



infant

for neonatal and paediatric
healthcare professionals

Reflections on the first year of *Infant* journal

At the beginning of a new year it seems appropriate to reflect on all that has been achieved in 2005. Starting with the belief that there was a need for a multidisciplinary journal focusing on neonatal and infant paediatric intensive care, *Infant* journal was conceived. After consultations with key elements of the target readership the format and content of the journal was developed and the new journal was launched in January 2005.

I am pleased to be able to report that *Infant* has been well received and now, one year on, it is an established part of the neonatal and paediatric intensive care scene for both healthcare professionals and the companies working in this field. It is fulfilling a useful role by helping to inform everyone caring for sick and premature babies about the latest developments and thinking in this field.

All this could not have been achieved without the hard work and dedication of Barbara Weller, the Nursing Editor and Anne Greenough, the Medical Editor, as well as the editorial board, who have been invaluable in reviewing articles, suggesting topics to be covered – and even writing some of the articles. Their support is particularly appreciated as they took a leap of faith and agreed to help develop *Infant* when it was an unknown entity.

Perhaps most importantly thanks must also go to the many authors who have taken the time to write for the journal and have produced high calibre articles, often to short deadlines, helping to develop *Infant* into the respected journal it is today. Congratulations must also go to those authors who have had their articles selected for reprinting in MIDIRS or inclusion in the European Neonatal Virtual Learning Project – an online educational programme designed for doctors training to become neonatologists.

However there are still some aspects of the journal that need further work. The original aim of *Infant* was to publish articles of interest to both

neonatal and paediatric intensive care staff and to encourage networking between these two groups. I've met a number of readers at conferences around the UK during 2005 and I appreciate the support we have received but I also acknowledge that we need to have more input from our paediatric colleagues. So I would like to actively encourage all our paediatric readers to get involved in the journal by suggesting topics for articles, offering to write for the journal, sending in letters giving us feedback on the content and thereby ensuring that this becomes a really useful journal for your specialty.

For 2006 I would like to welcome on board all the members of the Scottish Neonatal Nurses Group who will be receiving a complimentary subscription to *Infant* courtesy of Dräger Medical. We already have a strong input from Scotland and I am sure this is set to continue. We hope to collaborate with other groups within the neonatal and paediatric intensive care field and I would like to encourage readers to use the pages of the journal to keep in contact with their association members by sending in news items and details about events and study days being planned. In particular we would like to support the activities of the neonatal and paediatric networks, both those which are already set up and those still evolving, as this must be the future of effective care for our smallest clients and their families in the NHS. So if you would like your network featured in *Infant* get in touch or invite us to your annual conference.

Finally on behalf of the whole team at *Infant*, I would like to wish you all a very happy New Year and I look forward to receiving your views and comments.

Christine Bishop
Publisher