cecil R. Reynolds, and Margaret Semrud-Clikeman. Although we are a new journal, our Editorial Board brings a wealth of research and clinical experiences in pediatric neuropsychology and associated fields.

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I am looking forward to this exciting venture, and potential authors are directed to submit manuscripts online at <https://www.editorialmanager.com/jpnp/>. Additional information about the journal, including instructions for authors can be found at <http://www.springer.com/psychology/>

[neuropsychology/journal/40817](http://www.springer.com/psychology/neuropsychology/journal/40817). We are aiming for a timely turnaround for the review process with rapid publication of accepted manuscripts. I look forward to hearing from you with comments and questions to help this journal succeed and move our field forward.