

Editorial

The yearly statistics on pages, manuscript flow, and distribution of articles by scientific field are shown in Tables I and II. Above all, there has been a larger than expected increase in manuscript submissions during 1990, a sign that *Pharmaceutical Research* has gained broad acceptance. If one considers an additional small increase in the percentage of all manuscripts received from Europe (10%) and Japan (7.9%), it becomes apparent that the number of international submissions has grown substantially. Because of the overall increased manuscript flow, the number of pages to be published in 1991 has been increased to 1536. If we assume an average length of a little over 5 pages per article, then this allows us to publish approximately 300 research papers, plus a number of letters, commentaries, etc. While we have not increased the rejection rate (constant at 1 of 3 papers submitted), the editors have become more vigilant in assuring that each manuscript is concise and does not contain duplications, redundancies, unnecessary literature reviews, etc. By doing so we may have stepped on a few toes, but we are learning, together with the authors, to make maximum use of journal space. Indeed, we have been successful in keeping any backing of accepted papers to a minimum (under 2 months), so that time to publication is largely unchanged.

The drive toward concise papers by no means indicates a preference for publishing short notes without proper experimental backup. The editors can at any time waive the page limit to allow proper documentation of all experimental details. Yet, if an article is excessively long, because of the nature of the experimental design, it must receive a higher than average priority rating; otherwise, a more specialized journal should be solicited for detailed documentation of the work. However, we have in the past published rather long articles that exceeded the recommended page limit, but regardless of their length were considered worthy of publication in *Pharmaceutical Research*.

Table II shows the distribution of submitted papers among the scientific areas covered by *Pharmaceutical Research*. Boundaries of these areas are often not clearly delineated, and there is considerable overlap. This year, for the first time, we list three additional areas: Clinical Sciences (CS) (which has achieved AAPS Section status); Economics, Marketing, and Management Sciences (EMMS); and Pharmacology and Toxicology. The latter represents those manu-

Table I. Number of Pages Published and Manuscripts Received per Year

	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
Pages	330	600	818	1088	1346	1536 ^a
Manuscripts received	160	285	325	390	550 ^b	620 ^c

^a Budgeted, as approved by AAPS.

^b Projected from data for January–September 1990.

^c Projected.

scripts that do not fit the definitions of Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacodynamics, and Drug Metabolism (PPDM). Pharmacetics and Drug Delivery (PDD) remains the leader with its rather broad definition. Frequently, the boundary between PDD and Pharmaceutical Technology (PT) is unclear, and the percentages listed reflect my personal definitions of these fields. To my regret, Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry (MNPC) has not contributed to the overall increase in manuscript flow. In the MNPC area, with a new Associate Editor, we wish to focus on areas of general interest to AAPS, such as protein and peptide chemistry.

With manuscript flow increasing rapidly, we are still experiencing growing pains, requiring continuous reorganization to meet increasing demands on the editorial process. In order to continue to provide personal attention to each manuscript, we have appointed additional Associate Editors, all of whom work on a voluntary basis. I will interact closely with each editor to assure that the same standards are applied throughout. Each accepted paper is reviewed again in the central editorial office for clarity, style, and conciseness, and, if any problems are detected, we request the assistance of all authors to correct the paper before it is finally submitted to the publisher.

My final task here remains to thank the authors, referees, editors, and AAPS for their continuous support of the journal. Their strong commitment is essential to maintaining a leading role for *Pharmaceutical Research* in reporting novel results in the pharmaceutical–biomedical sciences.

Wolfgang Sadée
Editor-in-Chief

Table II. Distribution of Articles by Scientific Field

Year	PDD	PPDM	PT	MNPC	APQ	BT	CS	Pharmacology and Toxicology	EMMS	Other
1988	34%	25%	13%	10%	15%	—	—	—	—	3%
1989	27%	23%	16%	13%	12%	6%	—	—	—	3%
1990	33.5%	22.0%	9.8%	7.4%	11.4%	7.5%	1.7%	4.0%	0.5%	2.2%