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Western Journal of Emergency Medicine: Integrating Emergency Care with Population Health

Title

A Brief Message from the Outgoing Editor, 2002-2007

Permalink

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Journal

Western Journal of Emergency Medicine: Integrating Emergency Care with Population Health, 8(2)

ISSN

1936-900X

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Publication Date

2007

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ABSTRACT: *The California Journal of Emergency Medicine 2002-2007*

Objectives: To foster the growth and advance the academic development of a young journal, namely *The California Journal of Emergency Medicine*.

Methods: From the years 2002 to 2007 we recruited talented Associate Editors, insightful Reviewers and promising Resident Editors. In an effort to promote original research as our publication centerpiece, we solicited manuscripts from throughout California, the U.S., and even other countries; some of our articles were reviewed and cited by notable publications including EM Abstracts. Tackling controversial EM issues, we introduced a Pro/Con debate series, highlighted by discussions of three versus four-year EM residency, the merits of national health insurance, and pharmaceutical sponsorship of research. We published theme issues focusing on ultrasound in the ED and international emergency medicine. Adapting to the internet age and embracing open access to medical literature, we put *CalJEM* online, freely available at www.cajem.org. To generate an impact factor, we embarked on a process—actually two processes, by which *CalJEM* may be indexed in the near future. Finally, in our role as a chapter informational service, we diligently promoted California AAEM's mission of fighting for EM physician independence.

Results: Our circulation increased threefold ($p < 0.001$). Involvement of EM residencies with CalAAEM and *CalJEM* has steadily risen. We are well on our way to being indexed within the next year (95% confidence interval 72 to 94%).

Conclusions: We have accomplished some of our goals, while other objectives are works in progress. *CalJEM* is healthy, and with our choice of our new Editor-in-Chief, Mark Langdorf, the future looks exceptionally bright. Mark is a Professor and Chairman of Emergency Medicine at the University of California, Irvine. Without hyperbole, Mark is the ideal person to assume this role; he is a nationally and internationally recognized leader in emergency medicine with numerous publications and outstanding experience in EM organizations. I am completely confident that he and our new Senior Editor Sean Henderson will lift *CalJEM* to the next level.

Robert M. Rodriguez, MD, FAAEM
(Outgoing Editor-in-Chief)