

FROM THE EDITORIAL DESK

Electronically transmitted health-care practices are included among the focus areas of the Arctic Council. In this special issue, we have collected a number of reviews of ehealth practices covering a number of largely different circumpolar countries. It is sad that contributions concerning Russia, and some other countries, were unable to meet our editorial deadlines. This special issue has been more widely distributed to northern health-care units and administrators than our regular issues, and we hope that the information provided in the reviews will be helpful to health-care professionals working in the circumpolar area.

In the coming year, this Journal will publish a special issue on the assessment of the impact of the arctic climate on health, based on material released by the Arctic Council in November of this year. It will be 5th issue of the Journal in 2005. The decision to increase the number of annual issues of the Journal from four to five is based upon the increased quality and number of the manuscripts sent to the Journal.

At the beginning of the year 2005, the responsibility for the publication of the *International Journal of Circumpolar Health* will shift to the International Association of Circumpolar Health, whose members include the International Union for Circumpolar Health (IUCH), the Nordic Society for Arctic Medicine (NSAM), the University of Oulu, the University of Manitoba and the University of Alaska, thereby providing the Journal with a much stronger scientific and economic environment than it has had up until now. I believe that this administrative improvement will be accompanied by an inevitably positive development in the content of the Journal, without affecting the latter's focus areas.

The Journal has been able to announce several circumpolar health meetings held over the course of this year, and was also present at many of them; we are happy for this development. The

Journal is also being contacted by an ever-increasing number of professional and scientific sites from numerous countries, a type of collaboration that we hope will continue.

A group of highly qualified experts has accepted our invitation to work as Associate Editors of the Journal, starting from the beginning of the year 2005, and I am confident that their valuable contributions will help us to improve the scientific and professional quality of the Journal even further.

Year 2004 has been period of many positive steps with regards to the substance, quality and editorial practices of the Journal. I thank our readers, contributors and editorial team for helping us to take these steps, and wish all of you a refreshing and relaxing Christmas and New Year.

Juhani Hassi
Editor-in-Chief

ERRATUM

Correction of authors names

The names of the authors in the article "The prevalence of selected pregnancy outcome risk factors in the life-style and medical history of the delivering population in North-Western Russia" *Int. J. Circumpolar Health* 2004 Mar;63 (1): 39-60 were incorrectly published so that the last name of the authors was first, followed by the initials.

The correct authors names of the abovementioned article are: Arild Vaktskjold, Elise Erna Paulsen, Ljudmila Talykova, Evert Nieboer and Jon Øyvind Odland.

We apologize for the inconvenience.
IJCH Editorial Office