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***Modern Rheumatology* indexed in MEDLINE**

The National Library of Medicine has just accepted *Modern Rheumatology* for listing and indexing in MEDLINE. Articles from *Modern Rheumatology* will begin appearing in MEDLINE/PubMed/Index Medicus from volume 16(1), published in February 2006. *Modern Rheumatology* has now become the first international journal of rheumatology in Asian countries to be indexed in MEDLINE. It is a great pleasure for me as Editor-in-Chief and for the Editorial Board to announce this good news to all members of the Japan College of Rheumatology (JCR) and to all readers of *Modern Rheumatology*.

This is an important first step for *Modern Rheumatology* in becoming an internationally known journal of rheumatology. Our next big concern is, of course, to obtain an impact factor. We are hopeful that the impact factor can be obtained within a few years of the journal's first appearance in MEDLINE, depending on how many articles from *Modern Rheumatology* are cited in other articles. Therefore, members of the JCR are encouraged to submit more excellent-quality articles to *Modern Rheumatology* and are asked to cite more articles from *Modern Rheumatology* as references when writing new papers for submission (including all submissions, not only to *Modern Rheumatology* but also to other peer-reviewed journals indexed in MEDLINE).

Modern Rheumatology, as the only international Asian journal of rheumatology indexed in MEDLINE, has the important mission of disseminating original and exceptional information from Japan and the rest of Asia to the world. As stated in the editorial in the previous issue of *Modern Rheumatology*,¹ the Editorial Board is now taking steps to promote and develop the journal on a global scale. Indexing in MEDLINE is an excellent opportunity to realize these efforts, and to assure that more readers and researchers from abroad will become aware of and access articles in *Modern Rheumatology*. We now intend to introduce a completely computerized system for submissions, reviewing, and transmissions to editors in order to accelerate the peer-review process and publication.

On behalf of the Editorial Board, I earnestly solicit the cooperation of all JCR members and readers for the further development of *Modern Rheumatology*.

Reference

1. Mimori T. The present and future perspectives of *Modern Rheumatology* (editorial). *Mod Rheumatol* 2006;16(1):1-2.