

Editorial

LYMPHSPARATION

This issue of *Lymphology* launches a new era as the "flagship" of the International Society of Lymphology (ISL) moves its editorial office to Tucson. When the Society was founded in Davos-Zurich in 1966, the membership envisioned a scholarly periodical embracing lymph nodes, lymph fluid and lymph channels, and equally important, translation of this basic knowledge into treatment for poorly understood but disabling disorders characterized by swelling, scar formation and uncontrolled growth. Over the past 17 years this ambitious goal has been more than realized, and the Journal enjoys an excellent reputation worldwide.

Because the discipline of lymphology crosses artificial man-made biologic and administrative boundaries, the Journal has consistently reflected a broad diversity of interests including transcapillary fluid and protein exchange, primary and secondary cancers of the lymphatic system, transplant rejection, atherosclerosis, kinetics of lymph flow, lymphatic imaging and treatment of tissue swelling from tropical filariasis to cirrhotic ascites to name but a few. Even the spleen, the largest lymph node situated in the bloodstream, has undergone scrutiny.

The new editors plan to retain this catholic outlook. Although edema, nodal metastases, homograft rejection, malignant lymphoma and chylous syndromes remain as vexatious as ever, the diagnostic tools, therapeutic regimens and economic realities of the last decade are shifting rapidly while exerting a dramatic impact on everyday medical practice. These changes are reflected not only in the programs of recent ISL meetings but also in the pages of the Journal. For example, computerized tomography has all but replaced lymphangiography as an imaging technique for lymphadenopathy. On the other hand, an information and technology explosion has opened new vistas for understanding the

blood and lymph microcirculation while highlighting relative ignorance of tissue fluid kinetics in the pathogenesis of renal, pulmonary, hepatic, pancreatic, biliary tract, cerebral and myocardial dysfunction.

Despite high-minded biologic purpose and noble intentions, however, it is nonetheless imperative that the Journal maintain a sound financial footing. Although the current issue continues policies already in force, in future issues "page costs" will be mandatory (see Instructions to Authors). ISL members in good standing may publish without charge subject to peer review and Editorial Board acceptance, but non-members will be billed prior to publication according to length of article. In the long run, this fiscal policy should make the Journal self-sufficient, less of a financial drain on the central treasury and most importantly permit journal expansion as well as boost ISL membership.

You the readership can help by continuing to view *Lymphology* favorably and submitting your most original and provocative articles. We as editors pledge to provide "lymphspiration" (a lymphologist's brand of 5% inspiration and 95% perspiration) through brief reports, timely reviews, solicited commentaries, and other special features.

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