Consolidating the Youthful Power of the *Korean Journal of Radiology*

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The *Korean Journal of Radiology* just turned five years of age in this March. Since its first edition in March 2000, the journal has been indexed in Medline and Science Citation Index search for more than three years. The impact factor announced in 2004 was 1.783 and it was ranked 35th among 83 radiology journals in 2004 (1).

Dr. Jung-Gi Im served for five years as the Editor-in-chief. As a member of the Board of Directors of the Korean Radiological Society back in the last decade, Dr. Im devoted himself to giving birth to this English journal. In the editorial of the inaugural issue in 2000, Dr. Im pronounced that his editorial policy was to meet global standards and trends in radiology combined with an East-Asian perspective. He tried to reflect the geographic differences in disease prevalence in the contents of the papers (2). During the first five years of the journal, Dr. Im has succeeded in both making the journal successful and achieving his goal of the stated editorial policy.

As the new editor, I am thinking of raising the level of the *Korean Journal of Radiology* to one of international repute. In addition to being a high impact factor journal, the *Korean Journal of Radiology* should become a readable one. To be readable, the contents of the journal should be customized and appealing. It should be more Asiatic and domestic (i.e., Korean). In other words, the journal should become somewhat differentiated from the existing, high-ranked journals. All our editorial board members are well aware of the fact. Readers' participation in this journal is important as well. More editorials and

letters-to-the editor should be published through this journal.

Now is the era of the electronic journal. The *Korean Journal of Radiology* is already accessible via the internet. Within the next few months, the journal will establish an electronic system of submission and review process. We aim to develop a more rapid review system through this process.

Currently the *Korean Journal of Radiology* is quarterly, allowing 40 papers to be published annually. With the existing backlog of accepted manuscripts, I wish the journal to be published bimonthly, with an average size increasing from 10 to 15 papers, to raise the annual publications to 90 papers. This goal is achievable with help of cherished authors, reviewers, and readers of this journal.

I don't think I have a heavy burden on my back. Rather, I think I have so many reinforcements urging me on to make this journal a greater success. Since it is the peers related to this journal that will help conceive and bear a high-ranking journal, I will just enjoy playing an objective role in editorial work without prejudice. Because righteousness and justice are virtues for an editor, I will try to act with their guidance at all times.

References

1. *Journal Citation Reports on CD-ROM 2003*. Science Edition [CD-ROM]. Philadelphia: Thomson Corporation, 2004
2. Im JG. Inaugural editorial. *Korean J Radiol* 2000;1:1