Editorial

The editors of this journal are eager to continue to enhance the profile of *Digestion*. We perceive that readers are interested in reading excellent new research results but at the same time want to increase their clinical practice with evidence-based approaches. We will continue to commission new interesting reviews, but our main focus will still be the publication of peer-reviewed original work reporting new findings on all aspects of gastroenterological and hepatological diseases.

During 2005 we made enormous progress in improving our service to our authors by drastically reducing the decision-making time. This was possible through the efforts of an engaged group of Associate Editors who have done a tremendous job in the last year. Unfortunately, one of the Editors, Prof. Chiba (Kyoto), had to leave the Editorial Board for professional reasons. He has been a pillar to the Board and we would like to thank him for his excellent work and assistance. We wish him all the very best for his new duties! We are happy to announce that Prof. Sakamoto (Tokyo) has taken over the duties of Prof. Chiba and has already started to work for the journal. We are delighted to have the support of such an engaged expert.

Finally, as of 1 January 2006, *Digestion* is the official journal of the Japanese Gastroenterological Society (JGA). This is an honour for *Digestion* and we would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new members.

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