Letter to the Readers

Introduction to the 25th anniversary issues

Welcome to the 25th anniversary commemoration of Immunohematology. We will observe this event throughout the year by publishing a series of invited reviews titled “Milestones.” These reviews are written by distinguished, world-renowned immunohematologists who provide their perspectives on events in this field during the past 25 years.

Delores Mallory, the first editor-in-chief of Immunohematology, kicks off the “Milestones” series in the current issue by taking a look back at the evolution of the journal from the Red Cell Free Press newsletter to Immunohematology, an Index Medicus–cited, peer-reviewed journal.

In the next issue, Dr. Marion Reid will describe the changes in antigen-antibody detection assays that have occurred over the years, in “Milestones in Procedures and Techniques.” As Dr. Reid notes, during the 25 years of Immunohematology, there has been a “reversal of phenotype and genotype.” Red cells were typed with antisera to predict genotype and now DNA is tested to predict the phenotype.

Did you attend an Antibody Club meeting and hear a presentation from a guest speaker or review interesting cases? In an upcoming issue, several of these guest speakers and leaders in the field of blood group serology will be profiled in “Pioneers of Blood Group Serology in the United States in the Post-Antiglobulin Era” by one of the guest speakers, Steven R. Pierce. The “Milestones” series will conclude in the final issue of 2009 with “Milestones in Evolution of the Crossmatch—Impact of Serologic Methods on Clinical Practice,” by Dr. S. Gerald Sandler, the founding medical editor of Immunohematology.

Thank you very much to the readers, authors, editors, and peer reviewers who have participated in this venture for the past 25 years. I hope you enjoy the yearlong celebration and reflection on the success of both the journal and our profession.

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