

## EDITORIAL

# We are here for you and ready to hear from you

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While scientists navigate through these uncertain times, follow orders to shut their laboratories, work from home, and think about the next steps in their research, we want our authors, reviewers, and readers to know that the editors at *Journal of Experimental Medicine* (*JEM*) are on duty. We are committed to providing you the best service we can as you interact with the editorial office, submit manuscripts, and address reviewers' comments.

For many years, *JEM* has given voice to the immunology community and published landmark studies on host-pathogen interactions. That focus now extends to COVID-19 and SARS-CoV-2. Many laboratories are redirecting their focus to work on this new disease. *JEM* will assess COVID-19 and SARS-CoV-2 studies in a timely fashion and expedite their publication whenever possible. Furthermore, *JEM* and the other journals at Rockefeller University Press have joined the call from Wellcome to make published studies relevant to COVID-19 rapidly accessible (<http://bit.ly/wellcome-statement>).

We recognize that scientists are currently working remotely and trying to consolidate the data they have in hand to write manuscripts on a wide range of topics within the scope of *JEM*. *JEM* Brief Definitive Reports would be an excellent format for short, solid studies. Recognizing that it will not be feasible for some time to do non-COVID-related experiments in many

institutions, we will allow authors to add a section in the discussion regarding experiments requested by the reviewers that the authors cannot perform under the circumstances. *JEM* will provide guidance to authors regarding which points require additional experimental evidence before publication and which points can instead be addressed only in the discussion. Re-submission deadlines will be also extended.

Furthermore, we recognize that many scientists have been asked to provide their knowledge and service at the front row of the battle against COVID-19. As such, we understand delays in providing reviews on manuscripts. At the same time, we hope that more scientists will step in to help ensure rapid dissemination of important new knowledge by agreeing to provide peer review. We extend special thanks to those who have already come forward to offer their service as reviewers in these hectic and uncertain times.

Finally, acknowledging that face-to-face scientific meetings have been cancelled and that our scheduled time with authors and reviewers has been compromised, we encourage you to contact the *JEM* editorial office for an appointment to talk. The office team is available by Zoom, phone, and email to address any questions you might have and to discuss the suitability of your study for *JEM*.

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