2015 marks the 45th anniversary of Stroke, one of the most influential journals dedicated to the cerebrovascular disease field. Stroke has grown in many ways over the past 45 years under the able leadership of an illustrious group of editors beginning in 1970 with Clark Millikan and including Fletcher McDowell, Henry Barnett, Oscar Reinmuth, Mark Dyken, and Vladimir Hachinski. For the past four and a half years, I have had the privilege to build on the efforts of these giants in our field. Currently, we receive almost 3200 submissions per year of various article types and publish almost 600 articles per year—a dramatic increase from the early years of the journal. With the move to electronic manuscript handling over 15 years ago and advances in electronic publishing, the review process and the availability of novel scientific information is much more rapid than could have been imagined when Stroke first began. The origins of the manuscripts received and published as well as the membership of our masthead groups reflect the commitment of Stroke to be globally inclusive. The 6 foreign editions of Stroke add greatly to the journal’s international readership and access. In 5 years, when my tenure as Editor-in-Chief of Stroke comes to a close, we can anticipate the 50th anniversary of an increasingly vibrant and influential journal.

I would like to welcome Dr Argye Hillis to Stroke’s senior editor group as our newest Associate Editor. Dr Hillis brings novel expertise and substantial editorial experience to Stroke, and I look forward to working with her as she helps manage the editorial process of clinical manuscripts.

Among the new article types initiated over the past 2 years, the illustrative teaching cases have been of particular value under the leadership of Daniel Strbian and Sophie Sundararajan. To broaden this important teaching endeavor, I would like to announce that we will now accept potential illustrative teaching cases from our readers. Please review the instructions for authors related to this type of submission before submitting material and recognize that the manuscripts will be evaluated by our 2 section editors before acceptance.

I would like to explain the guest editor policy at Stroke for those who wonder why some manuscripts have a guest editor who is responsible for manuscript handling. A guest editor must be the handling editor of a manuscript as per American Heart Association policy when the manuscript is submitted from the institution where I am employed, includes ≥1 authors with whom I have coauthored a paper within the past 3 years or includes an associate editor of Stroke as one of the authors. Currently, ~10% of submitted manuscripts are sent to a guest editor drawn from one of our masthead groups because it falls within one of these areas of conflict of interest.

To expand access to some of Stroke’s content, it is my pleasure to announce that we have initiated free and immediate access for 1 month after electronic publication to the following content: basic and clinical literature synopses, Cochrane Corner articles, illustrative teaching cases, organizational updates, state-of-the-science nursing reviews, controversies, statistical concepts, and history of stroke. All, including non-subscribers, can access this free content via the Stroke homepage. Please make colleagues who are not Stroke subscribers aware of this new resource. The dissemination of knowledge by accessing the freely available content will hopefully inspire clinicians and researchers to join our efforts to improve stroke patient care and stroke research.

Disclosures

Dr Fisher receives compensation from the American Heart Association as the Editor-in-Chief of Stroke (substantial).

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