We are pleased to announce that Circulation will remain in its present Editorial office in Houston, Texas until June 30, 2004. The Scientific Publishing Committee of the American Heart Association has made this decision, and we are pleased to continue to be the stewards of Circulation. We renew our pledge to maintain a balanced journal, one that communicates the best of the research advances in clinical cardiovascular medicine and in basic science relating to the elucidation of mechanisms responsible for human cardiovascular diseases. We are also committed to rapid review, timely decisions, and the rapid presentation of these research advances. Our commitment to find better ways to communicate important cardiovascular research advances led to our determination to publish Circulation on a weekly basis, which we have now done for 22 months. Toward the goal of further enhancing Circulation’s ability to publish some of the very best work in cardiovascular medicine, we now announce additional alterations in our publication policy.

1. We shall accept manuscripts for review on a Rapid Track for Publication for the most important clinical research trials and for carefully selected major clinical and basic science discoveries related to cardiovascular medicine. In this category, we shall review manuscripts within 2 weeks and publish them Online within 1 to 2 weeks of their acceptance for publication. Those manuscripts accepted for publication will be published in the print journal within 4 to 5 weeks. This Rapid Track is intended to extend the Brief Rapid Communication capability to major clinical trials and major clinical and basic research advances. The overall length of the Rapid Track manuscripts will be the same as for regular manuscripts submitted to Circulation, i.e., 5000 words or less. We shall continue to receive manuscripts in the Brief Rapid Communication category, where manuscripts are reduced in length and also reviewed and published rapidly.

2. We have increased the number of Associate Editors (AEs) for Circulation to further enhance our ability to review and communicate decisions rapidly. The additional AEs also strengthen our scientific depth in several areas of cardiovascular medicine. The new AEs are Mario Verani, MD; Blase Carabello, MD; José López, MD; A.J. Marian, MD; Dianna Milewicz, MD, PhD; Hasan Garan, MD; and Mark Majesky, PhD. The addition of these physicians/scientists and researchers will enhance our ability to review and communicate timely decisions.

3. Effective now, all Letters to the Editor, Book Reviews, Clinopathological Conferences, and News will be presented Online Only. We shall endeavor to publish Letters to the Editor Online Only as rapidly as possible following their acceptance.

4. We shall continue our policy of rapid in-house review of all manuscripts submitted to Circulation. Previously, we returned manuscripts to authors with only the Editors’ review within a few days or weeks of their receipt when we determined that a manuscript would not receive the priority needed for publication in Circulation. However, we have recently begun a policy of returning manuscripts to authors without review within 1 to 2 days of their receipt when we determine they will not receive the priority needed for publication in Circulation. We anticipate this will avoid unnecessary delay for the author in submitting the manuscript to another journal.

5. We are making modifications to the Editorial Board to be effective January 1, 2000. Appointment to the Editorial Board of Circulation is an honor, but it carries very specific responsibilities. We expect that members of the Editorial Board will review manuscripts sent to them on a timely basis and communicate their opinions to our Editorial office promptly. It is not acceptable for Editorial Board members to indicate that they are unavailable to review manuscripts on a recurrent basis other than those special times when they are truly overwhelmed by other commitments. However, this must be relatively infrequent.

6. In the future, we wish to receive manuscripts from authors, reviews from referees, and to communicate decisions on manuscripts by electronic medium whenever possible. When it is not possible, we shall use fax as we have previously done. We are presently in the process of examining and evaluating software that will give us the capability to receive manuscripts electronically and have them reviewed on a secure Website via the Internet. The details of the process are being discussed by the American Heart Association and Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, and more information for authors and reviewers will be forthcoming.

7. We shall celebrate Circulation’s 50th Anniversary beginning January 2000 by providing a monthly review of Circulation’s contributions to each of the important areas of cardiovascular medicine in the past 50 years.

It is a privilege for the current Editors to be responsible for Circulation for an extended time. We are strongly committed to the presentation of important work. We are equally committed to rapid review, timely decisions, and prompt publication of the work that is selected, both in the electronic and printed media. We are dependent on reviewers agreeing to evaluate manuscripts, providing timely reviews, and communicating decisions. Working together with our readership, it should be possible to help Circulation move to an even higher level of contribution in the future.
Toward the Further Contributions of *Circulation*

James T. Willerson

for the Editors of *Circulation*

*Circulation*. 2000;101:e1
doi: 10.1161/01.CIR.101.1.e1

*Circulation* is published by the American Heart Association, 7272 Greenville Avenue, Dallas, TX 75231
Copyright © 2000 American Heart Association, Inc. All rights reserved.
Print ISSN: 0009-7322. Online ISSN: 1524-4539

The online version of this article, along with updated information and services, is located on the World Wide Web at:
http://circ.ahajournals.org/content/101/1/e1

Permissions: Requests for permissions to reproduce figures, tables, or portions of articles originally published in *Circulation* can be obtained via RightsLink, a service of the Copyright Clearance Center, not the Editorial Office. Once the online version of the published article for which permission is being requested is located, click Request Permissions in the middle column of the Web page under Services. Further information about this process is available in the Permissions and Rights Question and Answer document.

Reprints: Information about reprints can be found online at:
http://www.lww.com/reprints

Subscriptions: Information about subscribing to *Circulation* is online at:
http://circ.ahajournals.org//subscriptions/