Editorial Introduction

Welcome to *Journal of Interventional Gastroenterology* (JIG)

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Interventional gastroenterology (IG) is a subspecialty of gastroenterology in which minimally invasive procedures are performed using endoscopic, radiologic and ultrasonographic guidance. Some of these procedures are for purely diagnostic, while others are for therapeutic purposes.

Endoscopy and motility studies have been the first-line tool for diagnosis and treatment of gastrointestinal diseases. Transarterial chemoembolization (TACE) and radiofrequency ablation are main interventional options for minimally invasive therapy of liver cancer. Recently, natural orifice transluminal endoscopic surgery (NOTES) was proposed as a new interventional technique, with the aim of performing abdominal surgical procedures through natural orifices such as the mouth, the vagina, or the rectum to avoid visible incisions, allowing for perfect cosmetic results. These IG procedures are widely used in digestive diseases around the world, and studies in this field increase rapidly. JIG will provide a forum for dissemination of these new experiences expeditiously.

In January of 2011 we will launch *Journal of Interventional Gastroenterology* (JIG), the first international peer-reviewed journal of its kind to focus exclusively on interventional procedures, including endoscopy, radiology and ultrasonography, used in the study, diagnosis, and treatment of digestive diseases. We believe this is an excellent time to start this journal for abovementioned reasons.

In JIG, we will publish original articles, reviews, case reports, images, commentaries and letters to the editor. New developments in methodology and techniques are important resources for the research community. JIG will feature the latest developments in endoscopy, radiology, and ultrasonography. JIG will cover international conferences specifically dedicated to the latest finding in the field of IG. Reviews will take several forms (narrative and evidence-based) and generally be invited. Case reports and images provide opportunity for individual practitioners to showcase interesting teaching material. We recognize the critical role of team members in IG procedures and the current trend towards patient-centered care in genuinely getting patients involved in making decision in their care. JIG will provide a forum for members (nurses and assistants) of the team to voice their opinions and observations, as well as feedback from patients in the commentary section. Letters to the editor will reflect readers' reactions to material published in JIG.

We are committed to maintaining the highest standards of excellence. These include rapid review of manuscripts, responsiveness to both authors' and reviewers' concerns, timely/rapid publication of manuscripts on-line prior to the print version. We will make material published in JIG freely available for accessing full-text through Pub-Med Central at six months following publication of the print version. The on-line version will also remain freely available for at least one year from the launch of the journal. The availability of complete journal content for retrieval through a central database of our journal homepage is a good idea whose time has come.

Please visit our journal website: <http://www.landesbioscience.com/journals/jig> and check out our full Editorial Board membership and scope. For our author guidelines and submission poli-

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Submitted: Jul/10/2010; Revised: Jul/16/2010; Accepted: Jul/16/2010
Previously published online: www.landesbioscience.com/journals/jig
DOI: 10.4161/jig.1.1.14580

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Please feel free to contact us with suggestions to improve the journal, with concerns about our practices or policies, and please submit your manuscripts to us. Report your new and important clinical experience and discoveries here, first, and rapidly. Pre-submission inquiries are welcome. You may be pleasantly surprised with the quality of our process and our journal.

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