

Editorial

Modification of the acceptance policy for manuscripts

The implementation of the Elsevier Editorial System by *Metabolism* has greatly increased the number of manuscripts submitted to the Journal. In consideration of this increase in quantity of submissions and knowing that we can only publish a certain number of pages per year, the Journal's acceptance policy has been significantly changed. In the past, a priority system was instituted based primarily on the scientific merit of the manuscript. The best priority was 1, and the worst priority was 5. Based on this system, for a manuscript to be accepted, it had to receive an average priority of 3 or better from the reviewers. Thus, many manuscripts were rejected although they were scientifically acceptable, but had a priority score of more than 3. As long as the number of manuscripts submitted to the Journal continues at the present rate, their acceptance will depend upon their scientific merit and a priority of 2 or better. Although this change may be frustrating for some, it will allow *Metabolism* to publish only the best articles submitted to the Journal; and you, our readers, will benefit from

content of only the highest quality. The implementation of the Elsevier Editorial System has also greatly facilitated review of manuscripts by reviewers and reduced the time to obtain a review and the time to make an initial decision. This efficiency has caused a larger backlog of accepted manuscripts; and as such, the time from acceptance of a manuscript until print publication may increase. We anticipate the delay to be temporary and to be mitigated somewhat by having the manuscript available online prior to publication in the Journal's articles in press section. Although many authors will be disappointed by rejection of their manuscript even though they are scientifically acceptable but not of sufficient priority, the overall scientific impact of the Journal should increase.

James B. Field
Editor-in-Chief
Metabolism

E-mail address: metabolismjournal@yahoo.com