Neurology India: The new team

J. M. K. Murthy

Editor, Neurology India

Address for correspondence:
J. M. K. Murthy,
Editor, Neurology India
E-mail: editor@neurologyindia.com

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Neurology India is the most widely read and highly cited peer-reviewed Indian medical specialty journal. It is indeed my privilege to be the Editor of such an important Indian medical journal. I am joined by a dedicated group of Associate Editors and also Experienced Senior Academicians as Members of the Editorial Board. My predecessor, Dr. Atul Goel, contributed monumental work for Neurology India. During his tenure, Neurology India transitioned to a Web-based manuscript submission and peer-review tracking system. He introduced several initiatives and turned the journal into one of the most highly-cited Indian medical journals. We should also acknowledge the contributions made by Dr. D. K. Sahu, the Executive Editor, for the growth of the journal. He will continue to be associated with the journal in the same capacity.

The primary aim of the Editorial Board is to provide the neurosciences (neurologists, neurosurgeons, and allied specialists) community with outstanding peer-reviewed articles, editorials, and reviews to enhance patient care, clinical research, and professionalism. In this direction, the Editorial Board has planned several changes. The most obvious change will be that beginning with this first issue of 2009, Neurology India will be published as a bi-monthly journal. We have also redesigned the journal format to enhance readability and aesthetics. We have introduced a new feature, Neurosciences – Indian Perspective, with this issue. Several additional revisions are under consideration. We will shortly be placing “publish ahead of print”. The accepted articles that have been judged to have an impact on patient care and clinical research will be published online.

The publishing climate is fiercely competitive. Neurology India receives about 600 manuscript submissions per year. International submissions represent a majority of papers. The Editorial Board is committed to providing the authors with the shortest possible time to publication for their research work. Several systems have been initiated to shorten the time interval between submission and publication and these changes will soon be in place. We have asked our reviewers to shorten their review time to 3 weeks. We are trying to limit the entire peer-review process to a minimum period. Manuscripts that the Editorial Board judges highly unlikely to be accepted for publication will not be subjected to further peer-review. We will be notifying these authors regarding the decision with rapid notification. Certain guidelines are being evolved to identify such articles.

I, along with the other members of the Editorial Board, look forward to exciting times for Neurology India that meet the needs of the members of Neurological Society of India, readers, and authors.