

New exciting options which soundly stand on concepts developed by basic scientists in the last twenty years seem to be at hand of the medical community to manage muscle and non-muscle diseases. Taken together these options will develop in a new multidisciplinary professional activity, whose most probable name will be: Applied or Clinical Myology (at last: Myology). Implementation of options such as extensions of the rehabilitation procedures of Neurovascular Microsurgery, Functional Electro Stimulation, Muscle Transposition or Transplant, or of those still under preclinical or clinical experimentation such as Skeletal Muscle-Powered Cardiac Assist Devices (SM-P/CAD) and skeletal muscle-powered artificial sphincters or myoblast therapy of muscle and non-muscle disorders, asks for a great amount of animal experimentation whose achievements seem to be mere reproduction of long-established results of basic research (but usually done in small mammals or birds) or not yet are interesting to practitioners.

These experimental activities are "private" or at least "not public" certainly due to their potential industry interest, indeed they are often paid by Companies, but mainly because their results do not fit standards for publication: Editors not aware of the difficulties of implementing basic concepts in the real life (i.e., taking into account biologic variability and ethic constraints in clinical managements) do not recognize their originality and applied value. Several traditional journals of Anatomy, Developmental Biology, Cell and Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, Physiology & Biophysics, Biology & Comparative Biology, Neurology & Neuropathology, Cardiology, Orthopaedics, Physiatrics & Rehabilitation Engineering, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Paediatrics, Plastic Surgery, Transplants & Artificial Organs, Experimental Surgery etc. publish muscle research papers. Specialized journals exist or are ready to be published: Journal of Muscle Research and Cell Motility, Muscle & Nerve, and Neuromuscular Disorders. Though Experimental Neurology is now devoted only to nerve and brain research one seems to be forced to conclude that there is no room for a new journal.

On the other hand in the public interest this research, which usually give foundations to clinical experimentation, must become public as early as possible by the peer review process, which will discard unacceptable procedures, disseminate knowledge and offer opportunities to basic scientists to interact with clinicians bearing as dowry their invaluable background knowledge.

Basic and Applied Myology (BAM) will fit this gap. BAM will mainly cover skeletal muscle basic research and its applications. Special attention will be paid to reports of experimental studies in large mammals to test hypotheses of muscle and non-muscle diseases' managements. Myocardium and smooth muscle studies will be also considered.

BAM will publish Reviews (invited or submitted), Perspectives (new trends in industrial or clinical applications), Articles (Abstract, Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, References reporting full list of authors and title of papers), Communications (four-page papers: Introduction, Methods - only the new ones or their relevant modifications, Results and Discussion, References - without paper titles and with the first three authors only) and Myology's News, a redactional covering major breakthrough in Myology, academic/didactic issues and Conferences' Calendar.

With the invaluable help of Associate Editors, Advisory Board Members, *ad hoc* Reviewers and my Colleagues here in Padova Claudia Catani, Luciano Dalla Libera and Isabella Mussini I hope that Basic and Applied Myology will serve the true interests of both the myologists' world-wide community and the public at large.

*Ugo Carraro*