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The American Journal of Neuroradiology

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Editorials

The American Journal of Neuroradiology

With increasing frequency it seems, promotional material passes our desks advertising the availability of yet another new radiologic journal. This proliferation is not imaginary: in 1976, 65 radiology-related journals were indexed by *Index Medicus* [1]; this number had increased to 77 in 1979 [2]. While some may question whether these figures measure the growth of knowledge in the field, there is no doubt more radiology journals are available now than a few years ago. Should there be another?

Many of these journals promote subspecialties within radiology, and leaders in the American Roentgen Ray Society (ARRS) have become increasingly concerned about the expanding appeal to narrow segments of the radiologic community. As more journals appear, further fragmentation of radiology is encouraged. ARRS leaders believe a coherent imaging discipline incorporating all technologies and applications to all body systems will, in the long run, best serve the patient and the discipline itself. Yet, at the same time, they recognize the advantages of subspecialty disciplines within general diagnostic radiology.

Thus, when the American Roentgen Ray Society was approached by the American Society of Neuroradiology for advice about starting a journal, concern was aroused that yet another segment of the radiologic community was about to sequester its best work from the reach of general radiologists in this country. Nor was this concern unilateral. Leaders within the Society of Neuroradiology also recognized the further separation of neuroradiology that a new journal would encourage. It was with this background that the ARRS Publications Committee examined proposals that would enable *AJR* to retain access to the best neuroradiology papers while responding to the opportunity to serve the American Society of Neuroradiology.

With great pride we announce a unique concept in medical publishing—the publication of a specialty journal that will share manuscripts with a larger general readership. This new journal, the *American Journal of Neuroradiology*, is a companion publication to *AJR*. It will be the official journal of the American Society of Neuroradiology, but through a new concept will share its content with members of the American Roentgen Ray Society.

Both *AJR* and *AJNR* will strive for the highest editorial

standards. Text processing, page layout, and illustration quality will be identical. What differs in this venture is that *AJNR* will carry articles of primary interest to those in the neurosciences, and those *AJNR* papers considered of interest to other radiologists will appear in *AJR* as well. Neuroradiology papers selected by the editors for inclusion in *AJR* will be identical in both publications, thus enabling some cost efficiencies in these inflationary times. Manuscripts will appear first in *AJNR*, but will appear in *AJR* in the following month.

The new journal will appear bimonthly containing papers and a full range of features of interest to neuroradiologists. Annual subscriptions are available from the publisher of *AJR/AJNR*, Williams and Wilkins, 428 E. Preston St., Baltimore, MD 21202. Neuroradiology manuscripts directed to *AJR* will be considered as submitted to *AJNR* and will be forwarded to the Boston office for the review process. Thus, authors should submit all neuroradiology papers directly to the *AJNR* Editorial Office, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA 02114. While manuscript review and revision will be directed by the Boston office, copyediting and subsequent production stages will be handled by the *AJR* Editorial Office in Seattle.

We editors commend the two societies for the cooperative spirit this new venture reflects. We hope for success not only in promoting the special interests of neuroradiology but enhancement of the strength and coherence of general radiology. We commit ourselves to the highest standards so as to encourage a broad and respectful readership; neuroradiology deserves no less. We hope that this new journal, built on a new concept, starting in a new decade, will prosper to the advantage of both its constituencies.

Melvin M. Figley
Editor, *AJR*

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Editor, *AJNR*

REFERENCES

1. National Library of Medicine. *List of Journals Indexed in Index Medicus, 1976*. Bethesda: U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, 1976
2. National Library of Medicine. *List of Journals Indexed in Index Medicus, 1979*. Bethesda: U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, 1979