

Editorial

Quo Vadis?

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Why another cardiology journal? Our intent is quite simple—to provide an international, multidisciplinary approach to cardiovascular concerns affecting the young or appearing in the young. Such issues affecting the young are frequently relegated to a minor role in journals concerned largely with the adult population; yet, the interest in, and number of, patients with these problems are continually increasing. While the incidence of cardiologic disease in the young remains constant, more patients are now surviving to reach adulthood, and the diagnosis is made increasingly earlier with ever increasing success in treatment.

We also intend to strive most strongly to provide a fair system of peer review. We are all well aware of the potential for bias in this process. We do not see our role to be censorious, and we recognize that authors have just as many rights as do reviewers. We will welcome any potential author suggesting a suitable reviewer for the work submitted, or drawing our attention to potential referees who might be with bias. We reserve the right, nonetheless, to exercise our editorial judgment in making these decisions. We expect to publish our manuscripts expeditiously and to the highest academic standards. We would not anticipate exceeding six months from submission to publication, providing, of course, that there is not a prolonged period of revision on scientific grounds.

As may be seen, our Editorial Board, by design, reflects the international, multidisciplinary approach which will underscore the aims of our journal. We are serious in this intent, in that our colleagues on six continents have contributed to this first issue. We hope to attract manuscripts which cover all aspects of the topic, from both clinical and basic scientific aspects. We were gratified by the enthusiastic response of those invited to join our board. Many have already demonstrated this overtly by writing articles for the first issue, or for the next three issues which will complete our first volume. Of necessity, we have solicited these initial contributions so as to provide coherent issues. These are, or will be, concerned with complete transposition,

Kawasaki's disease, atrioventricular septal defect, and rheumatic fever, respectively. We hope, nonetheless, that any of our readers with work on these or any other topics, will submit their work to us for consideration for publication within the scheme outlined above. We encourage you to submit manuscripts on any topic in this field, to contribute review articles on pertinent clinical and investigative issues, and to offer freely your ideas to initiate and foster a dialogue to further the understanding of cardiovascular issues affecting the young.

An important part of our journal will be the *World Forum*, a section devoted to brief reports, of not more than two typescript pages in length, concentrating in areas of immediate interest. As you can see in this issue, three members of our Editorial Board, Roger Mee, Richard Jonas, and Claude Planché (and his colleagues), have contributed timely updates on the arterial switch procedure for children with complete transposition. *World Forum* will also include a correspondence section, and we welcome letters to the editor, especially those that might question or disagree with an opinion or interpretation of results previously published. We will make space available to publish every suitable letter that we receive.

Our board members have also pledged their support in making the Journal truly international. To this end, while using English as our chosen language, we encourage the submission of manuscripts by those for whom English is not the native language. All manuscripts will be judged exclusively on their scientific content. While we would hope, and expect, that the concepts expressed will be made understandable, we will not penalize authors for grammatical solecisms. We also encourage all our readers to participate actively in the intercourse within our pages. We will advertise national and international meetings, and will publish all communications considered by us to be of interest to the community concerned with the investigation, diagnosis, and treatment of cardiovascular health and disease in the young.

The impetus for production of this journal has come

from the *World Forum for Pediatric Cardiology*, a newly formed interdisciplinary, international, nonprofit, medical foundation organized to promote the acquisition, understanding, and dissemination of scientific knowledge among appropriate disciplines so as to improve the cardiovascular health of children throughout the world. To this end, the *World Forum* has secured the financial support to launch this endeavor. If it is to continue, it is essential that you actively support this initiative. You will also note that the *World Forum* has arranged a satellite symposium for the World Congress of Pediatric Cardiology and Pediatric Cardiac Surgery—1992 (which will be held in Rio de Janeiro in July 1992), and the *World Forum* will sponsor a Young

Investigator's Research Competition during this congress. We hope that you will encourage your younger colleagues to participate in this competition. It is our intention to publish the manuscripts of the finalists in a special section of *Cardiology in the Young*.

We hope that you will find our journal of interest. We look forward to hearing from you in the very near future, and to meeting you in Rio.

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