

Editor's Page

The Hellenic Journal of Cardiology Its Ten-Year Endeavour

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The Hellenic Journal of Cardiology has been published in the Greek language for more than fifty years with consistency and quality. This journal, as the official publication of the Hellenic Cardiological Society, has contributed materially to the continuing postgraduate education of Greek cardiologists and has been an important platform for promoting the research ideas of many cardiologists over the last decades.

When, about ten years ago, at a general assembly of the Hellenic Cardiological Society, the idea of parallel publication of the Journal in English was presented, as always there were interesting remarks and views. The optimists—or more precisely, those with the vision to look further—embraced the view that our Society, one of the largest and most productive in Europe, needed a regular publication with international recognition. Others, fortunately few, saw only difficulties, weaknesses, and ultimately failure.

At that meeting in the year 2000, the main arguments behind my idea for a high quality, bimonthly English language journal for the Hellenic Cardiological Society were as follows:

- a. It is vital that the research work and scientific views of Greek cardiologists should have an international readership.
- b. Researchers of Greek origin who live and work abroad should have the opportunity to publish their research in English in a Hellenic Cardiological Society journal. In other words, I judged that it would be useful and important for our Society to bring closer those specialists in cardiovascular medicine from the Greek Diaspora.
- c. Greek publications should have the chance to be

recognised by approved databases such as PubMed/Medline.

These main arguments led to the decision to launch a new publication, which I had the honour to organise as the first Editor-in-Chief. Since then, the English language edition of the Journal has been published without interruption, with consistency, professionalism and quality.

Today, looking back, I think we can view the last ten years as unusually positive for a national medical publication. Very soon and at the first attempt the Journal was included in PubMed, offering its authors a unique opportunity for professional recognition. Contributions started to arrive from researchers of non-Greek origin.

Now, just recently, again without delays or failures, the Journal was awarded an Impact Factor, a very respectable 1.172. There can be no question that the first decade has been successful and has lived up to all our expectations.

I hope that during the next decade we will have the dynamism to promote our Journal still further. It will take professionalism, diligence, enthusiasm, and a passion for excellence.

Here, on behalf of Professor Christodoulos Stefanadis and myself, I would like to thank our most important partners and contributors in this ten-year success story by name:

- The Journal's Technical Editor, translator and webmaster, Philip Lees.
- The Journal's scientific coordinators, cardiologists Hercules Mavrakis, Constadina Aggeli and Charalambos Vlachopoulos.
- The Scientific Editors, cardiologists Nikos Alexopoulos and Dorothea Tsekoura.

Finally, we would like to thank the entire editorial and publishing team, whose unfailing loyalty and professionalism have been so essential to the Journal's success.

I am sure that all those who believe in the dynamism and the potential of our country will find the small example of our Journal to be a source of optimism and faith in a better future.