Why a new journal?

Peter T Scardino

Urologists today are faced with a flood of medical literature. There are journals, newspapers and magazines that cover every aspect of urology. Many of us feel a need to read the general medical journals as well. Why, then, a new journal in urology?

When the publishers of *Nature* approached me to serve as the Editor-in-Chief of a new journal, I asked myself that same question. But then I considered the source of the request. The parent journal, *Nature*, is one of the world's pre-eminent scientific publications. This was the journal that published Watson and Crick's original description of the structure of DNA, and is the most cited biomedical journal in the world.

With the explosion of information in the biomedical sciences, the publishers decided over a decade ago to broaden the reach of *Nature* by creating specialty journals, such as *Nature Medicine* and *Nature Genetics*, which have proven enormously successful. Today, of the top 10 biomedical journals published at least monthly, eight are *Nature* branded titles and, of the review journals in this category, *Nature Publishing Group* publishes the top five. Clearly this is a publishing group that knows its business.

A year ago, *Nature Publishing Group* decided to bring this same level of expertise and professionalism to clinical medicine. It seemed an opportunity to make a real difference in our field, so I joined eagerly. Our vision in *Nature Clinical Practice Urology* is to offer current medical information in a series of compact articles that will be reliable, relevant to your practice, informative, balanced and objective. Our Advisory Board is comprised of an international panel of experts. We select authors that are respected thinkers and experienced practitioners who have a broad perspective, are directly involved in patients' care, and have a demonstrated capacity for fair yet critical analysis.

Each monthly issue will feature general reviews on topical subjects, concise opinions on

We are committed to providing you with the latest, most accurate and relevant medical information in a concise, readily digestible format

controversial issues, insights about new treatments and mechanisms of disease, reviews of major technological advances, commentaries from experts on recent key articles, and case studies that illustrate the management of common, complex problems.

The journal aims to cover the full range of urologic subspecialties, including the areas of urologic oncology, urinary incontinence, benign prostatic hyperplasia, sexual dysfunction, upper and lower urinary tract dysfunction, endourology and stones, imaging, pediatric urology, female urology, pathology, infections and inflammation, reconstructive surgery, and male-factor infertility. All journal content is peer reviewed, with the exception of Editorials and Research Highlights and all authors provide a statement of any financial or professional interests that might conflict with their work. Published articles are editorially independent and, although contributions to the journal are invited, we are happy to receive your suggestions and proposals for content; we particularly welcome proposals for Case Studies. *Nature Clinical Practice Urology* is providing category 1 CME in partnership with Vanderbilt University. CME credits can be gained by successfully completing the published questions that may be based either on a Case Study or Review.

Subscribers will have access, through the internet, to an extraordinary range of medical information. *Nature* staff will compile themed Web Focuses that bring together content on specific and highly relevant topics from across the range of *Nature Publishing Group's* products. In short, we will provide the information you need to practice state-of-the-art medicine.

As we launch this new publishing venture, we welcome your comments and suggestions. We are committed to providing you with the latest, most accurate and relevant medical information in a concise, readily digestible format. We hope you will find *Nature Clinical Practice Urology* worthy of your attention.

PT Scardino is the Editor-in-Chief of Nature Clinical Practice Urology, Chairman of the Department of Urology at Sidney Kimmel Center for Prostate and Urologic Cancers, and Alfred P Sloan Chair at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

Competing interests

The author declared he has no competing interests.

www.nature.com/clinicalpractice
doi:10.1038/ncpuro0030