

FROM THE PRESIDENT



A new edition of the Hellenic Journal of Cardiology: New Targets

This issue of the Hellenic Cardiological Society's journal marks the beginning of a new era. The Board took certain decisions after several meetings, a summary of which follows:

1. **The scope** of the Hellenic Journal of Cardiology is to promote communication among members of the Hellenic Cardiological Society (HCS). It contributes to their ongoing education and training by presenting their scientific activities.
2. **The upgrading of its contents.** In addition to regular scientific research papers, the activities of working groups and editorials will also be published.
3. **The journal will be published monthly** when feasible. Publication material is increasing as is the research activities of Greek cardiologists.
4. **Rapidity of publication** is the primary objective of each serious scientific journal. Therefore, the initial review of submitted papers must be completed within 3 weeks. The names of peer reviewers will be published as an acknowledgment of their contribution. Reviewers who systematically do not respond in time to the requirement for rapid review will be deleted from the list.
5. **To internationalize the journal**, so that the Hellenic Journal of Cardiology will become a pole to attract high-quality scientific papers. The main feature of international journals is that they are cited in other journals. *Members must be persuaded to cite their own work previously published in the Journal (as well as that of others) in our international publications.* In this way, the HCS will take the lead in terms of time in case others might publish a similar idea in the international press, thus impacting our presence.
6. **The language of the journal.** Members of the HCS are Greek speaking. Consequently, the language of the journal cannot be anything other than Greek. Nonetheless, internationalization will be achieved more easily if the language is English. It is not possible to change the language of the journal since it would betray the main reason of its existence; communication between Greek cardiologists who are not obliged to publish in English, as it is not our official language. Parallel publication of the journal in English would be a poor solution since the more serious papers would be submitted to the English language version resulting in the downgrading of the Greek language version. A bilingual version is expensive, but is the only solution that will permit papers to be submitted for publication in our journal not only from Greece but from the international community as well and at the same time be readable throughout the world.
7. **An on-line library.** The journal must also be accessible in bilingual terms via the on-line library which the HCS has already developed.

Both the Board and the new editorial team of the journal hope that with the assistance of members of the HCS, the above objectives will be promoted and we have all reasons to look to a successful future.

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