

CORRESPONDENCE

In order to facilitate an exchange of ideas and opinions a correspondence section will be included in the Journal. It is hoped that this will create a forum for discussion of matters of general glycoconjugate interest. Comments, both positive and negative, regarding this Journal are also welcomed, to enable us to cater for the requirements of our readers.

Dear Sirs,

May we take this opportunity to raise some points both on glycoconjugates and the reportage of glycoconjugates in the pages of your journal.

Over the past years certain sections of the scientific community have been agitating for the establishment of an interdisciplinary lectins journal. Such a journal would reflect many needs, e.g. that of a clinical biochemist to select new lectins as a tool to analyse a serum glycoprotein. Whilst the lectin journal is still an unrecognised aim (the proceedings of the International Lectin Symposium, published annually by W de Gruyter, being the nearest equivalent) we do feel that it would be a wasted opportunity if the "Glycoconjugate Journal" were to ignore this need. Obviously much on the subject of lectins would fall into the proscribed field of glycoconjugate study; affinity chromatography, affinity electrophoresis, lectins as histochemical probes etc. are examples; but what about the use of glycoconjugates, either enzyme-linked or immobilised to detect or purify lectins, or lectin-like receptors in glycoconjugate metabolism and transport?

We would very much like to hear the views of the Editors, the Board and the readers of "Glycoconjugate Journal" in this matter. Let us hope that this new journal can really function as a truly interdisciplinary forum in all aspects of glycoconjugate interactions.

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The policy of this Journal is to publish research papers and other information of interest to researchers in glycoconjugates. It is of course possible to differentiate between the use of lectins as a tool in glycoconjugate research (e.g. the paper of Duk et al in this issue) and the study of lectins for their own sake (e.g. the article by Prigent et al, this issue). Such a differentiation would be somewhat artificial, and is unnecessary.

*The last sentence of the letter summarizes the philosophy of the Editors. Lectin research papers are welcomed, but remember, this is **Glycoconjugate Journal!***

AC