LISTENING TO EMERGENCY NURSES ASSOCIATION MEMBERS AND JOURNAL OF EMERGENCY NURSING READERS

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Shortly after making the announcement to hire a new Editor-in-Chief for the Journal of Emergency Nursing (JEN), a readership survey was conducted to gauge readership habits and the satisfaction with and usefulness of various JEN features. Ultimately, the findings from this survey will be one element used by the new Editor-in-Chief to guide JEN’s strategic direction.

This summer, a random sample of 5000 Emergency Nurses Association members was surveyed by email for this purpose; 283 members responded. We learned that the leading reasons why members read JEN were to expand their knowledge (67%), become aware of new trends (51%), and learn about information important to practice (44%). Figure 1 provides a listing of additional reasons for members reading JEN.

Overall, readers believed that the content and quality of JEN was very good to excellent rather than poor, fair, or good. The area reflecting a potential for improvement was the rating for sections and columns in JEN; only 69% rated this component as very good to excellent. We are pleased to announce that JEN is committed to bringing clinically oriented content back. In this issue, you will find a Pediatric Update article detailing the new neonatal resuscitation guidelines, Geriatric Update article describing an innovative project to increase older adult driver safety, and Triage Decisions article reporting a clinical case for an adult with vision changes.

Figure 2 provides a depiction of the ratings for additional content in the Journal.

From our readers, we learned that clinical practice guidelines and position statements are still valuable (Figure 3). We anticipate partnering with the Emergency Nurses Association to regularly publish priority documents in this area in the upcoming issues of JEN.

Popular sections that readers would like to read more of in the Journal include the Trauma Notebook (60%), Triage Decisions (59%), Case Reviews (50%), and Emergency Nursing Review Questions (50%). Figure 4 indicates additional columns that readers would like prioritized in future issues of JEN. This list of priority sections reflects several comments that respondents provided such as “I like the CEs and CEN review questions” as well as “Bring back more clinical articles—things I can use in my day-to-day practice and when I educate the peers in my department.” These comments resonate with the JEN Editorial Board, who is committed to increasing the clinical content in the Journal.

While we will continue to publish quality research in JEN, we also will ensure that the research articles have relevance to the clinical practice of emergency nursing. Including research is important to build the science for evidence-based emergency care. From our readers, we heard that many read JEN cover-to-cover but want the focus on clinical content. To further ensure that the clinical content going forward is highlighted, the front half of JEN issues will feature the section content most closely tied to daily clinical practice. Research will continue to be published but moved to the latter half of each issue.

We believe that the merits of the Journal will continue to meet our readers’ desires and that they will continue reading JEN cover-to-cover. And most importantly, we hope that readers will be able to apply JEN content to transform their clinical practice for the betterment of clinical outcomes.

Author Disclosures

Conflicts of interest: none to report.
FIGURE 1
Findings reflect responses to the following statement: Please rank the order of the reasons for reading JEN with “1” being the “number 1 reason” you read the publication. Respondents could rank as many reasons as applicable to them. CE, continuing education.

FIGURE 2
Findings reflect responses to the following question: How would you rate JEN in terms of…
Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs) Position Statements
I obtain from the ENA website, not from JEN
Never Valuable/Don't Read
Rarely Valuable
Sometimes Valuable
Regularly Valuable
Always Valuable

FIGURE 3
Findings reflect responses to the following statement: Please rate how often the ENA position statements and clinical practice guidelines published in JEN are of use to you and your practice. ENA, Emergency Nurses Association; JEN, Journal of Emergency Nursing.

FIGURE 4
Findings reflect responses to the following question: In future issues of JEN, would you like to see more articles in any of the following categories? Select all that apply. QI, quality improvement.