

# The British Journal of Cardiology celebrates its first 10 years



This is the tenth anniversary issue of the *British Journal of Cardiology* (BJC) and, to mark the occasion, we have invited editorials from medical and nursing groups officially associated with the journal. We have asked them to look towards developments we might see in different areas of cardiovascular medicine over the next decade. Many developments have been made in the past 10 years, too numerous to mention here. But it is very encouraging to see, after an article in our first issue asked "Is the coronary epidemic on the wane?", Dr Roger Boyle, the 'Heart Tsar', reporting that deaths from circulatory diseases are falling, and dramatically (see pages 412–13). He charts the progress throughout the country since the introduction of the National Service Framework (NSF) for Coronary Heart Disease (CHD) in March 2000, along with other strategies for prevention of CHD.

## Official journal

The BJC set out to provide a bridge between secondary and primary care, publishing news, reviews and original papers on all aspects of cardiology. It was, therefore, very gratifying when we became the official publication of the **Primary Care Cardiovascular Society** (PCCS), the first organisation to become affiliated with the journal. Dr Fran Sivers, PCCS Executive Director, describes in an editorial (see pages 414–15) how the Society is set to play a vital role in postgraduate education, especially in the training of GPs with special interests. Our links with primary care are strengthened further in this issue with the appointment of Professor David Fitzmaurice to our editorial board (see page 431) as the official representative of the **Royal College of General Practitioners** (RCGP), which also plays a key role in continuing medical education within primary care.

Since then the BJC has become the official journal for many other organisations, all committed to providing clinical excellence in cardiology. As well as having formal links with the **British Hypertension Society** (BHS), whose President, Professor Neil Poulter, writes about the challenges in hypertension over the next decade (see pages 418–20), we are delighted to be associated with **H·E·A·R·T UK**, the **British Association for Cardiac Rehabilitation** (BACR), and the

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**Nurses Hypertension Association (NHA).** Each organisation has written about their plans for the next decade (see pages 416–17, 424–5, and 421–3 respectively).

## New links

We are very pleased to announce in this anniversary issue that, following discussions with Dr Huon Gray, President of the **British Cardiac Society** (BCS), the BJC will host the BCS/BJC 'Forum', a regular journal feature from the New Year which will debate and review topical issues. We have also forged links with two more organisations and we are now the official journal for the **British Junior Cardiologists' Association** (BJCA) whose current president, Dr John Greenwood, writes on pages 428–30, and also the **British Association for Nursing in Cardiac Care** (BANCC). Their president, Ms Debbie Hughes writes on pages 426–7. We look forward to reporting their activities in future issues.

Finally, we would like to acknowledge the great contribution of the **British Cardiac Patients Association** (BCPA) and the **Blood Pressure Association** (BPA), both organisations representing the patient's 'voice' within UK medical care. We greatly value our links with these two organisations.

These are all important developments for the progression of the BJC over the next decade. We look forward to producing future issues of the journal with increasing input from these various official bodies but also with increasing involvement of our readers both within hospital medicine and primary care.

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