

Editorial

The first editor of this journal, Alan Kazdin (1989), described the scope of *Psychological Assessment* as mainly empirical research on measurement and evaluation relevant to the broad field of clinical psychology. Empirical research remains the principal focus of the journal. We welcome submissions of the best work on assessment in all areas of clinical psychology, including neuropsychology, health psychology, interpersonal relations, and of course, symptoms and clinically relevant personality processes. Also appropriate are submissions in the areas of decision making, outcome evaluation, and novel assessment methodologies and theoretical models. Critical analyses of assessment methodologies and instruments, including meta-analyses, and instructional articles that bring to the attention of clinical scientists and practitioners important theoretical or methodological advances will also be considered.

Given the international nature of clinical psychology, as well as the increasing ethnic diversity of the U.S. population, articles that contextualize clinical psychological assessment cross-culturally are invited for submission. The current health care structure requires that our field give increasing thought to the incremental validity of psychological assessment instruments and to the cost–utility balance of specific assessment processes. These are appropriate topics for submissions as well.

Considerations such as incremental validity, cost–utility, and predictive efficiency (i.e., predictive power, sensitivity and specificity, ROC functions) are likely to be important for many prospective submissions. We wish to draw attention to the importance to clinical practice of diagnostic statistics such as predictive power vis-à-vis more conventional assessments of statistical significance. Similarly, the applied focus of this journal means that potential generalizability of findings and other aspects of external validity are important considerations in the evaluation of all submissions, especially studies of nonclinical groups.

This is a journal of applied clinical science. Advances in applied fields depend heavily on developments in the basic science of psychology, other behavioral sciences, and other applied sciences. We, in particular, welcome submissions that extend psychological assessment on the basis of relevant advances in supporting fields such as cognitive psychology/cognitive science, human decision making, biological psychology, and social–personality psychology.

The mainstay of *Psychological Assessment* is the publication of excellent unsolicited manuscripts. Manuscripts for full-length articles and for brief reports are welcome. The Brief Report section of the journal offers a place for the publication of studies of limited scope, provocative new findings that require further development, and replications and extensions. Detailed instructions for the preparation of full-length and brief report manuscripts may be found at www.apa.org/journals/pas/submission.html.

There are two major inputs to the publication process: submissions and thoughtful, prompt reviews. We can encourage the first by offering the second. However, the second depends on the scientific community. So we ask two things of this community: First, please be open to requests for reviews and be mindful of how important prompt editorial decisions are to you as an author. Second, if you have published in relevant peer-reviewed journals, consider offering your services as a reviewer. You may do this by sending your vita and a list of specialties to milton.strauss@case.edu.—Milton E. Strauss, Editor

Reference

Kazdin, A. E. (1989). Editorial. *Psychological Assessment*, 1, 3–5.