



Circulation Journal Has Changed Its Style

Toyoaki Murohara, MD, PhD

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Editorial Team of the *Circulation Journal*, an official journal of the Japanese Circulation Society (JCS), I would like to announce several important changes.

1. Official Impact Factor of the *Circulation Journal* Has Reached 4.124

The *Circulation Journal* has earned its official 2015 impact factor (IF) from Journal Citation Reports®, placing the Journal 31st among the 124 journals in the Cardiac & Cardiovascular Systems category in the 2015 JCR Science Edition. This digit was attained by the significant collaboration of the many contributors to the Journal and the extraordinary dedicated effort of the Editorial Team led by Professor Hiroaki Shimokawa, Immediate Past Editor-in-Chief.

2. The Style of the Journal Has Been Modified

Circulation Journal has modified its style, effective from January 1, 2017. The cover has been changed to attract more “eyes” to the Journal. The table of contents has been removed to create more space for the cover figure of each issue, which is selected by the Editorial team and permission obtained from the relevant author(s). Therefore, authors are encouraged to submit their manuscripts with high-impact color figures. On the title and text pages, “color decoration” has been reduced to focus attention on the figures and tables. Figures will be sized to more concisely fit either the column or page width so that more text space is available.

3. Submission of Basic Science Research Articles Is Encouraged

Currently, we are receiving 80% clinical research papers, including epidemiological studies, and 20% basic science manuscripts. The Editorial Team is concerned that basic science researchers are no longer interested in submitting their articles to the *Circulation Journal*. We eagerly await your submission of more reports of basic science, in addition to the clinical science papers.

4. New Online-only Open Journal

At the last Board meeting of the Japanese Circulation Society (JCS) it was decided to create a new online-only rapid publication open journal. The tentative name of the journal is *Circulation Reports*, and this will be the second English journal published by the JCS. We are receiving almost 1,400 manuscripts each year and currently can publish only 300 of these. A quite high number of precious articles are sadly rejected because of the page limitation of the Journal. Some of those articles and newly submitted manuscripts will be considered for the *Circulation Reports*. A working group has been organized and is preparing for the publication of this new journal. We anticipate the first issue in the middle of 2018.

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Department of Cardiology, Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine, Nagoya, Japan

Mailing address: Toyoaki Murohara, MD, PhD, Department of Cardiology, Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine, 65 Tsurumai, Showa-ku, Nagoya 466-8550, Japan. E-mail: murohara@med.nagoya-u.ac.jp

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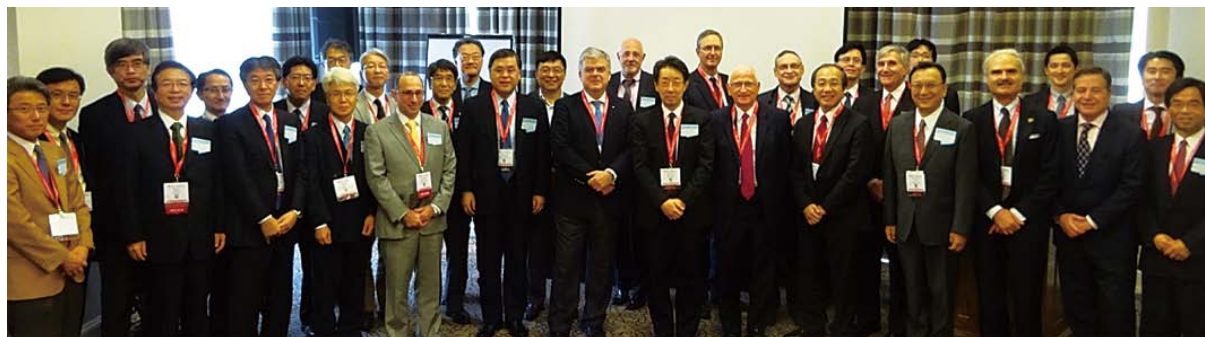


Figure. 2016 International Editorial Board Meeting of the *Circulation Journal* in New Orleans, Louisiana. Both Japanese and international Associate Editors, international Advisory Members and Editorial Office members attended and exchanged opinions on how to enhance the scientific level of the Journal. The meeting was very successful.

5. International Editorial Board Meeting

The International Editorial Board Meeting of the *Circulation Journal* was held during the American Heart Association's Scientific Sessions 2016 in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, last November. A total of 33 Japanese and international associate editors attended and exchanged opinions on how to enhance the scientific priorities of the Journal (**Figure**). Many valuable opinions were exchanged and will be adopted into the future operation of the *Circulation Journal*.

Finally, the Editorial Team of the *Circulation Journal* greatly appreciates your continuous support and contributions to the Journal. We look forward to your next submission.

Toyoaki Murohara, MD, PhD
Editor-in-Chief
Circulation Journal