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Introducing the New Editor-In-Chief

Robert W. Derlet, MD
Outgoing Editor-in-Chief

It is with great pleasure that I introduce to our readers, the new Editor-in-Chief of *The California Journal of Emergency Medicine*, Robert M. Rodriguez, MD. Dr. Rodriguez was appointed by the Board of Directors of the California Chapter of the American Academy of Emergency Medicine. Dr. Rodriguez attended the University of Notre Dame and then moved on to receive his medical degree at Harvard Medical School. He completed a combined Internal Medicine/Emergency Medicine residency at the UCLA Medical Center/Olive View program. He then completed a two-year critical care fellowship at Stanford Medical Center, during which he served as an attending physician at the Stanford Medical Center emergency department. After a three year stint as an Assistant Professor with the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center emergency medicine residency, he accepted a faculty position with the University of California-San Francisco at the Highland General Hospital campus. He attends in both the emergency department and in the intensive care unit and was chosen Teacher of the Year at the Highland Emergency Medicine residency in 2001. Rob has been involved at the national level and is one of the movers and shakers in emergency medicine. He has published multiple articles focusing on critically ill patients in the emergency department and can be seen presenting abstracts at both the SAEM and ACEP annual meetings, as well as at other academic meetings.

Rob has been involved in manuscript reviews and editorial duties across a wide range. He has served as an editor for a critical care series of *The Western Journal of Medicine*, and has been honored as an outstanding consultant reviewer for the *Annals of Emergency Medicine*. I look forward to Rob's energy and enthusiasm in taking *The California Journal of Emergency Medicine* to its next level. Please welcome me in congratulating Rob in his new role.

The Future of CaJEM

Robert M. Rodriguez, MD

I must begin with a brief, well-deserved expression of gratitude to the architects of the *California Journal of Emergency Medicine (CaJEM)*: Drs. Robert Derlet and Antoine Kazzi. Four years ago they shared a vision of an evidence-based journal dedicated to the advancement of emergency medicine in California. We now celebrate the third anniversary of *CaJEM*. At a time when many journals are either collapsing like ENRON or folding altogether, they have solidified this journal into a quarterly publication that is read – or at least received—by over 2,000 physicians across California and is available to the rest of the world on the American Academy of Emergency Medicine website. I especially thank Dr. Derlet for his tireless efforts and astute editorial guidance in the building of *CaJEM*.

Now that our foundation has been successfully built, where do we go from here? We hope to achieve at least three major goals in the next few years of *CaJEM*. The first is to broaden our readership both with respect to the types of medical professionals in our audience and with regards to sheer numbers. As is obvious to all those practicing emergency medicine, physicians are but one spoke of the emergency care wheel. We must reach out to our nurse and paramedic colleagues, enlisting their expertise and providing them with articles that are germane to their scope of practice. Likewise, we hope to appeal to medical students and emergency medicine residents, who undoubtedly are the future of our specialty.

The second goal is to introduce stimulating educational features, which may also advance our efforts toward attaining our aforementioned first goal. In this issue we have provided abstracts from the 2002 California American College of Emergency Physicians conference. We hope to incorporate abstracts from other meetings in future issues. Beginning with our October issue, we will publish a point-counterpoint series discussing some of the more provocative topics in emergency medicine. We also plan to incorporate a resident and medical student section in upcoming issues.