

Mark Williams, MD, FACP

Hospital Medicine Unit, Department of Medicine,
Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta,
Georgia

One Year Done & Moving Onward

One year of the *Journal of Hospital Medicine* is done, and we now embark on our second with this first issue of volume 2. Before moving on, I heartily thank all the authors who contributed their manuscripts to the *Journal of Hospital Medicine (JHM)*, bravely investing in this new academic periodical. A remarkable 284 manuscripts have been submitted since we first opened the *JHM* Web site, 197 of them during 2006. This clearly reflects the robust demand by hospitalists and their colleagues for original research and relevant clinical reviews about our evolving specialty of hospital medicine. I probably should not be surprised that this demand exists among the 15,000-plus hospitalists in America and the 6000-plus members of the Society of Hospital Medicine. Regardless, I am ineffably humbled by the enthusiasm and energy of all the contributors.

Understandably, this volume of submissions, exceeding our projections by nearly 50%, required yeoman's work by our associate editors and reviewers. On page 55 we list the 203 reviewers who donated their time and acumen to assure the quality of our publication. Many reviewed more than 4 articles during the year. Our associate editors deserve particular appreciation and gratitude for their willingness to donate extraordinary amounts of time and effort to ensure the success of *JHM*—Vincent Chang from Boston Children's Hospital, Scott Flanders from the University of Michigan, Karen Hauer from the University of California, San Francisco, Jean Kutner from the University of Colorado, James Pile from Cleveland MetroHealth, and Kaveh Shojanian from the University of Ottawa. Additionally, the energetic assistant editors have supported them and me with frequent reviews, article submissions, and creative ideas for improving the journal. Finally, our auspicious editorial board has proffered sage guidance, and many of its members have also submitted manuscripts and participated in reviewing articles.

Moving forward we expect continued growth, as both the submitted articles and demand for the journal are being recognized. At 7:29 a.m. on November 30, 2006, Vickie Thaw (Vice President and Publisher, John Wiley & Sons, Inc.) called me to report that the National Library of Medicine validated all our efforts. The *Journal of Hospital Medicine* had been selected for indexing and inclusion in the National Library of Medicine's MEDLINE (Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System Online). The primary component of PubMed®, MEDLINE is a bibliographic database containing approximately 13 million references to journal articles on medicine, nursing, dentistry, veterinary medicine, health care systems, and preclinical sciences dating to the mid-1960s. With this approval, hospital medicine has achieved another milestone in its evolution into a new specialty.

We now hope to respond to the robust interest in clinical

materials as well as to continue publication of original research. To achieve our aim of increasing the amount of clinically relevant content for practicing hospitalists, authors are encouraged to submit to *JHM* case reports, clinical updates, and clinical images that convey novel or underappreciated teaching points. Teaching points may be purely clinical and may focus on clinical “pearls” or unusual presentations of well-known diseases, although submission of straightforward presentations of rare diseases is discouraged. Alternatively, manuscripts may involve succinct case-based descriptions of innovations, quality improvement–related issues, or medical errors. Submitted case reports should be less than 800 words and should contain a maximum of 5 references and no more than 1 table or figure. Case reports should not include an abstract. Submission of the “case report and review” type should be avoided. Instead, we seek formal “clinical updates” of no more than 2000 words that present

important aspects of a case along with new research findings and citations from the literature that change what has historically been the standard of delivery of care. Finally, we continue to seek cases most appropriate for the Hospital Images Dx section, edited by Paul Aronowitz. They should be submitted with that designation and have fewer than 150 words. These 3 categories are identified on our Manuscript Central website (<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jhm>).

Again, thanks to all of you for making the launch of the *Journal of Hospital Medicine* an unqualified success. We look forward to your continued participation as we grow as the premier journal for the specialty of hospital medicine.

P.S. Sadly, one of our superstar associate editors, Kaveh Shojania, is stepping aside, and we sincerely express thanks for his terrific contributions. We welcome suggestions for an alternative to fulfill his responsibilities.