

HEART

*Editorial*The world wide web takes *Heart*: www.heartjnl.com

Heart is proud to announce the next stage in its evolution—a full text web site which went live in December 1998. The internet has long been an invaluable resource for science and medicine, and many publishers have recognised its potential to disseminate important research and to increase awareness of their journals internationally. *Heart* has had an internet presence for some time but its website was rather basic (just tables of contents and general information). The new site has the same address—www.heartjnl.com—but it has moved to California.

Heart has joined its illustrious cousin the *BMJ* and many other important medical journals at HighWire Press, a division of Stanford University's Green Library. HighWire's mission is to "foster research and instruction by providing a more direct link between the writers and readers of scholarly materials".¹ As visitors to the *BMJ*'s website (www.bmj.com) will know, online journals can have many features that add value to the important research contained within the print version. Each issue of



Heart will be available in full (including figures and tables), in addition there is a fully searchable archive going back to October 1997 (as well as abstracts and tables of contents from much earlier issues), instant, free access to Medline to expand your search, and "customised @lerts", which will automatically alert you to newly published material of particular interest to your area of research. The "collected resources" feature allows you to search quickly for material in subspecialty areas. In future it will be possible to search across all the journals at HighWire Press including *Circulation*, *Circulation Research*, *Heart and Circulatory Physiology*, and *Journal of Clinical Investigation* to name a few. *eHeart* also links directly with *eBMJ* and other journals in the BMJ Publishing Group stable.

Each issue of *Heart* will be put online at the same time as the print version is distributed; therefore, readers outside the UK will not have to wait for days or weeks to enjoy the journal. Access to *eHeart* will be free until July 1999. Various pricing models for subscriptions to the print and electronic versions of *Heart* are under discussion, so watch the website for more information as it becomes available.

The rapid advances in information technology and the immense penetration of the internet around the world means that important medical research can reach more people more quickly. *Heart* is pleased to embrace these advances with both *eHeart* and *CardioCollection*²; however, we aim to fulfil the needs of authors and readers so we welcome your comments on these developments both through the website and more traditional methods.

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Editor

1 About HighWire Press. highwire.stanford.edu/about.shtml
2 Davies MJ. Essential collection. *Heart* 1998;80:107.