Change Is a Good Thing!

Here we go again. Another series of changes in your dearly beloved Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing (CJON)! Wasn’t it just perfect already? As much as those of us involved with the journal would like to think so, no, not quite. We are very cognizant of the fact that CJON is consistently rated as the leading benefit of Oncology Nursing Society membership, and at every opportunity, the editorial board discusses ways to make it even more valuable to you.

At our most recent meeting, we spent a good deal of time discussing the typical day of nurses in practice—in staff nurse and advanced practice roles. We talked about action-packed days, beginning with getting children fed, dressed, and off to school. This precedes a few minutes of exercise, if we are lucky, before heading off to a long day at work, followed by school, grocery shopping, cooking dinner, homework with the kids, and, hopefully, a bath before bed. When does that nurse read her or his journals to keep current in oncology? And how can this nurse claim to have an evidence-based practice if little time is left to read and ponder the current literature?

Our days (and nights) just seem to be getting busier and busier. So, for quite a while, the CJON Editorial Board and ONS Publishing Division staff have been discussing the best ways to help readers get the knowledge they need to practice in an as time efficient a manner as possible.

To that end, we have worked with a company to redesign the look of the journal. The result, we believe, is a cleaner, less cluttered look. You will find key points on the first page of each article, called “At a Glance,” which replaces the “Rapid Recap” that used to be at the end of each article. Some of the new columns include Oncology 101, which will give a concise overview of basic oncology problems. I have noticed at every ONS Congress that the sessions on management of leukemia or lung or colon cancer are always well attended. Obviously, nurses want overviews of the common oncology problems, and this column will address that need. Supportive Care is another new column that will discuss symptom management of a variety of problems.

What Do I Do About . . . ? is a column that will answer common management problems. If you are a new nurse manager, what do you do if your staff is backbiting and arguing? We hope this column will help you solve those kinds of problems. Prevention and Wellness will focus on self-care of the nurse. CJON Reporter will focus on oncology and nursing news. Columns that will continue include Picture This, Patient Education, Integrated Care, Evidence-Based Practice, Diagnostic Reasoning, and Case Analysis.

I hope that you find this new format appealing, and the CJON Editorial Board is anxious to hear your feedback. We also encourage you to consider writing a column or article for the journal. Contact information for the associate editors is located on pp. 17–18, and I can be reached via e-mail at CJONeditor@ons.org. We welcome your comments.