

Editor: M J Davies Associate Editors: Peter Mills, H G Just

Assistant Editors: R Gordon Murray (general cardiology), Janet M McComb (electrophysiology),
John L Gibbs (paediatric cardiology), Tom Treasure (surgery) Statistical Advisor: Ian Ford

Technical Editor: Janet O'Flaherty Editorial Assistant: Sarah Price

International Advisory Board

Antonio Bayes de Luna (Barcelona, Spain)

George A Beller (Charlottesville, USA)

Nicholas A Boon (Edinburgh)

Roger M Boyle (York)

Alfred Cheng (Singapore)

Jean-Paul Broustet (Bordeaux, France)

John G F Cleland (Glasgow)

Stuart M Cobbe (Glasgow)

Peter Cummins (Birmingham)

Henry J Dargie (Glasgow)

Pim J de Feyter (Rotterdam, The Netherlands)

Carlo di Mario (Milan, Italy)

Yoshinori L Doi (Kochi, Japan)

Roberto Ferrari (Brescia, Italy)

Clifford J Garratt (Leicester)

Bernard J Gersh (Washington, DC, USA)

Roger Hall (London)

Stephen C Hammill (Rochester, USA)

Axel Haverich (Kiel, Germany)

Otto M Hess (Zürich, Switzerland)

Alan B Houston (Glasgow)

Stewart Hunter (Newcastle upon Tyne)

Barry Keeton (Southampton)

Paul Kligfield (New York, USA)

Wolfgang Kübler (Heidelberg, Germany)

Paul M McKeigue (London)

Bernhard Meier (Bern, Switzerland)

Richard L Popp (Stanford, USA)

Nina Rehnqvist (Stockholm, Sweden)

Edward Rowland (London)

John Sanderson (Hong Kong)

Iain A Simpson (Southampton)

Jordi Soler-Soler (Barcelona, Spain)

Giuseppe Specchia (Pavia, Italy)

Eric Topol (Cleveland, USA)

Sylvan Lee Weinberg (Dayton, USA)

Harvey White (Auckland, New Zealand)

Peter Wilde (Bristol)

Editor: BMJ

Editor Emeritus: Dennis M Krikler

Guidance on publishing in *Heart*

Scope

Heart is an international journal of cardiology. Though clinical cardiology is its central theme *Heart* also publishes basic science papers with a clear clinical application. Please see *Heart* 1997;77:89-92 for guidance on the main categories of papers and their word limits.

Ethical standards

The study must comply with the Declaration of Helsinki. The research protocol must have been approved by the locally appointed ethics committee and informed consent must have been obtained from the subjects (or their parents).

Submitting a paper

Intending authors should send four paper copies of their text (including tables) and figures and, where practicable, one electronic copy to: Editor, *Heart*, 9 Fitzroy Square, London W1P 5AH.

Papers and disks must be prepared in accordance with the guidelines printed in the January issue (*Heart* 1997;77: 89-92) and be accompanied by a covering letter that addresses the following points:

AUTHORSHIP

- A covering letter (where possible giving telephone, fax and e-mail details of the corresponding author) must be signed by all authors stating that they have read and approved the paper and that the work has not been, and will not be published elsewhere.
- We want authors to assure us that all authors included on a paper fulfil the criteria for authorship (International Committee of Medical Journal Editors. *Uniform requirements for manuscripts submitted to biomedical journals*. Philadelphia: ICMJE, 1993). In addition we need assurance that all those who fulfil the criteria have been included as authors.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Please inform us of any grant, business interest, or consultancy that could lead to a conflict of interest.

COPYRIGHT

- All authors will be required to transfer copyright of their articles to the journal before publication.
- You must send *Heart* written permission from publishers and authors to reproduce or adapt previously published illustrations, tables, or extensive quotations.

HELPING THE REVIEW PROCESS

- You may suggest three suitable reviewers for your paper.
- We encourage authors to send copies of any previous referees' reports on their research and indicate how these comments have helped the authors to improve the submitted paper. This may be helpful to our editors and reviewers.
- If you have papers (published or submitted elsewhere) that overlap with the present submission, send us copies of them and indicate if there are patients common to both studies.

Receipt and return of typescripts

We acknowledge receipt of all new papers. The reference number given on the acknowledgement letter should be quoted on all subsequent correspondence and in telephone inquiries. Typescripts of papers that are not accepted for publication will not be returned. We will endeavour to return original artwork and floppy disks for rejected papers.

Queries

If you have any queries about the journal's requirements please contact the editorial office:

Tel: +44 171 383 4006

Fax: +44 171 388 0323

e-mail: 100536.2733@compuserve.com

or Internet home page:

<http://www.bmj.com/bmj/>

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS

Heart is published monthly. The annual subscription rates are £232.00 (USA \$360.00). Orders should be sent to the Subscription Manager, *Heart*, BMJ Publishing Group, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR. Orders can also be placed with any leading subscription agent or bookseller. Subscribers may pay for their subscriptions by Access, Visa, or American Express by quoting on their order the credit or charge card preferred together with the appropriate personal account number and the expiry date of the card. (For the convenience of readers in the USA subscription orders with or without payment may also be sent to British Medical Journal, PO Box 408, Franklin, MA 02038, USA. All inquiries, however, must be addressed to the Publisher in London.) **All copies are despatched by air-speed.** First class rates available on request.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS

Applications for advertisement space and for rates should be addressed to the Advertisement Manager, *Heart*, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR (0171 383 6330).

COPYRIGHT © 1997 by *Heart*. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior permission of *Heart*.

ISSN 1355-6037

Published by the
BMJ Publishing Group, and printed in England on Acid-Free paper by
Thanet Press Limited, Margate, Kent