

# Call for papers

## *Neurology: Neuroimmunology & Neuroinflammation*, a new *Neurology* journal

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The year 2014 will see the debut of *Neurology*® *Neuroimmunology & Neuroinflammation*, a new online-only, open-access journal in the *Neurology* collection of publications. Many may ask whether we need a new biomedical journal. Our mission and vision statements embody why our answer is yes:

The mission of *Neurology*® *Neuroimmunology & Neuroinflammation* is to provide neurologists and translationally minded scientists with peer-reviewed articles, editorials, and reviews to enhance patient care, education, and clinical and translational research. Our vision is to be the premier peer-reviewed journal for experts in the fields of neuroimmunology and neuroinflammation. We publish open-access reports of original research and in-depth reviews of topics in neuroimmunology and neuroinflammation, affecting a broad range of neurologic diseases including (but not limited to) Alzheimer disease, Parkinson disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, tauopathy, and stroke; multiple sclerosis and neuromyelitis optica; inflammatory neuromuscular disorders; reports focused on nervous system infection; paraneoplastic syndromes, noninfectious encephalitides, and other antibody-mediated disorders; and psychiatric and neurodevelopmental disorders. Clinical trials, instructive case reports, and small case series will also be featured.

Some points made in the mission statement are salient: neuroinflammation denotes innate immune reactions of the nervous system, including the response to systemic inflammation. Neuroimmunology indicates the adaptive arm of the immune response and mainly represents autoimmunity (multiple sclerosis [MS], neuromyelitis optica [NMO], Guillain-Barré, paraneoplastic syndromes, and noninfectious encephalitides) or immune-mediated host defense against pathogens. We will provide a home for clinical, fundamental, and translational neuroscience focused on neuroimmunology and neuroinflammation. We arrive at a time of towering excitement and ferment in both neuroimmunology and neuroinflammation.

Neuroinflammation has been studied for decades almost exclusively as a cardinal feature of explicitly inflammatory processes such as MS, NMO, inflammatory neuropathy, acute infection, stroke, and trauma. With recent genetic findings it is now clear that inflammation plays a central (but not exclusive) part in Alzheimer disease, Parkinson disease, tauopathy, and other neurodegenerations. Inflammation is also strongly suspected as having a role in neurodevelopmental disease, including autism and schizophrenia.

Neuroimmunology is fully keeping pace with the progress in neuroinflammation. Within the past 10 years, NMO research and clinical practice were transfigured by the discovery of a pathogenic auto-antibody, ushering in the concept of autoimmune astrocytopathy. New neurotransmitter receptor auto-antibodies transformed baffling clinical syndromes into treatable disorders. In both NMO and these noninfectious encephalitic syndromes, pathophysiologic insights flowed along in the company of rapidly evolving clinical practice. MS became a treatable disease 20 years ago. At present, there are at least 7 distinct noncytotoxic chemical or biological entities approved in the United States or European Union to modify the course of MS. Each comes with its own set of advantages and safety concerns, highlighting how industriously the therapeutic community is experimenting with the human immune response.

Our editorial team comprises seasoned, expert, thoughtful, energetic, and enthusiastic staff from the *Neurology* home office, led by our Managing Editor Morgan Sorenson.

Our Associate Editors encompass a thoroughly remarkable spectrum of expertise and are also uniformly thoughtful, energetic, and enthusiastic. Seasoned we are not, as each of us is taking on the present role for the first time. We warmly welcome (in alphabetical order): Josep Dalmau (Universities of Barcelona and Pennsylvania; noninfectious encephalitides and paraneoplastic syndromes); Michael Heneka (Bonn; neurodegeneration and stroke); Robyn Klein (Washington University, St. Louis; infectious disease);

Supplemental data at  
[www.neurology.org](http://www.neurology.org)

From the Neuroinflammation Research Center, Mellen Center for MS Treatment and Research, Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH.

Dr. Ransohoff discusses the new journal on audio at [Neurology.org](http://Neurology.org).

Go to [Neurology.org](http://Neurology.org) for full disclosures. Funding information and disclosures deemed relevant by the author, if any, are provided at the end of the editorial.

Scott Zamvil (UCSF; MS, NMO, human immunology); and Lan Zhou (Mt. Sinai; neuromuscular disease).

We invite your comments, editorials, help with reviewing, and most of all, submissions: clinical, animal, and bench research; clinical trials; case reports and case series; reviews and opinions. Submissions can be uploaded at <http://submit.nn.neurology.org>.

Our research field is rocketing skyward and we hope you will join us on the trip.

## DISCLOSURE

Richard M. Ransohoff conducts research supported by the NIH, the National MS Society, the DOD, the Alzheimer's Association, the Guthy-Jackson Foundation, Williams Family Foundation for MS Research, Genzyme, Lundbeck, Novartis, and Teva. Dr. Ransohoff has received fees for preclinical consulting or honoraria for academic presentations from Amgen, Genentech, Roche, Novartis, Biogen-Idec, and Pfizer. He serves on Scientific Advisory, Medical Advisory, or Safety Monitoring Boards for ChemoCentryx and Vertex, and as Editor of *Neurology: Neuroimmunology & Neuroinflammation* he receives an honorarium from the AAN. Go to [Neurology.org](http://Neurology.org) for full disclosures.

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