

EDITOR'S NOTE

The Future of *Circulation: Cardiovascular Interventions*

Changing, Creating, and Maturing

*To exist is to change, to change is to mature, to mature is to go on creating oneself endlessly*¹

—Henri Bergson

Sunil V. Rao, MD

Circulation: Cardiovascular Interventions was launched in 2008 to keep pace with the dizzying progress of scientific developments in interventional cardiology. At the time of its inception, there were few subspecialty journals focused on interventional cardiology. Since then, not only has the number of interventional cardiology journals increased, but the outlets for dissemination of interventional cardiology science have also proliferated. In particular, social media has become a major venue for interventional cardiologists to obtain, discuss, and debate new information. As the number of information sources increases, traditional outlets like scientific journals must continue to evolve and mature to stay relevant. That task was expertly accomplished during the past 10 years under the strong and creative leadership of Dr David Faxon and his team of Associate Editors. At this juncture, the journal is undergoing a transition of leadership but not of priorities. As the incoming Editor-in-Chief of the journal, I am deeply honored to build on the success of Dr Faxon and his team. My team's goal is to continue the tradition of robust scientific publication that is the hallmark of the Circulation brand and to expand its reach through a series of new initiatives.

As Dr Faxon recently summarized, the number of submissions to *Circulation: Cardiovascular Interventions* increased \approx 10-fold during his tenure, and this trend shows no sign of slowing.² Moreover, as expected, the topics reflected in the submissions closely mirror contemporary areas of interest to the interventional community, including complex coronary intervention, hemodynamics, shock, structural heart disease, peripheral arterial and venous disease, quality of care, and outcomes. The rising trajectory of submissions creates a challenge for the journal on the timeliness and quality of peer reviews. To meet this challenge, the journal has expanded the editorial team from 3 Associate Editors to 8 and from 1 Senior Guest Editor to 2. This group has a broad range of expertise across all areas of interventional cardiology. Our handling of submissions will involve an extensive evaluation by the Associate Editors before engaging external peer reviewers. This will streamline the process for both the journal and authors. We have also significantly expanded the Editorial Board to provide timely, detailed, and helpful reviews for manuscripts that undergo external assessment.

Three new initiatives are being launched to put research into clinical context and to engage the cardiology community. First, every original research article that is accepted will have a visual abstract outlining the key features of the research. Second, each published original research article will be accompanied by an editorial to help put the research into historical and contemporary clinical context. Third, we have added a new position within the Editorial team—a Social Media

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<http://circinterventions.ahajournals.org>

editor—who will leverage the reach of social media to facilitate the dissemination of the research published in the journal. Authors who publish in *Circulation: Cardiovascular Interventions* can expect broad exposure of their research through social media outlets. Further, the journal will hold periodic virtual journal clubs through Twitter that will allow for in-depth online discussion of published research. We hope to engage authors in this endeavor so that the journal's readership can get in-depth insights into the background and rationale for the research question and understand the research methodology. Ultimately, we hope that these crowd-sourced discussions will improve the quality of the research that is conducted in the interventional cardiology space.

Another new initiative is the creation of an Assistant Editor role that will involve early career cardiologists. Interventional cardiologists within 3 years postfellowship training are encouraged to apply to become 1 of 5 Assistant Editors who will serve for 2 years. Assistant Editors will be full members of the editorial team and will be mentored by 1 or more Associate Editor(s). They will undergo training in how to provide high quality peer reviews, serve as peer reviewers for submitted manuscripts, and will participate in the journal's digital strategy. At the end of their term, they will be invited to join the journal's editorial board.

All of these changes, while incremental, are designed to help *Circulation: Cardiovascular Interventions* remain a leading venue of science as the field of interventional cardiology continues to evolve. As I start my role as Editor-in-Chief, I am deeply indebted to the journal's new Senior Associate Deputy Editor, Dr Subhash Banerjee, our team of Associate Editors, Drs J. Dawn Abbott, Rajiv Gulati, David E. Kandzari, Mamas A. Mamas, Kyung Woo Park, Manesh R. Patel, Thomas J. Povsic, and Andrew Wang; our new Senior Guest Editors, Drs Harold Dauerman and Michael Sketch, our Statistical Editors Drs Andrew Althouse and Alison Motsinger-Reif, and our new Social Media Editor Dr David Fischman and Assistant Social Media Editor Dr Chadi Al-Raies. I would like to thank Dr David Faxon, outgoing Editor-in-Chief of the journal, and his team, as well as Dr Joseph Hill, Editor-in-Chief of *Circulation*, for their guidance during the transition of the journal's

leadership. I am especially grateful to the American Heart Association for investing in the journal to ensure its continued success; in particular, Heather Goodell, Dr Mark Estes, and Dr Tim Gardner have been invaluable resources over the past few months. Finally, none of the journal's past successes or upcoming initiatives would be possible without the tireless efforts of Karen Barry, Director of Journal Operations for *Circulation* and *JAHA*. Any new program you will see over the next 5 years will be because of her ability to execute our ideas and make them a reality.

As our team starts our work, we would like to extend an invitation to the journal's readership to stay connected with us, whether it's through direct communication or through social media. We want your feedback on our new initiatives and are open to ideas that will facilitate the journal's mission. To investigators and authors considering submitting to the journal, note that our Editorial team is eager to engage with you to help determine whether your work is a good fit for *Circulation: Cardiovascular Interventions*. The next 5 years for the journal promise to be as exciting and innovative as the future of interventional cardiology itself. Our team looks forward to making *Circulation: Cardiovascular Interventions* the leading edge in the publication and dissemination of the best interventional cardiology science.

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Disclosures

None.

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