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EDITORIAL

A new journal is out of the box

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In a time of rapid changes, with well-respected publishers around the world printing journals with high ranking citations, we are assisting in the creation of the Journal of Clinical Pharmacology & Pharmacoepidemiology.

Only a couple of years ago, together with a small but very enthusiastic group of colleagues from at least three different countries from two different continents, we made a decision to publish this journal based on an idea conceived well before we had any experience writing protocols, analyzing data, and drafting and peer-reviewing manuscripts. I was both extremely pleased and surprised when scientists from 15 different countries joined to our venture as part of the Editorial Board.

From this point, we moved forward step by step, firmly convinced to create a journal publishing the entire spectrum of clinical and epidemiological studies related to drug development, from phase I to IV, including, pharmacokinetic studies, drug-drug interaction, dose-response, dose-finding, and dose-minimization evaluations, pharmaco-economic studies, systematic reviews, meta-analyses and pharmacovigilance studies.

Case reports are also considered for publication if there is a clear novel contribution to the diagnosis or treatment of an adverse drug reaction or acute poisoning. Analyses of philosoph-

ical, ethical or social aspects of drug research in humans are also welcome.

The delivery of the first issue of the journal was an enormous responsibility. The 'cooking' process was long, and in some cases tedious, but it never stopped. All the manuscripts were reviewed by one member of the Editorial Board and by at least one external reviewer, and in order to minimize any potential conflict of interests, I was not involved in the editorial process of the papers coauthored by myself.

In this issue, the first of the journal, we were able to include one review paper written by an international authority in the study of drug safety in pregnancy, two original papers, and a case report. Adrienne EINARSON reviewed the various methods of studying drug use in pregnancy and described their strengths and weaknesses and supported each by examples from the literature to illustrate each method [1]. In a retrospective cohort study design, PARK et al. showed that uterine hyperactivity induced by intravaginal administration of controlled-release dinoprostone may increase the rate of cesarean sections without increasing the frequency of neonatal adverse outcomes [2]. DESJARDINS et al. demonstrated that the removal of rofecoxib from the Ontario and Québec markets resulted in an immediate decrease followed by a slow increase in all NSAID claims [3]. Finally, HONG

et al., reporting a case of paternal exposure to irbesartan as part of a combination therapy with other antihypertensive drugs and antidiabetics, suggested that irbesartan does not alter sperm cells or increase the risk for fetal malformations [4].

The journal is published electronically in the English language only. However, the abstracts are available in three different languages. Translation of the abstracts to French and Spanish was made possible by colleagues who spontaneously volunteered for this task.

This issue was supported by submission fees for original papers and case reports and by generous support from PharmaReasons, Toronto, Canada. However, the final acceptance of the manuscripts was independent of the journal's supporter. All the manuscripts can be downloaded at no cost.

As Editor, I express gratitude to my friends and colleagues who worked alongside with me since the beginning of this project. I appreciate the effort of all the members of the Editorial Board, the external reviewers, and the personnel involved in the editing and publishing processes. Finally, the authors and the readers of this journal deserve a note of gratitude for trusting us.

We already have received enough material for the next issue, and we are extremely committed to decrease the long timelines that it took to process

the manuscripts from their submission to their publication.

We are improving every day, and your participation is always welcome.

Thank you to all of you!

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