



Change for the Readers' Sake

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In 1993, *The International Journal of Oral & Maxillofacial Implants* will begin publication of its eighth volume of scientific literature devoted to the management of patients utilizing implant modalities and the reporting of results of basic and clinical research by investigators whose studies embrace the implant concept. The journal was conceived in 1985 in response to a need for the dissemination of current information related to a rapidly expanding field of implant dentistry, which had been stimulated by the recent emergence of the osseointegration concept. Professional response to *JOMI* has been most positive, and acceptance has been widespread internationally. The interdisciplinary Academy of Osseointegration has made *JOMI* its official publication and provides complimentary subscriptions to the journal as a feature of membership affiliation. Our editorial staff has been keenly aware of ever-increasing competition in implant journalism but has been unwavering in pursuit of its goal to encourage excellence by publishing only manuscripts with scientific quality.

The broad acceptance of *JOMI* is best illustrated by the steady influx of pertinent papers for publication from authors all over the world. The number of manuscripts submitted on an annual basis has grown by at least 10% per year, providing the opportunity to publish more quality articles while establishing acceptance priorities for the inclusion of material related to basic or clinical research, procedural or technical reports, educational projects, and case reports. The page count of recent volumes has increased steadily, with the publication of 424 pages in Volume 5 (1990), 508 pages in Volume 6 (1991), and 564 pages in Volume 7 (1992). Practical journal size as well as costs related to postage for each *JOMI* issue have reached levels prompting the reassessment of status quo.

Encouraged by growing manuscript submissions, the desire to limit significant accepted paper backlog, and economic ramifications, early in 1992 the decision was made to increase the number of issues per volume by two. Thus, effective in 1993, ***JOMI* will be published bimonthly.** It is projected that Volume 8 will increase to approximately 720 pages, with an average per-issue page count of 120. This action will enable the publication of even more papers, and authors should see their papers in print earlier than in the recent past. You, the authors and readers of *JOMI*, have spoken with your gratifying response, and the journal is pleased to make changes accordingly.

Not only will more issues be forthcoming in 1993, but *JOMI* will have a new face. The cover has been attractively redesigned to provide more definite identification.

JOMI is also pleased to introduce two new section editors. Photographs and brief biographical information are presented on page 440 of this issue. Replacing the late Ralph Phillips as editor for biomaterials and bioengineering is Dr John Brunski from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, New York. Relieving Anthony Melcher, who edited the periodontics-oral biology section since *JOMI* inception, is Dr Michael Newman, private practitioner of periodontics in Los Angeles and co-director of the UCLA Periodontal Research Center. Dr Melcher retired in June 1992, after an outstanding teaching and administrative career at the University of Toronto. In addition, perusal of the *JOMI* consultant roster in the first issue of 1993 will find a number of changes reflecting the policy of regular personnel rotation to assure ongoing expertise among reviewing contributors.

These changes in production and staffing reflect continuing dedication to the provision of a quality literary product for the scientist and practicing clinician with interests in the field of implant dentistry.

Changes for the sake of change are not infrequently implemented to increase awareness and stimulate acceptance. Changes for *JOMI* readers' sake have been and are currently being made in response to their demand for a quality professional journal, read by an ever-growing audience, that will review and publish significant original manuscripts containing current, accurate information and include feature sections of interest. Hopefully, these factors all combine to provide a periodical publication that our readers will now look forward to receiving with great anticipation every other month. If *JOMI* does not, let us know how we can make it better, for *your* sake!