

State of the Journal 2019: *HeartRhythm Case Reports*



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HeartRhythm Case Reports is completing its fifth year in publication. As an official journal of the Heart Rhythm Society, this open-access journal aims to publish high-quality case reports that improve the care of patients with heart rhythm disorders by advancing research, education, and procedural efficacy.

The journal remains very healthy, with a broad readership and diverse pool of authors. In 2018, the journal received over 400 manuscripts, the highest number of submissions since inception. We are fortunate to have a dedicated and diverse editorial team and board from 19 countries to serve our global audience. As manuscript downloads are easily tracked, we can see increasing journal usage throughout the world in both developed and developing countries.

This year we welcomed a new member to the editorial team, Dr Christina Miyake from Baylor College of Medicine. Dr Miyake will provide critical assistance and knowledge to our team in the areas of pediatric and adult congenital heart disease.

The journal is now officially indexed on PubMed Central, which allows each manuscript to have increased visibility and provide critical links to the research community we all serve. The focus of this open-access journal is to promote and share our knowledge of heart rhythm disorders and their management. Although conventional modalities to promote each article are in use, we continue to share these case reports broadly through multiple social media formats, including Twitter and Facebook. These forums also encourage dynamic conversation about these reports and, by doing so, enhance the educational reach. We will continue to explore

all social media platforms in an effort to reach wider audiences to accomplish the mission of the Heart Rhythm Society.

In 2019, we will begin a new series that will specifically focus on cases of very high educational value. These cases will improve general understanding of heart rhythm disease management and serve as the foundation for online learning through the case presentation, as well as through specific questions to test understanding and retention of the educational principles. The new journal feature will be called “A Case for Education.” These cases will be reviewed not based upon novel findings or approaches, but for their educational value in demonstrating the core disease states that we encounter in clinical practice.

The journal remains indebted to the Editorial Board and reviewers who donate their time to improve the quality of the submissions and our shared knowledge. The reviews we receive are excellent and timely. We continue to try to enrich our reviewer pool and identify young and early-career electrophysiologists who have interest in serving as reviewers.

I personally am very grateful for the opportunity to serve as Editor-in-Chief of *HeartRhythm Case Reports*. It has been a pleasure of mine to work with all of you, my Section Editors, the Editorial Board, the Heart Rhythm Society and Journal Subcommittee, and, most of all, the amazing editorial staff of both of the Society’s journals. I hope that our product meets your expectations. We welcome your suggestions for improvement and look forward to another year of learning and growth.

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