Nothing endures but change


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1 Simon A Jackson, FRCS, FRCR and 2 Kevin M Prise, PhD

1 Imaging Directorate, Derriford Hospital, Plymouth, UK
2 Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology, Queen’s University Belfast, Belfast, UK

Address correspondence to: Dr Simon A Jackson
E-mail: simon.jackson1@nhs.net

As we start 2017, the new year provides an opportunity to reflect on the developments that BJR has witnessed during 2016 as well as offers an insight into future directions for the journal. Firstly, the editorial team has undergone a number of changes with me, Dr Simon Jackson, commencing my tenure as Editor-in-Chief (Medical) and joining Professor Kevin Prise as Editor-in-Chief (Scientific). We both look forward to working together and are honoured to be offered the opportunity to help drive forward the strategic direction of BJR.

We would both also like to thank on behalf of the journal, Dr Nigel Hoggard, our outgoing Editor-in-Chief (Medical), for his input and leadership over the past 3 years, which has helped focus the journal development and we wish him well for the future.

2016 has been an exceptionally busy year, with BJR continuing to attract articles across a broad scope reflecting the aspirations of the journal as an international, multidisciplinary publication covering the clinical and technical aspects of medical imaging, radiotherapy, oncology, medical physics, radiobiology and underpinning sciences. We have maintained a highly competitive time period from acceptance to publication and whilst the journal has continued to accept a range of full papers and short communications, emphasis has been specifically placed on commissioned articles such as high-quality reviews, systematic reviews, commentaries and guidelines and recommendations.

In addition, BJR has also published a series of high-quality special issues. During 2016, these have included features on interventional musculoskeletal (MSK) radiology (guest edited by Professor Giuseppe Gutierrez and Professor Carlo Masciocchi) and emergency and trauma radiology (guest edited by Professor Mariano Scaglione). This month also sees the publication of a highly topical special feature on small animal radiation therapy (guest edited by Professor Kevin Prise and Professor Frank Verhaegen) with an issue covering aspects of medical screening scheduled for the latter part of 2017. As always, the editorial team welcomes suggestions from our readership for additional special features. Please email bjrofice@bir.org.uk with your suggestions.

The breadth of topics published is also exemplified by our top cited articles during 2015–2016 which include: A review of recent advances in optical fibre sensors for in vivo dosimetry during radiotherapy; Proton radiography and tomography with application to proton therapy; Lung radiofrequency and microwave ablation: a review of indications, techniques and post-procedural imaging appearances; Future development of biologically relevant dosimetry; Ultrasound-guided interventional procedures around the shoulder; and last but not least a Feasibility study of low tube voltage (80 kVp) coronary CT angiography combined with contrast medium reduction using iterative model reconstruction on patients with a standard body mass index.

Any journal cannot expect to thrive and develop without an expert and diligent publishing team. We are most fortunate to have Sophia Anderton as our Head of Publishing and her team, which has recently been strengthened by the recruitment of Tami Potten and Miranda Wilson-Wood, as Editorial Development Manager and Content Development Editor, respectively. Both Tami and Miranda bring strong track records of scientific publishing experience. They join our Editorial Administrator Vanessa Brunt who amongst her many tasks efficiently oversees distribution of the many
submitted articles received each month. As editors, we are immensely fortunate to have such a professional team supporting us, alongside an exceptional group of both senior and associate editors who with due diligence help drive the journal forward on a daily basis. In addition, we would also like to acknowledge the support and hard work of the many reviewers who selflessly continue to provide their time and expertise to BJR.

Looking forward, we plan to continue with the strategic aims of the journal in order to publish the latest results of high-quality research and associated content. Whilst quality can be measured in many ways, this will include further expanding BJR international profile and perspective, ensuring that we continue to attract great research from around the world. In addition, we will also focus on the vital and never-ending task of improving the efficiency and quality of our review process. Another development will be the introduction of CPD-enhanced content as well as increased use of online media such as webinars and podcasts (https://www.birpublications.org/page/podcasts) in order to facilitate the learning opportunities for our readership.

We conclude by thanking again our editorial board for their expert guidance, our reviewers for their support and our many authors for trusting their work in our hands. Lastly, thank you to yourselves as readers for helping to make BJR a success and we hope that we can continue to count on your support throughout 2017. Happy new year!

REFERENCES