



EDITORIAL

Looking back but moving forward

We are delighted to close Sleep Medicine Reviews Volume 11 with an issue focused on Chronobiology in Psychiatry. Professor Anna Wirz-Justice's Guest Editorial provides an excellent context and introduction to the seven reviews on this important topic that follow. This focused issue completes another chapter in SMR's on-going efforts to provide you with state-of-the-art reviews to support your sleep medicine practice and sleep research activities.

We are extremely gratified that SMR continues to grow in both readership and influence. Our readership is best assessed using Elsevier's ScienceDirect platform. ScienceDirect is a web-based platform that allows SMR readers to download the full text of SMR reviews. The number of annual SMR full-text downloads continues to grow at an impressive rate. In 2005 SMR readers made 67,315 such downloads. In 2006 this grew by nearly 10% to a total of 73,653 full-text downloads. Extrapolating from the number of downloads by the readership during the first 6 months of this year, SMR is on track to see this grow a further 17% to a total of ~86,000 downloads for 2007, which translates to over 7000 SMR reviews downloaded each month.

SMR's influence in the field has grown in parallel with this impressive growth in readership. One indicator of this influence is SMR's Science Citation Index (SCI) impact factor, a calculation indicating how frequently the average SMR review article is cited in the literature. SMR's impact factors for 2004 and 2005 were 3.703 and 3.967, respectively. SMR's 2006 impact factor is 5.083.

A second indicator of SMR's increasing influence on sleep research and sleep medicine is the increase of the Journal's SCI immediacy index. The immediacy index indicates how quickly articles in a journal are cited in the literature. SMR's 2004

and 2005 immediacy indices were .933 and 1.433, respectively. SMR's 2006 immediacy index is 1.701.

Putting the Journal's 2006 impact factor and immediacy index into perspective; based on impact factor SMR is ranked 13th out of the 146 journals in the ISI Clinical Neurology category and 29th out of the 199 journals in the ISI Neurosciences category and based on immediacy index SMR is ranked 3rd and 10th in those respective categories.

As editors we cannot help but be very pleased that the Journal is being both so widely read and so widely and rapidly cited in the literature. This indicates to us that we are reaching both of our target audiences; practitioners of sleep medicine and academic sleep researchers. Apparently we are doing something right. And you have our solemn promise that we shall continue to do so.

To tempt you with some hints of things to come, SMR's 12th volume promises to provide our usual mix of clinical and physiological reviews, commentaries and replies. You can also expect to see the occasional theoretical and historical review as well. SMR 12 will also contain a number of focused issues including two on sleep apnea, one on narcolepsy and another on post-traumatic stress.

Once again we close by inviting our readers to provide suggestions for review topics they would like to see addressed in SMR, and to offer their comments and opinions on any of the reviews or other features published in the Journal. Such contributions will be published at our discretion. Please send any such suggestions or submissions directly to us via email at vitiello@u.washington.edu or krieger.jean@laposte.net.

We trust you will join us next year, as we make every effort to continue to improve SMR. And, as always, we wish each of you informative and enjoyable reading.

Michael V. Vitiello
Psychiatry and Behavioural Sciences,
University of Washington, P.O. Box 356560, Seattle,
WA 98195-6560, USA
E-mail address: vitiello@u.washington.edu

Jean Krieger
Professeur Honoraire
Faculté de Médecine, Université Louis Pasteur,
rue Kirschleger F-67000 Strasbourg, France
E-mail address: krieger.jean@laposte.net

Available online at www.sciencedirect.com

