Dear Colleagues from Europe and around the World,

As you may know, I will become the next Editor-In-Chief of the journal *Intensive Care Medicine* in January 2013. I am both elated and anxious about this wonderful opportunity. Over the last years, my predecessors have made tremendous efforts to allow the journal to grow and to better answer your needs. I had the privilege to be Associate Editor with Laurent Brochard and Massimo Antonelli. I also now have the unique chance of working with Massimo Antonelli who is organising the smoothest possible changeover, while providing me with precious advice and counseling.

The changeover will take place in January 7, 2013. All manuscripts will be submitted through the new system (Editorial Manager). Manuscripts that are under consideration at any step of the process in the current system (Manuscript central) will be handled on that system until a decision has been reached.

Beginning in **January 7, 2013**, the journal will include new sections for which I would like to launch a call for submission as of today.

These sections are:

1. **The “7-day profile publication”**. Scientific articles that are submitted to the 7-day Profile Publication are high quality manuscripts providing new findings from large prospective observational or interventional studies. Authors may want to see their results quickly available on PubMed for various reasons. For this purpose, manuscripts submitted to the 7-day profile publication will have an initial assessment by the Editor-In-Chief and deputy Editors. Those manuscripts approved to undergo a reviewing process through this new format will be sent to external reviewers and authors will be notified with an answer within 3-5 days. Papers will then be either rejected, or transferred to a classic peer review process for major revisions, or provisionally accepted. In this last case, authors will have one day to address all the reviewer’s comments and resubmit the manuscript. We really hope that this new section will attract the best manuscripts and will answer your needs.

2. **“Imaging in Intensive Care Medicine”**. The section Imaging in Intensive Care Medicine is easy to grasp as it will be the only available section dedicated to collect specifically images related to the management of critically ill patients. Submissions will follow usual guidelines through the new system (Editorial Manager), which will include a specific field for imaging. Images that will be accepted will be of high quality, didactical, and self-explanatory at the same time. These images will need to be perceived as unique. For this section, please contact me if you have materials that may fulfill these criteria. Of course, images that will be submitted will need to follow ethical standards (patient’s/relative’s approval when appropriate, protection of patient’s identity and intimacy, IRB approval when appropriate).
3. Other sections will be included in the journal to provide authors and readers with many opportunities to share experiences, voice concerns or alert the critical care community about important news. For example, we will have a section entitled “From the inside”, which will include poetry, writing, sounding boards, personal thoughts, obituaries, and other qualitative perspectives that ICU clinicians want to share with their colleagues. Also, every month, we will invite guests to update us on various subjects through specific sections such as “What is new in critical care?”, “On being a critical care specialist”, “Art of critical care”, etc…

Each of these sections will have dedicated Editors who will make all their efforts to select the best possible pieces among your submissions.

I really hope that these sections will be successful and welcomed by all of you.

Please contact me if you believe that you have potential images or poetry submissions that you want to share with your critical care colleagues.

Yours sincerely,

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