EDITORIAL

*Occupational Medicine and the Occupational and Environmental Medical Association of Canada*

This issue of *Occupational Medicine* represents a significant development for the journal, as we are joined by members of the Occupational and Environmental Medical Association of Canada (OEMAC) as subscribers. From this issue onwards, *Occupational Medicine* becomes the ‘adopted’ journal of OEMAC, thus increasing the number of individuals receiving the journal by ~20%.

For many years, *Occupational Medicine* has been the official journal of the Society of Occupational Medicine. Its purpose throughout has been to serve the interests of the members of the Society. It has tended to concentrate on issues that are of direct relevance to the day-to-day practice of occupational medicine, supporting wholeheartedly the concept of ‘evidence-based practice’, but also realizing the importance of ‘practice-based evidence’.

I should like to take this opportunity to welcome all our new readers, and I hope also new contributors, in Canada and elsewhere. The members of OEMAC considered a number of journals before deciding that *Occupational Medicine* best suited their needs. I am obviously both pleased and flattered, on behalf of all members of the Society and others who have contributed to the journal over the years, that they chose *Occupational Medicine*.

Readers should notice little if any difference in the journal (although we plan to introduce abstracts in French as well as English in future issues). *Occupational Medicine* remains the journal of the Society of Occupational Medicine, and its primary aims remain unchanged, albeit shared with OEMAC. However, some changes will occur. Articles in the journal will be seen and read by a wider audience, the journal will have a broader academic base, and there should be an increased cumulative experience to draw on for debate and comment within the journal. Consequently, it is with genuine pleasure that I anticipate this new relationship, which I believe can only be of benefit to all readers.

Jerry Beach  
Honorary Editor