

## PharmRes—More Than the Impact Factor

The impact factor for *Pharmaceutical Research* in 2001, 2.801, is once again on an upward swing. For over a decade, *Pharmaceutical Research* ranks highest in the cohort of peer-reviewed pharmaceutical sciences journals. No doubt this is a reflection of the commitment and loyalty of pharmaceutical scientists from all over the world to the journal, fondly referred to by many as “*PharmRes*.”

According to the Institute of Scientific Information, “the journal impact factor is a measure of the frequency with which the “average article” in a journal has been cited in a particular year.” The impact factor is, therefore, a measure of a journal’s relative importance, especially in comparison with others in the same field. In the case of *PharmRes*, the impact factor is a measure of the willingness of the pharmaceutical community to archive its best work in the journal.

I chose the word “community” very deliberately. The Institute of Medicine (IOM) and the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) are examples of prestigious communities. Membership in these two communities is considered one of the highest honors that can be accorded a scientist or an engineer. My fellow editors and I are committed to make *PharmRes* a forum of choice for the pharmaceutical community to publish papers in innovative research of the highest quality, spanning the entire spectrum of science in drug discovery and delivery, development, evaluation, and regulatory approval. Members in the *PharmRes* community play interchangeable roles: authors, readers, reviewers, editorial board members, or editors. The thread that runs through these interrelated roles is the common goal of making this journal of theirs amongst the very best. Just as IOM and NAS members themselves look after the vitality of their respective community, members in the *PharmRes* community all take pride in contributing to the rising stature of their journal in the scientific world. Indeed, *PharmRes* is a community motivated by inclusion rather than exclusion. You may be interested to know that the editors or associate editors in several other pharmaceutical journals are also members of the *PharmRes* editorial advisory board. We all are stakeholders in the impact of research by the pharmaceutical community in the scientific world.

Infusion of new blood into the editorial infrastructure is a must for *PharmRes* to remain a pacesetter in showcasing work of impact in pharmaceutical research. As a step in that direction and to coincide with the imminent launching of the electronic manuscript submission and processing system (which will be detailed in a separate editorial), the editorial team at its June 16–17, 2002 retreat in Washington DC endorsed the concept of restructuring itself around six fields:

- Computational biopharmaceutics, proteomics, and bioinformatics
- Molecular pharmacology of transporters, metabolizing enzymes and receptors
- Pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics and pharmacogenomics
- Preformulation
- Drug delivery and targeting
- Formulation and processing

The manuscripts in each field will be managed by an editor, one or more assistant editors, and a panel of editorial advisory board members. The current editorial team members (Daan Crommelin, Meindert Danhof, Mitsuru Hashida, Kinam Park, and David Smith) will become field editors. Six assistant editors have joined the team. Their principal responsibilities are to develop a portfolio of minireviews on timely topics of value to the *PharmRes* community. The six assistant editors are:

Mats Karlsson, Uppsala University  
Tony Kong, Rutgers—The University of New Jersey  
Deanna Kroetz, University of California-San Francisco  
Michael Pikal, University of Connecticut  
Peter Swaan, Ohio State University  
Gert Storm, Utrecht University

Please join me in welcoming these talented scientists as agents of change in the *PharmRes* community. Your forward-looking editorial team and I stand ready to work with you towards maximizing the impact of pharmaceutical research through documenting and endorsing the best work of pharmaceutical relevance in *PharmRes*.

Vincent H. L. Lee, Ph.D.  
Editor-in-Chief, *Pharmaceutical Research*