June 8, 2011

Dear PIDS Member,

We are pleased to announce that PIDS will launch a new quarterly journal, *Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (JPIDS)*, dedicated to perinatal, childhood and adolescent infectious diseases and owned by PIDS. The decision to start a new journal follows careful deliberation over several years by PIDS leadership. The Society’s current financial situation has contributed very substantially to this decision. The financial reality in the current era of limited support from industry, the very considerable expense of purchasing subscriptions to the current journal for the membership from its publisher, and the resulting financial shortfall of the Society have required reconsideration of our relationship between our current publisher, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins (LWW) and the *Pediatric Infectious Disease Journal (PIDJ)*.

Under our current PIDS affiliation with *PIDJ*, the revenue received by the Society from LWW is far below industry standards because the Society has never owned the journal or its copyright. In order to permit our society to survive and support our educational mission, the leaders of PIDS believe this is the only viable option available to us at this time. Despite our intense efforts to secure a better affiliation contract, LWW would not match the financial terms of such contracts (terms that we have been able to secure with our new journal). We also believe that our Society has matured to the point where ownership of our own journal is realistic, and should be pursued in a manner similar to that of IDSA and other professional societies.

We as a society owe a great deal to the editors of the *Pediatric Infectious Disease Journal (PIDJ)*, Drs. George McCracken and John Nelson, and acknowledge gratefully the important contributions made to our society over many years by their work. Our society’s existence and emphasis on fellowship training and education is a legacy of these individuals. While we have been pleased with our affiliation with LWW and *PIDJ* over many years, the financial reality in the current era of limited support from the pharmaceutical industry and financial shortfalls of our society have required reconsideration of the LWW-PIDS relationship.

*JPIDS* will be an excellent source of original articles, clinical trial reports, guidelines, and reviews on topics ranging from bench to bedside, with particular attention to the interests and needs of the pediatric infectious diseases community. PIDS has negotiated a partnership agreement with Oxford University Press whereby the Society will benefit strongly by owning the copyright and intellectual content of the journal. This agreement also establishes synergies with the IDSA journals (*Journal of Infectious Diseases* and *Clinical Infectious Disease*), also published by Oxford University Press. The inaugural issue of *JPIDS* will appear in print and online in spring 2012.

We are beginning the search for a journal editor. Enclosed is the invitation for applications. An Editor Selection Committee will review applications, interview finalists and choose an editor by July 1, 2011. We welcome your application or nomination of a colleague. We also welcome your interest in serving as
an Editorial Board member or referee for *JPIDS*, as rigorous peer review will be a hallmark of the new journal. In addition, if you are interested in submitting an article and would like to receive more information as it becomes available, please contact any member of the PIDS Council or Christy Philips at our society headquarters.

An online and print subscription to *JPIDS* will be included at no cost as part of your PIDS membership. Beginning in 2012, PIDS membership fees will no longer cover a subscription to *PIDJ*. We have asked Lippincott Williams & Wilkins to provide us with information about how members may continue to receive *PIDJ* once our contract with them expires on December 31, 2011, and we will keep you posted about special offers or other information that Lippincott Williams & Wilkins provides.

This is an exciting and essential development for the continuation and expected growth of our Society. We understand there may be questions from our members regarding this, and welcome questions and suggestions at our society email at pids@idsociety.org. We look forward to engaging you as readers, contributors, and reviewers in the months and years ahead.

Sincerely,

Penelope H. Dennehy, MD  
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President

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