



Neurology

A journal for authors *and* readers

Robert C. Griggs, MD, Editor-in-Chief; and Kathy McGee, Managing Editor

A distinguished neurologist posed the following question to me shortly before I became Editor-in-Chief: "Will *Neurology* be a journal for authors? Or for the readers?" At that moment, I realized I had a mandate to attempt both.

The Editorial Board and the Editors of *Neurology* are continuing to add new features to the journal. We are striving to make it appealing for authors to publish their best work on clinical neurology as well as to provide a readily available, valuable resource for clinical neurologists searching for pertinent information. While this dual effort is being primarily driven through the on-line journal, other improvements have been made possible by the increased frequency of publishing *Neurology*—now 24 issues per year.

Neurology on-line. The on-line journal went live in January 1999 and includes back issues of *Neurology* from 1995 forward. (Each on-line issue of *Neurology* is posted on the afternoon prior to the cover date when the news embargo is lifted.) This benefits our US readers, who will have received their print journal by the time the on-line issue appears, and allows for timely access for our international readership. The number of "hits" the on-line journal receives is rapidly growing and is a testimony to our readers' increased on-line usage. We are excited to offer a number of new features in the coming months, including:

Continuing medical education. This issue of *Neurology* launches our CME program. Associate Editor Clay Goodman, MD, a successful AAN educator, has developed the program with the Education Committee of the Academy. A program will be added to *Neurology* on-line for electronic testing to take place. Each issue of the print journal will feature three to five important articles marked with a Continuing Medical Education logo (CME). The corresponding on-line article will be accompanied by the CME quiz, which provides immediate feedback on answers to questions. Participants will receive 1 hour of CME credit per quiz/issue (24 hours CME/year).

Fast-track correspondence. Our fast-track correspondence begins in July. Provocative correspondence about recently published articles will be "fast-tracked" and posted on-line soon after receipt. Authors and readers alike will be able to respond quickly, creating an active, lively forum.

Editorials. Increasing *Neurology's* frequency to 24 issues per year affords us the opportunity to invite more editorials that review timely topics in the context of one or more important articles. If there is divergent opinion on a topic, two or more editorials may be invited.¹⁻⁵ Editorials are accessible on-line and are readily available to the general public.

Reader-directed journal. *Neurology* will soon feature a more personalized, reader-directed on-line journal. The subscriber may select specified search words and will then be notified via regular e-mail when any articles, correspondence, or related information is published.

A more manageable and readable journal. After years of increasing page volume, our more frequent publication will allow for smaller journal issues. Tables in future *Neurology* articles will be more concise and reader friendly, with complex data sets posted on the web. The general readership will be provided a concise picture of what authors are conveying, and specialists in the field can access more in-depth supplemental data.

Abstracts for on-line Clinical/Scientific Notes. As with Full-length articles and Brief Communications, Clinical/Scientific Notes will soon require abstracts, which will be available on-line and accessible to the general public.

A bright future. The Editors, Editorial Board, and Editorial Staff of *Neurology* are pleased to announce that we will be continuing our relationship with Lippincott Williams & Wilkins. Our special thanks to Nancy Megley, Kathey Alexander, Margaret Wells, Mary Wiggin, Mary Miller, Ed Hogarty, Christy Bracken, the rest of the production staff, and Dana Bielicki, WebMaster.

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