New Concept of the Journal *Oto-Rhino-Laryngologia Nova* (ORL Nova) as a Plurilingual Journal for Clinical Topics, Clinical Research and Controversial Issues

R.		Häusler ^a
P.		Montandon ^b

^aBerne, ^bGeneva

The journal ORL Nova was founded in 1990 by W. Arnold and K.H. Vo-steen in Germany and edited in the German language by the publishing house Karger AG in Basel. From the beginning, the journal has been well accepted in German speaking countries. The management of the journal is now being transferred to Switzerland.

The new editors-in-chief are R. Häusler, Berne and P. Montandon, Geneva. They are supported by several associate editors: M. Anniko (Scandinavian country group), W. Arnold (German language group), R. Filipo (Latin language group), J.-Ph. Guyot (Switzerland), W. Lund (English language group), J.J. Manni (Benelux group), W.F. Thumfart (Austrian and East European group) and T.H. Tran Ba Huy (French speaking group). The Editorial Board includes a number of prominent specialists in the field of otolaryngology and related fields in order to secure serious peer review of each submitted article.

The present management has decided to further develop the journal: First as a clinical forum for a quick exchange of relevant information between academic centers and practitioners working under a variety of linguistic and geographical conditions. Issues concerning internationally different clinical practices are of special interest, with attention focussed on the rationale behind these differences. Summaries from national or regional congresses can also be submitted for quick publication. Linguistic borders still have a significant impact which often hinders information exchange across countries. To facilitate access to publications and promote mutual understanding, the journal will be published in three languages: English, German and French. The multilingual understanding will be enhanced by an extensive and structured trilingual summary of each article.

Articles published in the journal should be of general clinical and practical interest including case reports, pathological observations as well as 'How to do it' procedures coming from academic and nonacademic settings. Papers in the field of basic research with obvious clinical relevance are also welcome. Articles relevant to quality control and long-term results are favored. Prominent or controversial papers will be accompanied by a critical editorial statement as well as remarks from the reviewers.

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E-Mail karger@karger.ch Fax+ 41 61 306 12 34 <http://www.karger.ch>

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Second as of 1998, this journal will pursue an additional mission. The new policy will be to stimulate critical thinking on currently controversial issues in clinical otorhinolaryngology.

Regularly a preannounced topic with invited papers from experts and commentaries by these experts as well as others will be examined. Chosen 'Letters to the Editors' concerning previous controversial topics will be printed in a special section along with editorial summaries.

Beginning with the second issue of this journal in 1998, the first topic chosen will be 'Otitis media in Children' followed by 'Inner Ear Fistula Repair Surgery' and 'Lasers in Otological Surgery'. Suggestion as to future topics are welcome.

All correspondance concerning Controversial Issues should be sent to

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Häusler/Montandon

Dr. J.P. Guyot, Clinique O.R.L., Hôpital Cantonal Universitaire, CH-1211 Geneva 14, Tel. 41-22 372 82 42, fax 41-22 372 82 40, e-mail jean-philippe.guyot@hcuge.ch