Dear Colleagues

On behalf of the editorial team of the Journal of Arrhythmia, the official journal of the Japanese Heart Rhythm Society (JHRS) and the Asian Pacific Heart Rhythm Society (APHRS), I would like to introduce a brand new editorial team and comment on the future of the Journal of Arrhythmia.

Remarkable progress has been made in the field of cardiac arrhythmia–electrophysiology, especially in recent times. This has translated into an improvement in the impact factor of journals pertaining to this field. The impact factor of Heart Rhythm, the official journal of the Heart Rhythm Society (HRS) in the United States, increased from 3.77 (2006) to 4.25 (2010; Fig. 1), and that of Europace, the official journal of the European Heart Rhythm Association (EHRA), increased from 1.47 (2006) to 1.84 (2010; Fig. 2). However, the impact factor of the Journal of Arrhythmia has not yet been computed.

Moreover, the Journal of Arrhythmia has not yet been indexed by PubMed.

In the light of the considerable technological advances and research activity in the field of arrhythmia–electrophysiology in Japan and neighboring countries in the Asia-Pacific region, the impact factor of the Journal of Arrhythmia should be listed as soon as possible.

When the impact factor is published, the position of the Journal of Arrhythmia is expected to be equivalent to that of Europace.

We are planning to renew our editorial team in January 2012, and we will work together very hard towards the listing of our impact factor. I am certain that our readers will be impressed with the well-known names on the new editorial team. We would also like to invite some internationally famous electrophysiologists and scientists to serve as international editors.

Another step the new editorial team will be taking is to collaborate with Elsevier Japan in our efforts to get the
impact factor of our journal listed as soon as possible. We hope to enter into a contract with Elsevier by the end of March 2012, and we are looking forward to making use of their knowledge and skill in this area.

Lastly, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all those who have contributed articles and use this occasion to request you to continue submitting high-quality articles to the Journal of Arrhythmia.

Editor-in-Chief,
Kazutaka Aonuma, MD, PhD
E-mail address: kaonuma@md.tsukuba.ac.jp

Fig. 2. Impact factor for Europace in the last 5 years quoted from 2010 Journal Citation Report Science® Edition. The impact factor of Europace has increased with advancements in the field of arrhythmia–electrophysiology.