

Biological Psychiatry: Looking Good!

John H. Krystal

Biological Psychiatry, in collaboration with Elsevier, is taking a very small step to brighten your day. This issue marks the first to present a new format for articles published in the *Journal*. You will notice that it has a clearer and more colorful format, which we hope will make it easier and more enjoyable to read. In revising the article format, we resisted the trend to move the presentation of methods from its proud place immediately following the introduction to the end of the article (or, worse, to a supplement). We reasoned that the extraordinary scientific breadth of journals such as *Science* or *Nature* renders research methods irrelevant to most of their readers, justifying the move of the methods sections to the end of articles. However, the focus on translational neuroscience within the *Journal* increases the relevance of study methods to a wider segment of our readership, justifying the central location of the methods sections in articles that we publish. In addition, the Editors simply liked to read articles presented in this fashion. We would appreciate feedback on this formatting decision.

As has been the case throughout my tenure as Editor, changes in the appearance of the journal signal a more important sustained evolution of its scientific content. The external trappings of progress are evident. For example, the *Journal's* impact factor has increased to 9.472 (Thomson Reuters Journal Citation Reports), and its h5-index score (Google Scholar) is 100, making it one of the top journals in psychiatry and neuroscience. As I assemble each issue, I am repeatedly amazed by the extraordinary articles that we have the privilege to publish, the increasingly multimodal nature of translational neuroscience, and the growing links between the data emerging from widely divergent research approaches. It is hard to refute the impression that translational neuroscience research has growing traction, moving toward answering fundamental scientific questions that could lead to life-changing new treatments in psychiatry.

All of this progress has created other challenges for authors and editors. It is my impression that the quality of articles submitted to *Biological Psychiatry* has improved dramatically since 2006, the year that I became Editor. Yet, although we publish many more articles than other leading psychiatry journals, the percentage of submitted articles that we accept has progressively decreased during this period. We worry about alienating authors when we reject their articles. However, we are committed to the mission of advancing science by focusing on publishing the leading edge of research. From the high and growing rate of submissions to *Biological Psychiatry*, it is our impression that our authors share our commitment to innovation and our vision for the future of translational neuroscience.

We are thrilled to present our new article format in this issue of the *Journal*. The new format reflects our deep commitment

to enhancing the collaboration between editors, authors, and readers. This sense of collaboration is at the core of our work. Our team includes an outstanding group of Deputy and Associate Editors, including Anissa Abi-Dargham, M.D., Edward Bullmore, Ph.D., F.Med.Sci., Cameron Carter, M.D., Daniel Geschwind, M.D., Ph.D., Paul Harrison, D.M., F.R.C. Psych., Eric Nestler, M.D., Ph.D., Murray Stein, M.D., M.P.H., and Carol Tamminga, M.D.; the *Journal's* Editorial Committee, including Dennis Charney, M.D., John Csernansky, M.D., David Goldman, M.D., Raquel Gur, M.D., Ph.D., Ned Kalin, M.D., Ranga Rama Krishnan, M.D., and Trey Sunderland, M.D.; our Editorial Board; and our colleagues at Elsevier. I would also like to thank the leadership of the Society of Biological Psychiatry for their unwavering support for the *Journal* and for recognizing our wonderful Managing Editor, Ms. Rhiannon Bugno, and Publication Coordinator, Ms. Rosa Garces, with awards presented at their annual meeting in May 2014.

The new article format is not merely a facelift; it is a celebration of the wonderful science presented in *Biological Psychiatry* and the hope generated by that science for improving the lives of people with neuropsychiatric disorders.

Acknowledgments and Disclosures

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Article Information

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