

New series

A new series for OEM

T-C Aw

“Letter from ...”

At the editorial office of *OEM*, we are always excited about the launch of a new series, or improvements to the style or presentation of the journal. We believe any initiative that increases the interest of our readers and helps to inform and stimulate comment and debate contributes to the success of *OEM*. Recent developments include our new cover and format of articles, submission and review of papers through our website, the free availability of the online journal in the 100 poorest countries, and our successful continuing professional development series.

In another innovation, starting with this issue, we will be publishing an occasional series of short articles from practitioners in occupational and environmental health in different parts of the world: “Letter from ...”. The aim of

this series is to highlight some event, observation about work or work conditions, success in occupational health intervention or prevention, issue of concern, or any occupational and environmental health activity. The articles will be informative and readable rather than hard science; they may be humorous and entertaining, or serious and thought provoking. They will be the personal viewpoint of the authors. A unifying theme will be relevance to occupational and environmental medicine theory or practice, but this may often be oblique.

Initially, we will identify possible authors and commission these letters. Members of the *OEM* editorial board are being approached first for these articles, as they hail from many different countries and have their finger on the pulse of occupational and environmental health

developments in their region. However, we would also welcome any suitable letters from readers. We do not promise to publish everything that is submitted. Letters received will be reviewed for relevance and interest, and these may be edited before publication. Our first letter is from Pakistan, in which Anne Cockcroft highlights the hazards of road transport in that country. In the pipeline are letters from Rome, Dubai, Australia, Singapore, Brazil, and other diverse locations.

We hope you will come to look forward to these letters in forthcoming issues of the journal, and that you will enjoy reading them, and writing in if you feel a response is warranted. Responses from readers are welcomed—online responses in the first instance, although they may also be published in a subsequent issue of the print journal. We will consider the series a success if it stimulates thought, encourages debate, or even if it simply provides an enjoyable read.

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Call for peer reviewers

Clinical Evidence is a regularly updated evidence based journal available world wide both as a paper version and on the internet. *Clinical Evidence* urgently needs to recruit a number of new contributors. Contributors are health care professionals or epidemiologists with experience in evidence based medicine and the ability to write in a concise and structured way.

Clinical Evidence needs to recruit a number of new peer reviewers. Peer reviewers are health care professionals or epidemiologists with experience in evidence based medicine. As a peer reviewer you would be asked for your views on the clinical relevance, validity and accessibility of specific topics within the journal, and their usefulness to the intended audience (international generalists and health care professionals, possibly with limited statistical knowledge). Topics are usually 2000–3000 words in length and we would ask you to review between 2–5 topics per year. The peer review process takes place throughout the year, and our turnaround time for each review is ideally 10–14 days.

If you are interested in becoming a peer reviewer for *Clinical Evidence*, please complete the peer review questionnaire at www.clinicalevidence.com or contact Polly Brown (pbrown@bmjgroup.com).