



Editorial

The journal on a new trajectory

Before I outline the activities of the journal in the past year, I should like to convey my very best wishes and season's greetings for the year 2019 to all of you who have contributed toward the growth and development of *Sleep Medicine*. I vividly remember the launching of the first issue of the journal in February of 2000 with great excitement. Since then the journal has come a long way and is now on a new trajectory with twin publication (see further on). I acknowledge with gratitude the contributions of those who have been responsible for the upward and now new trajectory of growth of the journal; including the reviewers, field, section and associate editors, as well as the rest of the editorial board members, readers, and contributors in addition to the Elsevier publishing staff in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, Exeter, England, Chennai, India, and the editorial assistant in Edison, NJ, USA. Your dedication and commitment have been exemplary. I particularly single out Peter Bakker, the Publishing Director at Elsevier in Amsterdam who has been very supportive of all my efforts and in fulfilling the vision and creativity of all concerned to bring the journal to the forefront of sleep medicine. I shall now outline some important features of the journal.

1. Current status of the journal

The number of submissions continues to increase exceeding 1000 submissions in the past year. As a result of the increased number of submissions regrettably we had to reject many worthy submissions. The journal is truly an international clinical sleep medicine journal with contributions from all continents of the world. We have had some glitches in the past year in terms of changes in journal manager and transition to a different submission system but we are on our way to resolving these temporary (but painful and unsatisfactory) problems.

2. New features of the journal

A. Migration to EVISE from EES, and now back to EES submission system. EVISE, Elsevier's new submission and peer review platform replaced the then current EES system sometime in 2018 with the intention of improving the submission process. Although unquestionably there were many new key features, regrettably the glitches were too much for all the editors, reviewers, and potential authors creating a period of chaos and confusion (not good for the health of the journal). Peter Bakker, the publishing director took the lead in negotiating with Elsevier to reverse back to the old EES from EVISE submission system. We all had a sigh of relief. Despite some disadvantages with the EES system (which we will try to overcome in course of time) the journal is running smoothly again (some past submissions in EVISE still remain for a final decision).

B. As an experiment to fulfill the wishes of the European Union (EU)- funded research agency starting in 2020 to mandatory full open access (OA) publication Elsevier has introduced the concept of an OA mirror journal. *Sleep Medicine* journal is now split into two parts: a subscription part (published under *Sleep Medicine*) and a fully OA part (published under *Sleep Medicine X*). The editors, editorial board members, aims and scope and all the other remaining editorial policies and standards remain unchanged. To celebrate this new launch, Elsevier has decided that the article processing charge of the first 50 (invited) papers that will be published in *Sleep Medicine X* may be waived at the Editor's discretion.

3. Special issue

In 2018 we had only one special issue (*Sleep Medicine*, Vol. 49C, September 2018) commemorating "Michel Jouvet: his approaches to research, his career, his humanity, and his many contributions and legacy to sleep research and sleep medicine" with Roger Broughton as the Guest Editor.

4. The WASM–Elsevier scientific award

Two Scientific Awards (The Christian Guilleminault and the Elio Lugaresi WASM-Elsevier Awards for *Sleep Medicine*) will continue to be awarded to two young investigators within five years of post-training at the time of submission for best original papers published or accepted for publication in *Sleep Medicine* as lead authors between June 1, 2017 and May 1, 2019. We encourage young researchers to submit articles to *Sleep Medicine* and send a request to our office for consideration for these awards. To encourage and increase the number of requests for the awards, the journal established a policy for adding a sentence in every acceptance letter that these awards are available to all young investigators who are within the past five years of training and those whose manuscript as the lead author has been accepted for publication in *Sleep Medicine* between June 1, 2017 and May 1, 2019. The award will be presented at the next World Sleep Congress in Vancouver, Canada, September 20–25th 2019.

5. Editorial Board

The composition of the Journal Editorial Board remains essentially the same except for some minor changes. Charles Atwood, Jr, MD, an outstanding educator, sleep specialist, and internist (pulmonologist) has been appointed as a Field Editor as a replacement for Robert Basner's position. Dr. Atwood has already been on the editorial board. In addition, Dr. Michael L. Perlis, well recognized in the sleep community for his outstanding contributions to sleep

medicine, particularly in the insomnia research, will add considerable strength to our editorial board.

6. World Sleep Society

The first congress of World Sleep Society (as a result of the merger of WASM and WF) will be held in Vancouver, Canada on September 20-25, 2019. You are all encouraged to attend this international sleep meeting, which is shaping up to be an outstanding scientifically, educationally satisfying, and stimulating congress.

7. Conclusion

I conclude this editorial with an optimistic note for Sleep Medicine: starting on a new trajectory of twin publication (*Sleep*

Medicine and *Sleep Medicine X*). Time will tell the fate of this new venture. I encourage all potential contributors to submit their best science to *Sleep Medicine* or *Sleep Medicine X* for consideration for publication so that the journal remains an important vehicle for sleep clinicians and all scientists as well as those interested in promoting sleep health all around the world.

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