Time to Move on to the Next Stage and Open our Door to the World

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“Life is short, the art long”
—Hippocrates

W e have the truly great honor of introducing the new English format of the official journal of the Japanese Society of Nuclear Cardiology (JSNC) under the name Annals of Nuclear Cardiology (ANC). The JSNC Executive Committee has had intense discussions on the promotion of research undertakings and educational activities for members. Immediate past President, Dr. Yoshio Ishida, was eager to improve the quality of the official journal and to include good review articles in it. Under Dr. Ishida’s direction, immediate past Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Kenichi Nakajima, upgraded the JSNC newsletter and it became the journal Shinzo Kaku Igaku (Nuclear Cardiology) in July 2013. Dr. Nakajima established Shinzo Kaku Igaku as a scientific journal and successfully published many significant review articles while also paving the way to publishing original articles in it. In June 2014, Dr. Akira Yamashina took over the role of President and committed to furthering the quality and breadth of basic and clinical research and education for physicians and technologists (1). Dr. Nakajima has since been promoted to Vice-President of JSNC, and I have therefore taken over the important role of Editor-in-Chief. I am grateful to the Executive Board members of JSNC for their confidence in selecting me to serve in this capacity, and, with the collaboration of my new editorial board members, I sincerely hope to set us on the path of excellence.

JSNC has had successful annual scientific meetings since 2007. The next step in advancing our work should be to improve our scientific journal and to promote the publication of members’ scientific research. In order to present our research to the broader worldwide scientific community, Dr. Yamashina and the Executive Board therefore decided to launch this English version of our scientific journal. I know that many young physicians and technologists have made excellent presentations at several international scientific conferences; however, the number of publications is still limited and some manuscripts have been published in Japanese only. As the Editor-in-Chief, I am responsible for turning our official journal into an international journal.

The scope of ANC is twofold: to present research related to nuclear cardiology and to promote the education of young physicians and technologists. ANC will feature original articles, technological points of view, images in nuclear cardiology, and review articles. I encourage young researchers to undertake the process to have their research published in ANC. Without feeling a certain love and passion for our own data, we may find it difficult to seek to have it published. Without having done proper data analysis and interpretation, we may encounter difficulties in having our work published. Without following the proper tactics, we will find it difficult to be accepted by any journal (2). I have learned these things throughout my career. I believe our editorial board members have also had lots of experience related to getting published and will therefore support authors throughout the review process and provide important and useful tactics to our members (2). I hope this practical information will improve the quality of our science going forward. I also hope that one day we will publish excellent and important manu-

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scripts that will influence clinical practice moving into the future.

As mentioned earlier, we hope that manuscripts published in the ANC will reach readers around the world. The best way for a journal to obtain wider exposure is to be registered on PubMed, which is frequently consulted by institutions such as the United States National Library of Medicine. Once a journal has broad readership, and the hurdles to obtaining impact factor have been overcome, interest in the publication will grow and the number of submissions to it will increase. Journals such as ANC that are focused on specific research topics are not usually expected to have high impact factor when compared to journals that deal with general topics (3). While it is not the immediate aim of our editorial board members to have ANC achieve a high impact factor, journals with impact factor tend to attract great attention, and therefore we hope to obtain an impact factor in the near future. In order to apply for registration with PubMed, ANC needs members and non-members to submit manuscripts for publication. We are looking to ANC members for wide support in this regard. We also realize the importance of the timely publication of accepted manuscripts. Therefore, ANC will publish these original articles, technical points of view, and images in nuclear cardiology online in EPUB before the print version of the journal is issued.

I hope that many JSNC members will take advantage of ANC in order to expose their scientific work to researchers, technologists, and physicians worldwide. I hope the Annals of Nuclear Cardiology will open the door of the Japanese Society of Nuclear Cardiology to the world, including the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology and many scientific communities. This debut issue of ANC (4,5) is the first step in doing so. With JSNC members’ support, our editorial board will do its best to achieve our goal of making ANC a truly international scientific journal.

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Conflicts of Interest
None

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