

# Editorial

Since my appointment as editor of the Israel Journal of Veterinary Medicine I have tried to convince veterinarians both in the small and large animal fields to start documenting their experiences and begin writing articles, case reports and reviews for the journal. To my disappointment this has not proved to be an easy task.

I have tried to persuade my fellow veterinarians with reasons such as: document and publish your experiences; documentation and publications will allow for future advancement within the profession; the recognition of ones work by a peer reviewed journal will give acknowledgment of professional success and excellence.

This leads to the question of how do we see ourselves? On the one hand we may be judged as proficient clinicians by our clients but on the other hand it would also be regarded as an accomplishment to obtain recognition of our clinical and scientific skills from our fellow veterinarians and peers. The options are: clinician, clinician scientist or scientist clinician or scientist? Bearing in mind that we all qualified in academic institutions receiving academic degrees it seems reasonable to assume that we have a scientific background which we should be applying to enhance our clinical skills.

Following on from this I see the “writing experience” as part of our continuing scientific learning process. The documentation of our experiences obliges us to study the current literature and in so doing enhance our knowledge and expand our experience in the field in which we work.

My message in this editorial is for us veterinarians to see ourselves as “clinical scientists”; to endeavor to enhance our scientific knowledge and to be seen in the eyes of the public as responsible veterinarians. An important part of this process involves writing and I encourage my colleagues to do so.

I look forward to receiving your articles for review.

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