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Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition Editor Comment: Progress, Transition, and Thank You!

Melvin B. Heyman

After a decade as editor-in-chief of our Journal, I am pleased to welcome Dr Sandeep Gupta as my successor, beginning in January, 2021. Dr Gupta has made notable contributions to pediatric gastroenterology, both as an educator and an accomplished investigator in basic and clinical sciences. Most relevant, he has established and has directed the *JPGN*-CME for the last 7 years, and more recently added MOC to the Journal's CME program. He has proposed several innovative initiatives that will further extend the Journal's upward trajectory and impact in the 2020s.

In 2011, I agreed with the late Dr David Branski, editor-in-chief of the EU section of the Journal, to limit the publication of clinical case reports by the Journal. This year, we introduced a sister publication, *JPGN Reports*, to provide a venue for case reports and to further enhance the impact of our flagship Journal. I am pleased to continue as editor-in-chief of this new venture.

During my tenure, we have implemented several measures intended to streamline the manuscript review process and enrich our journal for its readership: a Rapid Communications category featuring a 7-day turnaround and publication of certain manuscripts within 2 weeks after submission; several subsections were added, based on rapidly expanding areas of research and clinical practice, grouping articles related to inflammatory bowel disease, celiac disease, eosinophilic gastrointestinal disorders, and pancreatic disorders; and CME credit for reviewers as well as readers. This year, we introduced Infographics to enhance the Journal's visibility, particularly of research articles.

JPGN takes a large team to succeed. In addition to the authors whose manuscripts are fundamental to the Journal's success, our professional societies have made important contributions with a growing number of guidelines and clinical communications. Our reviewer base has expanded to meet the surging load of submissions—in 2010, the Journal recorded approximately 750; in 2020, we are on track to receive over 1300. The Journal's growing selectivity and competitiveness are quantifiably reflected in the increase of our impact factor from approximately 2 in 2010 to a

factor of 3 during the past 2 years, within the upper tiers compared with most pediatric specialty publications.

The Journal could not operate effectively without the dedicated efforts of our Associate Editors from across North America, 3 of whom served with me for the entire 10-year period (Drs Philip Rosenthal, Michael Thaler, and Justine Turner), and all the other Associate Editors (Drs Michael Cabana, Steven Czinn, Cheryl Garipey, Ivor Hill, Mark Lowe, Dan Merenstein, Sam Nurko, Michelle Pietzak, and Rachel Rosen) and special editors (Drs. Douglas Fishman, Stefano Guandalini, Sandeep Gupta, Maria Oliva-Hemker, Robert Kramer, Diana Lerner, Petar Mamula, Joel Rosh, Charlie Vanderpool, consulting editor Neal Leleiko, and our past editors from Latin America, Daniel D'Agostino, and Ricardo Uauy) who throughout these years along with many others have assisted me with essential tasks, such as selecting reviewers and making decisions regarding acceptability for publication. I have also enjoyed and benefited from our close relationship with the ESPGHAN-EU office and their editorial board representatives for our shared Journal. I am indebted especially to the EU editors-in-chief, beginning with the late Dr Branski who gave me invaluable advice at the beginning of my tenure. I am grateful for the collegiality and cooperative spirit of the subsequent editors-in-chief, Drs Raanan Shamir, Hania Szajewska, and Dominique Belli, the current editor-in-chief.

None of us could succeed without the backbone of the Journal, the publishers, formerly David Myers and presently Alexandra Manieri, and the managing editors, our Marianna Hagan and Phyllis Barr for the EU. My thanks also go to the NASPGHAN leadership for supporting my efforts throughout my tenure.

Overall, I deeply appreciate all who entrusted me with the Journal for the past 10 years. It has been a thoroughly gratifying experience. I am confident that under Dr Gupta's leadership, the Journal will continue to thrive and will further strengthen its impact in promoting scientific and clinical advances in pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology, pancreatology and nutrition in the decade ahead.

From the Professor of Pediatrics, University of California, San Francisco, CA.

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The author reports no conflicts of interest.

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