Two weeks ago, I picked up a complimentary copy of Volume 1, Number 1 *Genetics in Medicine* at the American Society of Human Genetics Annual Meeting in Denver. Did the genetic world need another journal, I wondered. Upon my return to Boston, the answer became quickly apparent.

When the medical-pediatric resident doing a genetics elective with our team bemoaned her limited perception of genetics services, we referred her to the similar experience in the Pacific Northwest.[1] To prepare for the clinic patient, an infant with isolated lissencephaly, the fellows and I reviewed the paper on *LISI* mutation rates.[2] The NICU consult billed as hypotonia and dysmorphic features was an African-American whose karyotype showed the deletion of Prader-Willi syndrome. Needless to say, the brief report about phenotypic differences and unusual features was timely.[3] In the future, medical students on genetics elective will be handed a copy of the clinical objectives proposed by the task force.[4] During a teaching session with the current students, I reminded them about the recommendations for folic acid and referred them to the most up to date published statement.[5]

At the risk of being a cheerleader, I heartily praise the first issue of *Genetics in Medicine* for its immediate applicability to clinical genetic practice. Not bad for a beginner.

Angela E. Lin, MD
Clinical Geneticist
Genetics and Teratology Unit
Massachusetts General Hospital

REFERENCES

1. Hayflick SJ, Eiff MP, Carpenter L, Steinberger J. Primary care physicians' utilization and perceptions of genetics services. *Genetics in Medicine* 1998;1:13–18.
2. Pilz DT, Macha ME, Precht KS, Smith ACM, Dobyns WB, Ledbetter DH. Fluorescence in situ hybridization analysis with *LISI* specific probes reveals a high deletion mutation rate in isolated lissencephaly sequence. *Genetics in Medicine* 1998;1:29–33.
3. Hudgins L, Geer JS, Cassidy SB. Phenotypic differences in African American with Prader-Willi syndrome. *Genetics in Medicine* 1998;1:49–51.
4. Association of Professors of Human and Medical Genetics, Clinical Objectives Task Force: Friedman JM, Blitzer M, Elsas LJ, Francke U, Willard HF. Clinical objectives in medical genetics for undergraduate medical students. *Genetics in Medicine* 1998;1:54–55.
5. Policy statement on folic acid: Fortification and supplementation. *Genetics in Medicine* 1998;1:67.