



The Magazine's Mission

EDITOR'S MESSAGE



By Ed Rudin, MD

FOR SEVERAL MONTHS the Editorial Committee examined the mission, objectives and procedures of Sacramento Medicine set forth in the mid-1980s to see how they apply to Sierra Sacramento Valley Medicine in 2001.

The committee proposed minor changes in mission and objectives, and major changes in procedures, which the Board of Directors has now approved. This is your magazine, so you should know them.

We will print the following mission statement in each issue and count on you to keep us on-mission: "Sierra Sacramento Valley Medicine, the official journal of the Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society, is a forum for discussion and debate of news, official policy and diverse opinions about professional practice issues and ideas, as well as information about members' personal interests."

Our objectives and responsibilities are to:

- Assure that news and information is accurate.
- Make clear which opinions are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the medical society or its Editorial Committee, and which are official Society policy.
- Enhance members' knowledge of each other's professional and other activities and interests.

Our plans to achieve those objectives are to:

1. Encourage articles by members of the society on their interests and their views on issues.
2. Develop articles, interviews, panels and roundtables that give a balanced view of controversial topics.
3. Encourage reviews of books, audiotapes, theater, music and film of interest to members.
4. Encourage reports and opinions on local, state, or national health policy or practice and on community health topics.
5. Encourage brief (250 words or less), signed letters for publication.

The first page of an article is about 480 words with a photo, and 540 words without; subsequent pages run about 680 words. The preferred total length of an article, unless otherwise arranged in advance, is up to 1160 words.

The Editorial Committee has the sole discretion to accept, edit or reject a submission. A member of the Committee will discuss its decision with the author in advance of publication. Contributors should send submissions to the medical society office or to the editor's e-mail. Articles are acceptable in WordPerfect, Word or plain text.

The deadline for each issue is the end of the first week of an even-numbered month, for publication in the next odd-numbered month. That allows two weeks for revisions.

The Editorial Committee identifies subjects and writers, and reviews and formulates policy for the Society's publications. SSV Medicine thrives on your contributions.

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