Welcome to the second issue of Research in Gerontological Nursing (RGN). I hope you enjoyed our inaugural issue and find the articles in this issue equally as interesting and informative. Many colleagues have told me that they are pleased with the advent of a research journal in our field and that the "time is right," given recent advances in gerontological nursing research. I agree, of course, but for the journal to be sustained and to flourish, we need your help in spreading the word about RGN to potential contributors and subscribers. In particular, I urge those readers in academic settings to contact their nursing representatives on the library acquisitions board, or whoever makes faculty recommendations to the library, and encourage them to purchase an institutional subscription to RGN.

I have also received a number of inquiries from contributors and Editorial Board members regarding the indexing status of RGN, so let me provide an update on that process. The National Library of Medicine (NLM) (2007) uses a committee chartered by the National Institutes of Health—the Literature Selection Technical Review Committee (LSTRC)—to review all new biomedical and health journal titles that have applied and recommend those to be indexed in MEDLINE®.

For Journals published three or more times per year, the LSTRC requires four issues for review. The LSTRC meets three times per year. More than 100 titles, including new titles and rereviews, are examined at each meeting. Several weeks after the meeting, notifications are sent to editors or publishers for all titles selected for MEDLINE indexing.

Overall, approximately 20% to 25% of the titles reviewed are selected for indexing (NLM, 2007). For journals in their first three volume years when selected, the articles in volumes 1 through 3 will be indexed. What this means for RGN is that once we have published four issues (the fourth issue being scheduled for publication in October 2008), the Journal can be scheduled for review by the LSTRC; this review could take several months to a year. The bottom line is the MEDLINE indexing process is underway, but we must wait another 6 months or so to meet their criteria for review.

In addition, Thomson Scientific reviews more than 2,000 journal titles each year and selects 10% to 12% of those for inclusion in its database (Testa, n.d.). A minimum of three consecutive issues are needed for a journal to be evaluated for inclusion. We will seek review by Thomson Scientific after the July issue has been published; however, the journal evaluation process can take up to a year, sometimes longer.

In the meantime, RGN is currently indexed by Ageline, EBSCO, Ovid, and ProQuest. We expect to be indexed by CINAHL and other related services soon. As always, we welcome your comments on the articles we have published and suggestions on how to improve the Journal.

REFERENCES

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