

Letter from the Editor-in-Chief

This is the second issue of Acta Neurologica Belgica 2003, the international peer-reviewed Belgian neurological journal. In this issue you will find the usual sections containing reviews, original papers, case reports and proceedings of neurological meetings.

In my second year as Editor-in-Chief of this journal, I have received many comments, both encouraging and critical ones. Despite the fact that our journal is increasingly successful in attracting new manuscripts and is widely read in the Belgian neurological community, the editorial board will evaluate the position of Acta Neurologica Belgica shortly in a rapidly changing environment of international scientific publishing.

As mentioned earlier, there are presently many issues to be addressed in the international publishing world such as the ever increasing number of journals, increasing prices for highly rated journals, long publication delays, the drain of intellectual

property to editors, increasing competition with electronic media and the intrinsic scientific conservatism of the present peer-review system. This so-called "Journal crisis" represents a particular challenge for the survival of national scientific journals. The members of the editorial board are presently designing the future framework on which our journal will continue to accomplish its mission: to publish recent scientific work from Belgian centers of excellence in neurology, neuroscience and related areas of interest.

I would welcome any suggestion from our readership with regard to this ongoing discussion and I invite all readers and colleagues to submit relevant work from academical departments, hospitals and universities in Belgium. I also wish you delightful holidays.

Paul A. J. M. BOON, M.D., Ph.D.
Editor-in-Chief.