

Introductory Statement

Pharmaceutical Research is now entering a new phase of its development to become a major journal in the pharmaceutical-biomedical sciences. The first two years of its publication established a high level of scientific quality with numerous articles from renowned scientists in diverse fields. Thus, the foundations have been laid for further growth.

We expect *Pharmaceutical Research* to make major contributions to the pharmaceutical literature. Excellent research is currently performed in all areas of the pharmaceutical sciences. Conceived at a time when novel trends in drug development and therapy are emerging at a rapid pace, *Pharmaceutical Research* benefits from unique opportunities in many disciplines.

Focal areas of current interest include—but are not limited to—drug delivery, pharmacokinetics-pharmacodynamics, computer-aided drug design, peptides and proteins as drugs (biological response modifiers), biotechnology in drug development, novel methods in drug analysis, and the medicinal chemistry, pharmacology, and chemical toxicology of a growing number of promising drug classes, e.g., drugs active against cardiovascular diseases, diseases of the immune system, cancer, viruses, and parasites. With this focus, *Pharmaceutical Research* is poised at the crossroads between the physicochemical sciences and the biological sciences to cover fundamental and applied research related to drugs, diagnosis, and therapy. In this function, relevant review articles are scheduled to appear in forthcoming issues. The

contents of the next issue (listed on the following page)—and of course of this present issue—show the quality and diversity of the papers published.

The editors appreciate the support of many individuals, in particular the editorial advisers and external referees who have set a standard of excellence for *Pharmaceutical Research*.

I invite the readership to continue to contribute articles and letters to the various sections of the journal (reviews, research articles, reports, and letters). Concise articles, such as reports of general interest, are given highest priority, but the editors wish to retain maximum flexibility to accommodate topics that require unusual format. Authors should consult the instructions for manuscript submission printed in this issue. We will further attempt to minimize the time between manuscript submission and publication (6 to 10 months when there is rapid manuscript revision by the authors).

Effective with this issue (Volume 3, Number 1), Plenum Press has become the publisher of *Pharmaceutical Research*. Subscription inquiries and orders should be directed to the Circulation Director, Plenum Publishing Corporation, 233 Spring Street, New York, N.Y. 10013.

Wolfgang Sadée
Editor

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