

Editorial

Dear Readers,

I am very pleased to say that *Allergy, European Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology*, is in good shape and steadily growing in importance. The number of papers submitted to our journal in the year 2000 represented approximately a 10% increase over 1999. Thus, the group of Associate Editors and the Editorial Office have to work hard to select the best contributions for publication in order to avoid producing too voluminous and expensive a journal. Unfortunately, this means that we can accept only about every third paper.

Since our journal is closely linked to our society, the EAACI, and the subscription is part of the membership, it is important that the journal contain material of interest to scientists, established specialists, and doctors in training. We have tried to respond to this need by publishing review articles and allergy review series, position statements, and original articles, as well as short communications and case reports. The AllergyNet section, introduced a few years ago, is increasingly popular as a quick way of communicating short reports.

The impact factor of the journal is often discussed. Although this factor does not represent an indication of scientific quality, but rather indicates whether people

read the articles, good or bad, it is a concern also for the Editorial Office of *Allergy*. Unfortunately, due to a misunderstanding by the Institute for Scientific Information, the non-peer-reviewed AllergyNet reports have been included in the impact factor calculations. Since the number of published articles is included in these calculations, regardless of their length, the large number of very short AllergyNet reports has had a negative effect on the impact factor. I am therefore pleased to announce that, from the year 2000, the AllergyNet reports will not be included in the calculations, a change which we expect will result in an increase of about 30% in the next impact factor for *Allergy*.

However, the most important factor for *Allergy* is the opinion of our subscribers. The steady increase in papers submitted for publication is a good indication. However, please consider submitting even more of your best articles to *Allergy*. In addition to being listed in all the important databases and being available in the full text format on the Internet, *Allergy* also has, by far, the largest circulation in its field in Europe.

S. G. O. Johansson
Editor-in-Chief