

## EDITORIAL UPDATE

*The aim of this report is to provide the readership of the Lebanese Medical Journal (LMJ) a brief summary of the current status of the Journal. As stated in my previous editorials, the goals of the LMJ are (1) to insure publication of highest quality of manuscripts, both in-depth reviews and original clinical research ; (2) to increase the readership of the LMJ ; (3) to ensure rapid and fair manuscript reviews and rapid publication of papers ; (4) to provide a vehicle for transmission of recent advances in various fields of medicine. Many of these goals are being implemented.*

*Although the goal of publishing the highest quality of manuscripts in the general field of medicine has been challenging to achieve, the quality of the published articles, by several objective measures such readership surveys, acceptance rate, is rated to be very good.*

*As in previous years, the number of submitted manuscripts continues to increase, with most submissions being from Lebanon.*

*The acceptance rate of submitted manuscript averages over 40-50%. Further, the review process has been shortened from 12 weeks to 6 weeks, and the time from acceptance of an article to its appearance in print has also shortened. Although the review process remains prolonged, the editorial board is attempting to shorten further the evaluation process. With the reduction of evaluation process, the backlog of unpublished manuscripts has been corrected.*

*In addition to publishing in-depth reviews and original clinical research, the plan is to continue publishing issues on special topics and continuing education corners. During the coming year, a special issue on HIV disease will be published.*

*To conclude, I greatly appreciate the privilege of serving as editor to the LMJ. I am also grateful to you, readers, authors, editorial board members, reviewers, for your support of the LMJ and for your excellent scientific contributions. I will also like to thank the help of Jacqueline Chahine for her excellent secretarial services and Michèle Valligny for her expertise without which it would have been impossible to reach such an excellent printed magazine.*

Adel E. BIRBARI  
Editor in Chief