I am delighted to announce that, beginning with the winter 2014 issue, papers published in *Lab Medicine* will be included in the MEDLINE index maintained by the National Library of Medicine (NLM). The MEDLINE index of published papers is the primary database searched by PubMed, and papers included in the MEDLINE index receive a PubMed identification number (PMID).

Scientific journals, both print and online, are selected for inclusion in the MEDLINE database after review by an NIH-chartered advisory committee, the Literature Selection Technical Review Committee (LSTRC), which examines approximately 190 new and resubmitted applications at each of 3 yearly meetings. Only 20 to 25% of submissions receive their recommendation for indexing. It is estimated that 13,000-14,000 biomedical titles are currently published throughout the world; only about 5,300 of the titles are indexed in the MEDLINE database.

This was not the first time the journal has been submitted for review by the NLM; it has been submitted several times since its first publication in 1970. However, this was its first successful application.

The overhaul of *Lab Medicine* began in early 2012, when the journal switched from monthly to quarterly issues. At the same time, the graphic design folks at ASCP began working on prototypes of a fresh, new format for the journal. As the newly appointed Editor in Chief, I solicited applications for the Editorial Board and began interviewing candidates. The Editorial Board was reorganized to include associate and assistant editors within each specialty who would have a much greater role in the processing and review of manuscripts than previous Editorial Board members. Discussions began about creating a website that would complement the printed journal, and how content would be divided between the two. By late spring in 2012, a new design for the journal had been selected, and by early that summer, the new Editorial Board had been appointed.

The first issue of the redesigned *Lab Medicine* was Vol. 43, No. 5 (Summer 2012). A few months later, the website was launched.

An application for review by the NLM LSTRC must be accompanied by the 4 most recent issues, so we waited until June 2013 to submit our application with summer and fall 2012, and winter and spring 2013 issues. The LSTRC was also granted a complimentary subscription so they received issues subsequent to those included with the application.

In a letter from the National Library of Medicine dated March 7, 2014, we were notified that the Review Committee had recommended *Lab Medicine* for inclusion in the MEDLINE database, but due to email spam filters, delivery of the letter was delayed until June. On June 11, 2014, we became aware of the favorable decision.

This distinction represents the culmination of over 2 years of effort, and is the most prominent milestone in the journal’s 44-year history. I am deeply grateful for the contributions of all the talented and dedicated individuals who had a hand in the redesign, and for the tireless efforts of the associate and assistant editors and the reviewers, who ensure the integrity of everything we publish.

My sincerest congratulations to everyone whose efforts have elevated *Lab Medicine* to its proper place among the most respected biomedical publications. Job well done!

*Roger Bertholf, PhD*
*Editor in Chief*