

New features in *Neurology*

Robert C. Griggs, MD

Neurology now has 6 months' experience with an increased frequency of issues—18 instead of 12 per year. There were many reasons for this step, including: to improve the journal's ability to publish an ever-increasing number of top-quality papers; to return to including authors' names on the cover; and to improve our ability to accelerate publication of high-priority work.

Two months ago, a reader survey indicated that a sizable majority preferred the increased frequency. The American Academy of Neurology and *Neurology* viewed 18 issues as an interim step leading toward 2 issues per month. We are now considering the pros and cons of going to a twice-monthly publication for the start of the new millennium, January 2000.

Additionally, for 6 months now *Neurology* has had its on-line version of the journal: www.neurology.org. The number of hits is monitored and is increasing rapidly. One advantage of the on-line journal is the search capability it brings to our readership. Any word from a title, full article, or individual topics, or any author for *Neurology* since 1995, can be searched. In addition, it offers an instant link to PubMed. The on-line version provides great versatility and room for new features that should help and benefit readers and authors. Our website goals for January 2000 include:

- 1) Continuing medical education. J. Clay Goodman, MD, chairs a committee that includes Ludwig Gutmann, MD, and Barbara Westmoreland, MD. They will be developing a CME program including a brief examination for our on-line journal.
- 2) Neurology journal club. Prepared by our editor, Michael Brooke, for the electronic journal, this will have articles annotated by our Editorial Board and Editors.
- 3) Advantages for authors will include the potential for more rapid publication of on-line papers; ability to publish valuable, detailed data on the web instead of filing them with the National Auxiliary Publications Service; and Information for Authors will be updated regularly on the web.

Neurology reaches a global audience—particularly and increasingly the on-line journal. Nearly 60% of papers we receive are from overseas, and we have a large number of international reviewers. Our Editorial Board has six members from countries outside the United States. We are looking at additions to *Neurology* that will benefit our entire readership. This issue introduces our International Newsletter by Antonio Culebras. Dr. Culebras welcomes reader input for this newsletter.

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