

## A new category in *JLR*: Patient-Oriented Research Articles

We are pleased to announce that the *Journal of Lipid Research* is initiating a new category of research manuscripts for the journal called "Patient-Oriented Research." The category will include studies in which human subjects play an important role and at least one of the authors has had direct contact with the subjects. For example, a study in which a perturbation is used to gain mechanistic or clinically relevant information would meet the criteria. It does not matter whether the samples (blood, other fluids, tissue, cells) derived from the subjects in the study are subsequently used in an *in vivo*, *ex vivo*, or *in vitro* analysis (e.g., the incubation of lipoproteins with cells). What does matter is that the results be linked to characteristics of the human sources of the samples (individuals or groups) and that someone on the investigatory team has actually seen the patients (as opposed to blood or tissue from a blood bank or tissue bank). For example, studies in which participants are seen by one of the authors and either baseline or pre-perturbation and post-perturbation biochemical, biophysical, and/or demographic data are obtained meet the criteria. In summary, papers appearing in the Patient-Oriented Research category must have some link to particular human characteristics.

The online system for *JLR* manuscript submission now includes a check box for papers meeting the criteria of Patient-Oriented Research, and authors are encouraged to submit papers specifically for this category by checking this box. Appropriateness will be determined by the Associate Editor handling the manuscript with the advice of Editorial Board members and other outside referees reviewing the manuscripts. There is also a check box for papers involving Human Subjects. This category refers to the broader criteria of human subjects, including any studies in which cells or tissues of human origin are involved, whether or not it involves patient-oriented research, consistent with U.S. National Institutes of Health guidelines and similar guidelines in other countries where human subject consent and committee approval are required and must be noted in the manuscript. The new category of Patient-Oriented Research will refer to re-

search articles with criteria for review similar to regular research articles.

To initiate this new category, we will devote one of our Thematic Review Series to this subject, with several reviews of patient-oriented research appearing in one special issue of the *Journal of Lipid Research*. This new Thematic Series will be edited by one of our distinguished Associate Editors, Henry Ginsberg, and will consist of several invited reviews covering a broad range of patient-oriented research involving lipids, lipoproteins, and arteriosclerosis. This Thematic Series will appear in the August 2006 issue. The following invited authors for this initial series include an international group of investigators noted for their contributions to clinical research (titles subject to change):

- Hugh Barrett, University of Western Australia, Perth, Australia (*Design and analysis of lipoprotein tracer kinetic studies in humans*).
- Klaus Parhofer, University of Munich, Germany (*What we have learned about VLDL and LDL metabolism from human kinetic studies*).
- Gary F. Lewis, University of Toronto, Canada (*What have we learned about HDL metabolism from kinetic studies in humans?*).
- Michael Jensen, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN (*Free fatty acid metabolism in human obesity*).
- Elizabeth Parks, University of Texas Southwestern, Dallas, TX (*Liver triacylglycerol and fatty acid metabolism using stable isotope precursors*).
- Alice Lichtenstein, Tufts University, Boston, MA (*Fats, carbohydrates, and proteins: effects on plasma lipids*).
- Jim Mann, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand (*Nutritional determinants of insulin resistance*).
- John R. Crouse, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC (*Imaging atherosclerosis: state of the art*).

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