



Editorial

Double the number of issues

The first issue of *Bone Marrow Transplantation* appeared in May 1986, so the tenth anniversary was celebrated last year. Initially the journal appeared every 3 months and thereafter bi-monthly. By 1990, we had started monthly production but recently those who assiduously collect successive issues and indeed others will have noted that each issue has been getting more and more bulky. In line with some other journals we now plan to publish two issues per month. This should improve the journal's 'readability' and fortunately it will not increase the cost to the subscriber.

Though of course the expansion of this journal reflects the willingness of authors to submit their original work and the support its editors have received from the publishers, the real success story is the increasing number of patients who can now be offered treatment by allogeneic or autologous stem cell transplant procedures and the increasing likelihood that many such patients will derive real benefit that they could not have obtained by other means. The numbers of centres specialising in transplant procedures has grown steadily over the last 15 years on both sides of the Atlantic and in all other developed countries. It gave me special pleasure to be able to invite haematologists in Asia to review progress in this field in their respective countries and the resulting anthology was published in June 1994.

For many years the journal has had a close and cordial relationship with the European Group for Blood and Marrow Transplantation. We have been happy to publish EBMT reports and announcements of EBMT meetings. Thus another, though not unexpected, landmark in the journal's history was the agreement reached in 1994 whereby *Bone Marrow Transplantation* would become formally affiliated with EBMT. This means that 'official' EBMT reports get some degree of preferential treatment and EBMT members can get the journal at a reduced price.

If the editors are happy with the progress the journal has made in recent years, so apparently are the publishers. There will be nearly 1600 subscribers in 1996. Subscriptions come from more than 30 different countries. Papers are also submitted from more than 30 countries. The time from acceptance to publication averages about 5 months, which is generally respectable for a monthly journal. What of the future? We already ask authors to submit manuscripts on floppy disk and we have a home page on the Internet. Should we accept manuscript submissions by e-mail? Should we handle the review process by e-mail? Should a complete issue be available to Internet users and if so, how would they pay? These are just some of the challenges which we and the Stockton Press face now and must resolve. We trust that the next 10 years will be even more productive, stimulating and valuable for patients, clinicians and scientists alike.

John Goldman