President's Column: Why Another Journal?

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Why Another Journal?

As the editor-in-chief and president of EANO, it is my pleasure to write the editorial for the first issue. The EANO Magazine is an open access journal which will be available on our website. It aims at bringing education, news, and also European issues to persons interested in neuro-oncology. As the president, I am at the same time editor-in-chief, the managing editor is Riccardo Soffietti from Torino. The editorial board consists of Khê Hoang Xuan, Stefan Oberndorfer, Wolfgang Wick, Riccardo Soffietti, Michael Weller, Ufuk Abacioglu, Lorenzo Bello, Olivier Chinot, Johan M Kros, Giorgio Perilongo, Hanneke Zwinkels, and Kathy Oliver.

The new online magazine is financed entirely by the EANO and has no commercial bias – an important issue for such a project.

The format of an open access (OA) journal was chosen to meet timely needs of the growing neuro-oncology community in Europe. Easy and unlimited access is the advantage of OA publishing, meeting the needs of the web-based community.

What will be our future publishing policy for this magazine?

In addition to the website, which meets many educational and communicational needs, two additional features have been or will be implemented in 2011:

1. From 2011, the EANO has decided to make the joint journal of the SNO and EANO, Neuro-Oncology, available to our EANO members within the closed membership section. It is a highly scientific journal with an impact factor of about 5 and we are glad to be able to support our members with access to this journal – not only to make use of the scientific input but also to increase the number of European scientific activities internationally and thus stimulate the scientific core of European neuro-oncology.

2. In contrast to the scientific journal, there is an additional need to disseminate knowledge and education on neuro-oncology. This has been done to some extent via the EANO website, which presents news from journalists, online case reports, and other pertinent information, and is to maintain this format. The EANO online magazine will be available on the website and contain educational articles and reviews on current topics intended as help and guidance for the practical issues of neuro-oncology. Thus, reviews on pertinent topics, guidelines, and information on current studies will be an important part. We will not aim at publishing cases and original scientific articles at this stage although the cases presented on the website will also be published in the journal.

The EANO is a multidisciplinary and multiprofessional society aiming to provide science, standards of care, education, and communication. We have equal space for related health groups, in particular nurses, and also have invited Kathy Oliver from the International Brain Tumour Association (IBTA) to grant us more insight into patient-related views and aspects. As EANO and SNO have decided to work together more closely in the near future on several issues such as meetings, education, and also the World Congresses of Neuro-Oncology, the SNO will contribute to our issues with its American point-of-view as well.

One key objective of the EANO is education. Over the past years, the EANO has increased the number of travel grants for EANO congress attendees and has in addition created two other programmes: department visits and fellowships. Both activities can be seen on the website in detail as well as the relevant application details.

Reports from successful grant recipients will be published to share experiences.

In addition, the EANO has sponsored attendance of 2 speakers for the 13th Joint ECCO-AACR-EORTC-ESMO Workshop on „Methods in Clinical Cancer Research“ from June 18–24, 2011, in Walduhaus Flims, Switzerland, and one speaker for the Brain Tumor Epidemiology Consortium from June 5–7, 2011, in Cambridge, UK.
At present, an EU project with ECCO on onco-videos regarding common oncological matters is being developed, which will also be reported in the magazine.

To prepare and to achieve this goal, a publication committee has been founded, and care was taken to have representatives from all fields related to neuro-oncology. The editorial work is done by Riccardo Soffietti, who is very engaged in the plan to launch this journal. In Krause und Pachernegg, an Austrian publisher well-experienced in publishing print and open access journals, we have found an engaged and flexible partner to launch this journal and we have received the necessary technical and structural input.

I hope this will give you basic information on our open-access EANO Magazine and we hope that not only will you find it useful but that you will be part of it. One possibility is to submit letters and input for the comment section, and if you have news which you think would fit in the frame of our magazine do not hesitate to send it to us for consideration, as an OA journal is flexible and will develop through our input.

The journal will be a “pure” online journal and is presently not intended to be listed in PubMed. However, it will be listed in the Directory of Open Access Journals.

Wolfgang Grisold, MD
President of the EANO