Editorial

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Audiology and Neuro-Otology has completed its 4th successful year, having established its place among the leading journals in the field. A continuously increasing number of submissions has allowed us to be highly selective and to accept only 25% of the manuscripts during the last year, thus raising the quality of our publications even more. The change to a full-size format of 280 × 210 mm has resulted in high-quality reproduction of photomicrographs and an improved layout. As a consequence of the overall high quality, the number of subscribers is constantly growing, a fact that is noteworthy in view of the omnipresent reduction of library budgets. Finally, *Audiology and Neuro-Otology* is indexed both in *Current Contents/Science Citation Index* and *Index Medicus/Medline*.

The outlook for the future is bright. The inflow of original manuscripts is healthy and our invited review articles have become a regular feature. These reviews began in volume 4 with two articles on hair cell regeneration, structural aspects treated by D. Cotanche and functional aspects treated by J. Smolders. The series is continued with a review article on aminoglycoside antibiotics by A. Forge and J. Schacht in this issue. Currently commissioned articles are devoted to cochlear implants, imaging of the central auditory system, developmental aspects of the auditory system, and genetics. In addition, the special issues on 'Molecular Genetics in Hearing Research', on the 'Functional Organisation and Plasticity of the Auditory Cortex', and on the 'Biomechanics of Hearing' have attracted considerable attention in the scientific community. The publication of such special issues will continue. The next to appear will be 'Mismatch Negativity: Clinical and Other Applications' (Guest Editor: R. Näätänen). Finally, we are considering the option of publishing supplements to *Audiology and Neuro-Otology*.

Audiology and Neuro-Otology is designed to serve the needs of the whole scientific community, researchers and physicians alike. Therefore, the editors invite not only submissions of original articles but also suggestions for topics of review articles or supplements.