

of the field. As a clinical investigator in that most arcane and complex field of biomedical research, immunology, I breathed a great sigh of relief when I realized, through the incomparable prose and pictures of Jim Watson's books, that molecular biology is the simplest of all fields of medical research, its foundation essentially being that DNA makes RNA which makes proteins. We are considering the possibility of working with a major weekly journal to produce a step-by-step Watsonian series on Molecular Medicine for Clinicians. Conversely we might also do a series for non-clinicians in *Molecular Medicine* on molecular cardiology, neurology, gastroenterology, dermatology, infectious diseases, etc. In a series of efforts to improve communication we have introduced the structured abstracts pioneered by the medical journals, we also provide summaries describing the molecular rationale and the clinical purpose of each paper published in the journal. Reviews, like Inder Verma's, are also pro-

vided. The particular challenge, however, is to avoid over-simplification.

We are pleased at *The Lancet's* interest in molecular medicine and at the opportunity that they have afforded us to clarify our concepts of this fascinating, integrative, and potentially useful field of medical investigation.

REFERENCES

1. Warren KS, Mosteller F. (1993) Preface in Doing More Good Than Harm: The Evaluation of Health Care Interventions, *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences* **703**: xi-xii.
2. The Lancet. (1996) Acceptability of the "bar code doctor." *The Lancet* **347**: 555.
3. Nabel GJ. The MD PhD physician scientist—endangered species or the next generation? **1**: 369-370.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHANGE IN SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

Following the example of *PNAS*, the Editors have decided to change procedures for submitting articles to *Molecular Medicine*. From now on, articles from authors who are not contributing editors should be sent directly to the Editorial Office. Manuscripts deemed suitable for the journal will be referred to a contributing editor who is an expert in the field and who has agreed to undertake the rapid review of the manuscript, soliciting opinions from at least two outside reviewers. There are two reasons behind this change: 1) it will allow the Editors to keep an accurate record of submission dates, so that these can be published with the article, and 2) it should facilitate submissions from authors who do not personally know a contributing editor. In addition, we believe that the new procedures will ensure consistently rapid publication of articles since the Editors will not be able to keep track of their review.

This change will go into effect immediately. For more details, please refer to the Instructions for Authors at the back of this issue.

MMS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The next issue of *Molecular Medicine* (July 1996) will include highlights of the first annual meeting of the Molecular Medicine Society, held in Washington, DC on May 3, 1996.