

Editor-in-Chief's 2006 Report

Published online: 20 February 2006

The *JHP* transition

As I usually do at the beginning of the year, I would like to thank all the readers of *The Journal of Headache and Pain* who chose *JHP* in 2005 for publishing, study or just for finding information. I would also like to summarise, with pride, a year full of satisfaction and unforeseen achievements.

Principal recognition goes to the referees, who were always constructive and never abrasive; although they gave clear limits, their criticisms never lacked methodological, structural and even bibliographical advice.

A special thank you goes to both the Editorial and Advisory Board members. Their contribution in terms of ideas and work has been crucial to becoming what we are today. Thank you to those who will continue working for *JHP*, and to those who, having completed their task, will leave their position to new collaborators. Particularly, I thank Prof. Pramod Saxena, who accomplished his term as Associate Editor and the new Associate Editor Prof. Arne May.

A well deserved acknowledgement goes to both Section Editors, Prof. Giorgio Zanchin for the Historical Section and Dr. Matilde Leonardi for the Public Health Section, for their contribution to the quality of *JHP* during 2005.

JHP growth and alliance with the European Headache Federation

The goals I announced in 2005 have been achieved [1]. The number of regular peer-reviewed issues in the 2005 volume reached six, *JHP* has been indexed by Index Medicus/Medline since July 2005, the acceptance rate is about 34% [2] and *JHP* will from 2006 onward be the official journal of the European Headache Federation, an announcement that could not be pre-released last year for political reasons.

This news certainly needs to be analysed in depth, in order to thank all the people who made possible the transformation of a journal born into a land of ancient cultural traditions in headache, which both maintains and passes down a firm vocation towards scientific field research, and establishes strong and qualified international joint relations to gain growing scientific attention. The international vocation of *JHP*, clear and never challenged since its foundation meeting in December 1999, found in the affiliation with the European Headache Federation a natural collocation. For this I thank both the Chairman of the European Headache Federation, Prof. Miguel Lainez, and Deputy Chairman, Dr. Fabio Antonaci, who have looked favourably upon this joint-venture proposal since its conception.

From this issue onward, the *pro tempore* EHF Chairman will hold the role of *JHP* Co-Editor, in order to assure a widespread diffusion among the 26 scientific organisations affiliated to the EHF itself and to its 3300 members. The Advisory Board will also recognise the presence of EHF scientists expressing their adhesion to EHF on a national basis. My appreciation is obviously extended to the members of the Boards of Directors of both societies, to whom I had the chance to expound, at various times, the advantages in terms of scientific, popular and formative growth that this marriage could bring to scientists, physicians and patients in the European headache community.

Also worth mentioning is the fact that the earlier economic situation was rebalanced last year, and we expect economic resources will be generated in 2006 to be reinvested in later programmes of growth and expansion.

***JHP* hosting GC activities**

An epochal occurrence that took place in 2005 in the headache area, only comparable to the appearance of triptans, is represented by the Global Campaign to Reduce the Burden of Headache Worldwide (GC). The attention given by WHO to headache disorders has no equal if we consider the mortality risk, almost nonexistent in primary headaches, but at the same time this is extremely overdue considering the multilayered impact of

these disorders. *JHP*'s consolidated and valued Public Health Section expressly supported this GC, a WHO/IHS/EHF/WHA joint venture, which found in *JHP* a fertile breeding ground and platform for goal sharing [3, 4]. Furthermore, the educational initiative included in GC has been fully assimilated and in the future will find a permanent educational space in *JHP* [5].

***JHP*'s future**

The diffusion of headache culture towards European areas that are lagging behind, both geographically and scientifically, in regard to basic and clinical research, constitutes one of the priorities. Another cornerstone this year will be the regular inflow in terms of quality scientific contributions. A crucial and potentially rewarding goal, now *sub judice*, is the acquisition of ISI indexing, in order to climb the challenging rock face of IF.

Our dedication will never be less than our enthusiasm. I hope that *JHP*'s contributors, the EHF-affiliated societies, the owner (the Italian Society for the Study of Headaches), the editor at Springer, but most of all our readers will continue to have faith in a journal that is no longer adolescent but, as we will be able to demonstrate with their support, has reached a permanent maturity.

P. Martelletti
Editor-in-Chief

References

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