

Fifteen Years of *HERPES*, the IHMF[®] Journal

Antonio Volpi¹ and Lawrence Stanberry²

¹Department of Public Health, University of Rome, 'Tor Vergata', Rome, Italy; ²Columbia University, New York, NY, USA.

HERPES, THE JOURNAL of the International Herpes Management Forum (IHMF[®]), has celebrated its 15th year of providing clinicians and scientists with up-to-date information – and comprehensive recommendations – relating to all aspects of the patient management of herpesvirus infections and their sequelae.

Over the past 15 years – measured in nine supplements, 30 editorials and almost 200 articles – *HERPES* has detailed the global epidemiology of herpesvirus infections; explored the impact of infections in special populations including immunocompromised hosts, neonates, infants, children and adolescents, and pregnant women; and brought attention to the newly discovered human herpesviruses, types 6, 7 and 8.

HERPES has also investigated links between the herpesviruses and non-traditional diseases such as atherosclerosis, schizophrenia and multiple sclerosis; critically assessed diagnostic methods; reported on the expanding development and use of antiviral drugs; and tracked progress in vaccine research, including the success of the first therapeutic vaccine for control of a persistent viral infection (herpes zoster).

Throughout this time, *HERPES* has not avoided controversy; rather, it has showcased differences of opinion through debate articles and taken on difficult psychosocial issues such as stigma. The journal is also proud of its series of consensus articles that present the management recommendations developed through the IHMF[®].

In addition to publishing contributions from many of the world's most esteemed scientists working in human herpesvirus research, we have hosted papers from Nobel Laureate Thomas Weller, and an Academician of the National Academy of Science of the United States, Bernard Roizmann.

Our content is indexed in Medline, Index Medicus and Excerpta Medica (EMBASE). Google Scholar shows that almost every article published has been cited and that a significant number of papers have received a substantial number of

citations. The journal has had much impact on – and generated much interest from – many people who are interested in herpesviruses manifestations. The Editors-in-Chief often receive appreciative comments about *HERPES* that go well beyond the kindness of the interlocutor. Although it is dedicated to a limited area of medicine, the frequency and the burden of herpesvirus-associated infections and related diseases have made *HERPES* a reference that is now used by a broad range of people, from specialists and healthcare workers to patients seeking more information about their disease.

In celebrating 15 years' service to the medical and scientific communities we would like to thank the numerous experts who have generously given their time to contribute topical, authoritative and often thought-provoking articles and reviews. In particular, we honour our exceptional Editorial Board, which includes many luminaries in the herpesvirus arena. The journal would not have been the success it is without the continuing support and encouragement of the IHMF[®] Board including Drs Lawrence Corey, Paul Griffiths, Robert Johnson, Jean-Elie Malkin, Raj Patel, David Patrick and Richard Whitley. We would also like to acknowledge and celebrate the critical 'behind the scenes' contributions of our publisher, Cambridge Medical Publications / PAREXEL MMS, in helping us create and deliver this exceptional resource.



IHMF[®]
International
Herpes Management
— Forum —