David Sackett on the move; Paul Glasziou takes over

This issue of *Evidence-Based Medicine* marks a change of co-editor. David Sackett, one of the founding editors of *Evidence-Based Medicine*, has resigned this post to begin his next career. Paul Glasziou has taken Sackett's place as co-editor.

Dave Sackett's contributions to health care over the years are most notable in 3 arenas: research methods for applied testing of innovations; use of these methods to evaluate the scientific validity and clinical merit of numerous health care interventions; and education of clinicians in understanding and applying the results of current best evidence from research in clinical practice. These contributions have greatly enhanced the rigor and power of research methods in clinical epidemiology, leading to its evolution as a foundation for evidence-based health care.

Sackett's work with evidence-based journals, beginning with *ACP Journal Club* in 1990, was nourished by these deep roots. The journals have become the working tools of practitioners determined to provide evidence-based care without always having the time, or even the skills, to try to do so by reading and interpreting research reported in traditional medical journals.

Sackett claims that his accomplishments are guided by 3 "principles of life": loyalty to people always and institutions never; service to the young; and remembering that you can become as good as you pretend to be. The editors and staff of *Evidence-Based Medicine* have benefited enormously from David Sackett's vigorous pursuit of these ideals and wish to acknowledge their huge debt to him as he goes on to the next stage of his career.

Dave has moved from Oxford back to Canada, indeed to its rural hinterland. He indicates that he will be hooked up by geostationary satellite (or whatever is available) and Internet technology to conduct teaching sessions in clinical epidemiology and Internet-run studies of the value of clinical observations for the diagnosis, prognosis, and management of various disorders, work that he has been gearing up for recently. This is the next phase of his remarkable career, which has included being the founding chair of the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics at McMaster University; chief of medicine at Chedoke-McMaster Hospitals in Hamilton, Ontario; professor and founder of the first *Evidence-Based Medicine* journal editor; and, always, educator, and mentor.

The next issue of *Evidence-Based Medicine* marks a new era for the journal in another way, too. Although we have attempted to serve a broad and general clinical audience with content that includes internal medicine, obstetrics, gynaecology, paediatrics, psychiatry, surgery, and family medicine—general practice, our primary target audience has always been primary care physicians. Paul Glasziou is a practicing general practitioner in Brisbane, Australia, where he keenly pursues the best evidence for his patients. He is also an associate professor in the Department of Social and Preventive Medicine at the University of Queensland and holds a PhD in decision analysis. His research and teaching interests are in improving medical decision making, clinical trials, systematic

reviews, and evidence-based medicine. He has applied his skills to such topics as breast and colorectal cancer screening, acute otitis media, cholesterol lowering, and anticoagulation for atrial fibrillation. Thus, Paul Glasziou is a member of the clinical discipline of prime interest for *Evidence-Based Medicine* and has the training and experience in research and evidence-based decision making that will provide our readers with accurate and practical summaries of current best evidence for primary care.

On behalf of all the staff and collaborators of *Evidence-Based Medicine*, I bid a fond farewell to David Sackett and extend a hearty welcome to Paul Glasziou.

Brian Haynes, MD, PhD
Co-editor

Best Evidence 3 is available now!

We are delighted to announce the arrival of Best Evidence 3. This CD includes all contents from *ACP Journal Club* and *Evidence-Based Medicine* up to the end of 1998, with updating of the content from 1993, in a searchable database. To order, contact the American College of Physicians—American Society of Internal Medicine at 800-523-1546 (www.acponline.org/catalog/cbi/best_evidence.htm) or the BMJ Publishing Group at 44-171-383-6270 (www.bmjpg.com/data/ebm.htm).

Journals Reviewed for This Issue*

Core Journals

Am J Med
Am J Obstet Gynecol
Am J Psychiatry
Am J Surg
Ann Intern Med
Ann Surg
Arch Dis Child
Arch Gen Psychiatry
Arch Intern Med

Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med
Arch Surg
Arthritis Rheum
BMJ
Br J Gen Pract
Br J Obstet Gynaecol
Br J Surg
Circulation
Clin Pediatr

Cochrane Library
Diabetes Care
Hypertension
JAMA
J Am Board Fam Pract
J Am Coll Surg
J Gen Intern Med
J Intern Med

J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry
J Pediatr
J Vasc Surg
Lancet
N Engl J Med
Obstet Gynecol
Pediatrics
Surgery

Journals for Continuing Review

Acta Obstet Gynecol Scand
Age Ageing
Am J Cardiol
Am J Public Health
Am J Respir Crit Care Med
Ann Emerg Med
Ann Med
Arch Fam Med

Arch Neurol
Br J Psychiatry
Br J Rheumatol
Can Med Assoc J
Chest
Clin Invest Med
Crit Care Med
Fertil Steril

Gastroenterology
Gut
Heart (formerly Br Heart J)
J Am Coll Cardiol
J Am Geriatr Soc
J Clin Epidemiol
J Fam Pract
J Infect Dis

Med Care
Med J Aust
Neurology
Pain
Spine
Stroke
Thorax

*Approximately 60 additional journals are reviewed. This list is available on request.