

### The times they are a'changing

This issue brings to a close the twentieth year of unbroken publication of the **Revista Portuguesa de Nefrologia e Hipertensão**, the official journal of the Portuguese Society of Nephrology. Our journal has flourished, due in no small part to the committed core group of young Portuguese nephrologists who have willingly invested their time, energy and expertise in it from the start.

The journal has had in addition the immense good fortune to be supported by a very strong international body. Many well known international nephrologists have contributed to the success of our journal, whether by publishing in our pages or by giving me precious advice and help. This roll call of illustrious names is too long to print here as none of them can be missed out, but I am sure you remember them and have enjoyed reading their articles over the years.

All members of the Portuguese Society of Nephrology receive this journal and it is also read by many doctors from other nephrology-related specialisations such as cardiology, urology, vascular surgery, transplantation and immunology. What many people are not aware of, however, is that one thousand copies of each issue are read internationally, as they are sent to nephrologists, hospital and university libraries and departments of nephrology world wide. Our readership spans not only Europe, but extends to the USA and LATAM countries and stretches to Asia. In this way, we have a much greater international impact and presence that could ever have been expected of a journal from a small European society of nephrology.

#### **AUTRES TEMPS, AUTRES MORES**

For twenty years we have been pleased to accept and publish papers in four languages, Portuguese (European and Brazilian), English (American and British), Spanish and French, and this current issue indeed contains articles in each of these languages. This historic issue is the last of its kind as in 2007 the journal becomes fully monolingual, publishing solely in English and becoming known as the **Portuguese Journal of Nephrology and Hypertension**. The reason for this decision is two-fold.

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Firstly, as English has become the international language of the scientific community, it allows Portuguese scientific production in the field of nephrology to become more widely read. Secondly, the journal's use of international reviewers, the best in their fields, to evaluate and criticise all articles submitted for publication will be a fillip of the highest level to improving national quality.

Our Editorial Board is being revamped, with priority given to the foremost international nephrologists involved in education and those who have contributed more actively to the journal's development over its 20 year history.

Consequently, everything submitted for publication must now be sent in English. Our journal has the services of a native speaker English language text editor who has been working with me for a decade, during the course of my duties as ERA-EDTA Secretary-Treasurer, throughout my term as president of the 2004 ERA-EDTA Congress and here with me in my work as Editor-In-Chief of this journal, giving her a vast experience of international nephrology. This coupled with her MA in Applied Linguistics makes Rebecca Baker an invaluable help in the journal's new era.

The ***Revista Portuguesa de Nefrologia e Hipertensão*** thanks all of you for your unstinting support over the last 20 years and the **Portuguese Journal of Nephrology and Hypertension** looks forward to receiving your continued contributions and submissions. On a personal note, as **Editor-In-Chief** I am counting on your unceasing enthusiasm and support for our journal now more than ever in this time of change and challenge.

*Fernando Carrera, MD*  
Editor-in-Chief