



Editorial

A letter from the editor

Dear *NLM* readers:

During the past year, the journal made great strides in our mission to serve better the authors and readers of *NLM* articles. I want to summarize some of the highlights for you.

- There was a significant increase in the impact factor for *NLM*, from 2.76 in 2003 to 4.44 in 2004. With this increase, *NLM* jumped 40 places in the rankings of neuroscience journals.
- Pubmed now lists, and searches include, all *NLM* articles as soon as they appear online in the *NLM* “in press” list. The listings are available up to 2 months before the appearance of the article in a printed issue.
- In the past year, downloads of articles in *NLM* increased at a rate more than 3 times the average increase seen overall in Elsevier neuroscience journals.
- After being relatively steady for several years, submissions nearly doubled in 2005 compared to 2004.
- All papers with corrected proofs in hand are now published in the next *NLM* issue not yet in production, with a flexible number of pages per issue. Therefore, there is never a buildup of papers awaiting publication.

With the Elsevier staff, we have worked diligently to speed up the time from submission to publication. In particular, *NLM* Associate Editors Cliff Abraham and David Sweatt have done an outstanding job of carefully and promptly handling articles assigned to them.

I also want to acknowledge the excellent and timely reviews we receive from our expanding reviewer base. Thank you to all reviewers. Without you this journal would not be able to publish high-quality research articles.

The increases in impact factor and number of submissions suggest that authors have noticed the enhancements we have undertaken to speed articles to press. The increase in downloads indicates that the readers are also taking notice of the high quality of the articles that appear in *NLM*.

The editors are proud of the progress the journal has made and hope that additional refinements in the future will continue to enhance the success of the journal. We look forward to receiving your comments, your continued support, particularly with careful and timely reviews, and especially your manuscript submissions in the coming year.

Editor-in-Chief

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