EDITORIAL

NeuroRx®: A New Journal Focusing on Critical Reviews Relating to Neurotherapeutics

The American Society for Experimental NeuroTherapeutics (ASENT) was established in 1996 to facilitate the development of therapies for nervous system disorders by providing a forum for communication among individuals from academia, government, industry, and patient support groups. ASENT has sponsored five annual meetings, focused on providing timely detailed updates in the neurotherapeutics field. The success of these meetings underscored the need for a journal that would provide critical and comprehensive reviews. *NeuroRx*®, the official journal of ASENT, was established to serve this purpose. An outstanding Editorial Board was selected, representing the diverse constituencies of the Society. Published quarterly, each issue of *NeuroRx*® is devoted to reviews of a single topic relating to neurotherapeutics and is intended to serve as a reference work in that area. Each topic is organized by one or more Guest Editors, who have expertise in the review area. *NeuroRx*® will be published both in print and online, and we are particularly fortunate to have secured the services of two premier publishers: Cadmus Professional Communications for print and HighWire Press for online publication.

The Editorial Board has identified areas of particular importance and timeliness. Issue topics for 2004 include Neuroprotection, Biomarkers and Surrogates, Evidence-Based Neurotherapeutics, and Cell Therapy. For the year 2005, topics will include Imaging in Neurotherapeutics, Blood-Brain Barrier, Strategies for Neurotherapeutics Discovery, and Protection of Human Subjects and the Ethics of Clinical Trials. A summary of the first issue is provided in a separate editorial.

NeuroRx® is owned by ASENT, which has assumed financial responsibility for the Journal. Both the Society and the Journal leadership recognize the importance of avoiding conflicts of interest (real or perceived), particularly for a journal dedicated to critical reviews and partially sponsored (through the Society) by industry. A statement on Conflict of Interest, covering both the Journal and the Society, appears in this issue. In addition to requiring full disclosure of potential financial interests or consulting relationships, ASENT has established a Publications Oversight Committee, separate from the Editorial Board, to oversee the Journal and address any perceived and potential conflicts of interest. Thus, the Editorial Board will

exclusively be involved in determining content and quality, whereas the Publications Oversight Committee will serve to separate the Editorial Board from interactions with sponsors and from the business considerations of the Journal.

We are indebted to those who have agreed to serve on the Editorial Board and Publications Oversight Committee. These individuals are listed in the journal, as well as on the websites for *NeuroRx*® and ASENT. It is a privilege to work with these exceptional individuals and with Dr. Patricia A. Grady, our Associate Editor.

Alan I. Faden, M.D.
Editor-in-Chief

Listed below are details regarding the remaining first-year issues:

APRIL 2004: BIOMARKERS AND SURROGATES

Guest Editors: John H. Growdon and Nicholas Fox

Biomarkers in Neurodegenerative Disease, *Richard Mayeux*

Biologic and Surrogate Markers: An FDA Perspective, *Russell Katz*

Alzheimer's Disease Genetics, *John Hardy*

MR Brain Imaging in AD, *Kejal Kantarci and Clifford Jack*

Functional Neuroimaging in AD, *Bill Jagust*

AD Biomarkers in CSF, *Kaj Blennow*

Plasma AD Molecular Markers, *Michael Irizarry*

Parkinson Disease Genetics, *Nathan Pankratz and Tatiana Foroud*

Neuroimaging in Parkinson's Disease, *David Brooks*

Huntington's Disease Genetics, *Richard Myers*

HD Neuroimaging, *Diana Rosas, AS Feigin, and Steven Hersch*

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Biomarkers, *Merit Cudkovicz*

Multiple Sclerosis Biomarkers, *David Miller*

JULY 2004: EVIDENCE-BASED NEUROTHERAPEUTICS*Guest Editors: Robert Holloway and Andrew Siderowf**Evidence-Based Neurotherapeutics: A Spectrum of Evidence, Robert Holloway and Andrew Siderowf**Evidence: From Animals to Humans, Steve Hersch and Robert Ferrante**FDA: Evidentiary Standards for Drug Approval, Russell Katz**Evidence: NINDS Perspective, Bernard Ravina**Evidence from Surrogate Endpoints, Andrew Feigin**From Evidence to Action, Gary Gronseth**Experimental versus Observational Evidence, John Peter Concato**Evidence from Cost-Effectiveness Research, Robert Holloway**Evidence and Health Policy, Gary Franklin**The Role of Clinical Trials, Andrew Siderowf**Evidence-Based Ethics in Neurology and Psychiatry, Scott Kim***OCTOBER 2004: CELL THERAPY***Guest Editors: Olle Lindvall and Anders Björklund**Cell Therapy in Parkinson's Disease, Olle Lindvall and Anders Björklund**Cell Therapy in Huntington's Disease, Steve Dunnett and Anne Rosser**Cell Therapy in Stroke, Louis Caplan**Cell Therapy in Demyelinating Disorders, Neil Scolding**Cell Therapy in Spinal Cord Injury, Paul Reier**Brain Repair from Endogenous or Grafted Stem Cells? Jeff Macklis**Immune Problems in CNS Cell Therapy, Roger Barker and Håkan Widner**Imaging in Cell Therapy Trials, David Brooks**Design of Clinical Trials with CNS Cell Therapy, Marc Pechanski***ASENT Conflict of Interest Statement**

The American Society for Experimental NeuroTherapeutics (ASENT) comprises individuals from academia, industry, government, and the advocacy community. The mission of ASENT is to advance treatments for individuals at risk for or affected by disorders of the nervous system. Because ASENT receives financial contributions from industry and organizations in support of its programs, including publications and the annual scientific meeting, such financial relationships need to be fully disclosed. In order to ensure the integrity of its publications, including the journal *NeuroRx*®, an editorial board was established to review the content of ASENT publications. In addition, ASENT has a Publications Oversight Committee to provide further review of real or potential conflicts of interest. All authors of ASENT publications are required to disclose any personal financial relationships with industry or organizations that may influence the content of their authored publication. Such disclosures are reported at the time of publication.