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## European Winter Oncology Conference (EWOC)

THIS ISSUE of the *EJC* carries a substantial number of papers from this year's European Winter Oncology Conference (EWOC). In essence the papers are short review articles which, while orientated towards the individual author's experience, represent the current status of the field over a wide range of oncology.

The first EWOC Conference was held in 1989, planned as a forum which meets every two years and which constitutes in effect a workshop and an advanced postgraduate course in oncology. Although the emphasis has been on clinical research, there is also the opportunity to present and discuss new developments in basic science. Most areas of oncology have been addressed in the 1989 and 1991 conferences and EWOC will return in January 1993 to many selected topics already covered in 1989. Advances in the field will determine the exact composition of subsequent meetings.

The *EJC*, which is the official journal of the societies under whose auspices EWOC is organised (FECS, ESO and EORTC), was the obvious choice of the organising and scientific committee as an outlet for the wider presentation of papers prepared by the experts participating in the meeting. This is consistent with the aims of the editors of the *EJC*, namely to contribute to the

dissemination of knowledge in clinical and experimental oncology. As readers will have noticed since the change of format in May 1990, the *EJC* has carried short invited review papers addressing specific issues and although unsolicited reviews should not be addressed to the *EJC*, those wishing to contribute are able to contact the Editor in Chief to discuss their suggestions. The active participation of readers in submitting original data as fax communications or papers and contributing to the other sections of the journal makes the *EJC* a key forum for scientific exchange over a wide field.

EWOC, a winter event, has been organised as a small scale meeting where the audience and faculty are able to enter into a lively exchange of views in a scientific but relaxed atmosphere. The meetings have already shown their capacity to build strong bonds of collaboration between participants from a wide range of European countries and beyond. The editors of the *EJC* hope that by opening the journal to the contributions of EWOC they will bring a similar learning experience to a much wider audience.

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