
Editorial

Transitional Change

This is a particularly interesting time to be taking over as editor of *Behaviour Change*. The transition between myself and the outgoing editor, Alan Hudson, has been managed by my earlier appointment as editor-elect, and several meetings have been held to ensure the process is as smooth as possible. Under the excellent leadership of Alan Hudson, the journal has consolidated its position as a major reference for practitioners in the field of cognitive-behaviour therapy, especially within Australia. Many colleagues with whom I speak at conferences and at professional meetings indicate that they see *Behaviour Change* as useful to their clinical practice. It is this role which I would wish to promote, foster, and expand.

Although I perceive no need for major changes in direction or policy, I wish to encourage the compilation of special issues on topical areas of research and practice, and to promote the inclusion of more single-case clinical studies. I warmly welcome a recent editorial initiative to encourage submission of the work of postgraduate students. I am convinced that much valuable research goes unnoticed in Masters dissertations, and much important clinical work from university training clinics and other practical training settings is never written up for publication. As many programs encourage research dissertations to be written in a format that makes them suitable for journal submission, I encourage supervisors to consider *Behaviour Change* as an outlet for this work.

While it ought to be possible to encourage new graduates and novice practitioners to become subscribers to the publication of clinically related research, as well as being consumers of such research, it is vitally important to maintain the high standards that the journal currently reflects. I will continue to seek papers

of international standard from eminent researchers and practitioners, both from within and beyond Australia's shores. I think it also important to actively recruit those working in our region and to offer a publication that would be both relevant and significant to those researching and practising cognitive-behaviour therapy in New Zealand, Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong, and other countries in this region. This is a major challenge to us in Australia to promote and share in the development of cognitive-behaviour therapy beyond our current horizons. I believe the journal can and should play a major role in this endeavour.

A major challenge facing us is the dissemination of information about the powerful effects that our technology offers to others who share our commitment to working to improve the society in which we live and work. We must be careful not to merely preach to the converted. I would therefore encourage authors to consider a wider audience than the members of the association when writing. Providing reprints of important published papers can be a means of sharing with other colleagues that can significantly influence the task of broadening the acceptance of cognitive-behavioural practice. However, if the language used functions to exclude readers who aren't already "in the know", we do ourselves and our profession a disservice. To this end, I invite authors to write in a style that is both professional and accessible. Our goal must be to inform and educate ourselves and others about the power and utility of our technology, and the scientist-practitioner basis that underpins it.

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