

# Changes and new features for our readers and authors

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The new features introduced in *Neurology* over the past 6 years are proceeding successfully with the production of two print and two online issues per month. The online edition now greatly differs from its print counterpart—[www.neurology.org](http://www.neurology.org) offers CME quizzes and credit, online-only NeuroImages, supplemental data, Patient Pages, video, and other features.

In response to opinions from our reader surveys, we now publish three to five editorials or Views & Reviews in each issue. We have expanded our “In this Issue” highlights section to three pages including illustrative figures and an editorial commentary. CME use is growing. In 2000, CME had 1,544 users and in 2001 that number had risen to 2,486. The year 2002 is showing a further increase. Associate Editor J. Clay Goodman puts this feature together virtually single-handedly every 2 weeks. Online videos are now routinely included in online articles concerning interesting movement disorders and many neuromuscular diseases, epilepsy, and behavioral disorders. Even historical papers may include video. Nisus: *Neurology and the Humanities* has received fine work. Rejecting poetry and other creative writing is a difficult task. Each month, Robin Brey and Janet Jankowiak are preparing the online Patient Page with a rapid turnaround. From July 2002—when the Patient Page was launched—through October 2002, user access has more than doubled.

**More new features for online *Neurology*.** *Improved reference tools.* At the end of *Neurology* online articles, there is a new section titled “This article cited by,” which lists additional sources where the article has been referenced. HighWire Press, *Neurology*'s online provider, hosts 342 major scientific journals. By clicking on the citation, subscribers can access the HighWire or Medline abstract and will gain full-text access to articles in *Neurology* and certain additional journals hosted at HighWire that provide free access to some or all content (for additional information, see figure E-1 on the *Neurology* Web site).

*TopicMap.* TopicMap is a new browse-by-subject feature available at HighWire's main site (<http://highwire.stanford.edu>). TopicMap gives the user a graphic tree-type database of topics. For instance, when you use your mouse to drag the topic Neuroscience to the center of the screen, you are shown further subtopics such as Computational Neuroscience, Cognitive Neuroscience, Behavioral Neuroscience, and Developmental Neuroscience. These subtopics, when double-clicked, supply a list of related documents in your Web browser. By clicking on Developmental Neuroscience, we were given access to a list of more than 9,000 documents. Again, if journals are not sponsored by HighWire, the Medline abstracts are available. This feature will be especially helpful to researchers who want to search by topic without having to enter a specific author's name or title (see figure E-2 on the *Neurology* Web site).

*Neurology in the Palm of Your Hand.* Working with AAN Webmasters, we will be initiating a personal digital assistant (PDA) application: “Neurology in the Palm of Your Hand.” We are reviewing the specifications needed for the launch of this project and the level of content that will be available to users. We hope to make the following available: Tables of Contents; Future Tables of Contents; AAN Papers; Highlights (In this Issue) and Commentary; full text of articles mentioned in the In this Issue section; abstracts; editorials; and Patient Pages. Beta testing of this feature will take place this year.

*Publish ahead of print.* There is an increasing move in medical and scientific journals to post timely and high-priority articles online within days of being accepted. The advantages include priority dissemination of cutting-edge research and eliminating print publication delays. *Neurology* and Lippincott Williams & Wilkins plan rapid posting in mid-2003.

**Other *Neurology* news.** *Bench>Press.* The *Neurology* electronic peer review and submission system is nearing completion. The proposed launch date of July 2002 was postponed due to the complexity of the programming involved with the manuscript tracking system necessary for the *Neurology* editorial office. This system will maintain confidentiality and will benefit authors, reviewers, and editors. Authors will upload their cover letter, manuscripts, and figures, sending all material electronically to the Editorial

Additional material related to this article can be found on the *Neurology* Web site. Go to [www.neurology.org](http://www.neurology.org) and scroll down the Table of Contents for the January 14 issue to find the link to this article.

Office for consideration. This will eliminate mailing time, which delays submissions, especially from our international authors. Reviewers will be able to “point-and-click” to submit reviews. Submitted manuscripts will be available to authorized viewers in a .pdf format with the references hyperlinked to Medline. Or, if the journal’s online publisher is HighWire, full text of the cited article (if there is free access) may be viewed with the click of a button.

*International editions of Neurology.* *Neurology’s* international reach has expanded in the past 2 years with the introduction of translated editions in several major regions of the world. The first issue of a

new Spanish edition was published in September 2002—a collaboration between *Neurology’s* publisher, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, and an international publisher, Waverly Hispanica. Novartis Spain sponsors the edition. An Italian edition has recently been approved and the project is under way with publisher Momento Medico. A proposal for a Polish edition is currently under review. Our Japanese edition with Blackwell Science Japan is in its second year and we expect it to continue. These editions make *Neurology* content more widely available and raise international awareness of both the journal and the American Academy of Neurology.

## ***ALERT: NEUROLOGY BEGINS ONLINE PEER REVIEW JANUARY 1, 2003***

Starting January 1, 2003, *Neurology* will move to online peer review and manuscript submission. Manuscripts will then be handled under the new system, Bench>Press.

Under this new system, authors will be able to upload all original submissions via the *Neurology* Web site ([www.neurology.org](http://www.neurology.org)). In addition, the Information for Authors, available at the Journal Web site, will also detail the adjusted specifications.

The file formats that *Neurology* will accept after the launch of this system can be found here: <http://benchpress.highwire.org/faq.dtl#formats>

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<b>Supplementary Material</b>	Supplementary material can be found at: <a href="http://n.neurology.org/content/suppl/2003/01/20/60.1.4.DC1">http://n.neurology.org/content/suppl/2003/01/20/60.1.4.DC1</a>
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