Introducing the NHLBI Page: A New Feature to Facilitate Communication Between the NHLBI and the Cardiovascular Research Community

We are pleased to inaugurate The NHLBI Page, another new feature of Circulation Research, with the article titled “Thought Exercises on Accountability and Performance Measures at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI)” by Dr. Michael Lauer, Director of the Division of Cardiovascular Sciences of the NHLBI.

The purpose of this new column is to facilitate communication between the NHLBI and the community of cardiovascular investigators it supports. We will publish announcements and discussions of new NHLBI initiatives, programs, policies, budget priorities, guidelines, etc. Unlike the “official” announcements of programs/initiatives, The NHLBI Page will provide a forum for a more personal and critical discussion and for addressing issues or concerns that may have arisen after the official announcements were released. Potential topics that would be of high interest to our readership include, for example, NHLBI initiatives/policies for fostering new investigators and for promoting translational research, the Global Health Initiative of the NHLBI, and of course, the outlook for the NIH budget and what it means to investigators. In addition, we plan to publish thought pieces that present the views of NHLBI leaders on topical scientific areas; for example, areas of research that they consider to be of high priority for the NHLBI or are in urgent need of attention. These, too, will be invaluable to our readers. By being exposed to a wide array of proposals and ideas, the NHLBI leadership is in a unique position to offer a broad perspective on important scientific topics that affect the scientific community at large.

With the launch of this column, we hope that Circulation Research will become the main vehicle of communication between the NHLBI and its constituency, particularly grantees and grant applicants. The journal is uniquely positioned to serve this role. As the official publication of the Council on Basic Cardiovascular Sciences of the AHA (the largest organization of basic cardiovascular scientists, with >5000 members), Circulation Research is one of the most (if not the most) widely read journals among investigators working in basic cardiovascular biology, who are the majority of NHLBI grantees.

The NHLBI Page will be a regular feature of Circulation Research, and we anticipate publishing one article per quarter. We thank Drs Michael Lauer and Sonia Skarlatos from the NHLBI for their commitment to this initiative. As always, your feedback is greatly appreciated. Please contact me directly at rbolli@louisville.edu.

Roberto Bolli, MD, for the Editors
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