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Letter to the Editor

Time to drop the 'Sir'?



To the Editor,

I write to respectfully suggest that *Resuscitation* drop the "Sir" salutation for letters to the Editor.

While I recognize that the Editor-in-Chief of *Resuscitation* is indeed a man, and hence "Sir" is accurate, the salutation reinforces a gender stereotype that associates men with the Editor-in-Chief position.

While there is value in tradition, language evolves. Gendered terminology is a language of exclusion. Non-binary, gender-neutral language is inclusive and free of stereotypes and biases.

Alternate salutations are employed in the lay press, and in other medical journals, including Elsevier journals and high-impact journals led by a woman Editor-in-Chief (e.g., *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*, *Nature*, *JAMA Internal Medicine*, *Journal of Applied Physiology*). These include "To the Editor", "Dear Editor", or no salutation at all.

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Conflicts of interest

None.