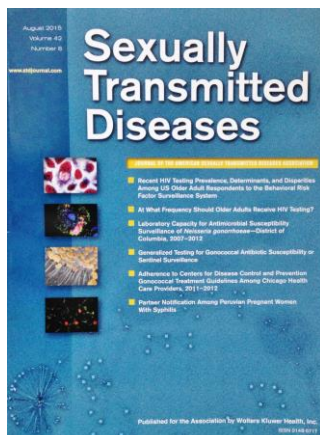


**What is the new editor of
Sexually Transmitted Diseases
going to do with the journal?**

Bill Miller
Professor of Medicine & Epidemiology
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Editor, *Sexually Transmitted Diseases*
bill_miller@unc.edu



Official Journal of the
American STD Association

Volume 1, Issue 1:
September, 1974

STD almost died in 1989; Julie Schachter brought it back to life with the help of the STD research community

Julie Schachter – Editor-in-Chief for previous 25 years

Bill Miller - Editor-in-Chief for 8 months, 12 days, 7.5 hours

My goals for this talk

Introduce the journal to you
Introduce myself to you
Briefly discuss my job at the journal
Help you get your papers published in *STD*
Introduce some new initiatives we hope to implement

Who am I?

Professor of Medicine & Epidemiology at the
University of North Carolina in the US

Focus on chlamydial infection, gonorrhea, syphilis,
and HIV, esp. interaction with STDs
- a generalist, not really a substantive expert in any
single STD

Special Editor for Infectious Diseases, *Epidemiology*
Former Associate Editor, *Sexually Transmitted
Infections*

My first publication in *STD*

Miller WC. Screening for chlamydial infection:
A model program based on prevalence. *STD*
1998; 25: 201-210.

Not really a review, not really a commentary,
but a “thought-piece”

It had five reviews, all quite extensive

It’s been cited 26 times in 17 years (at least it
isn’t 0). I think that it stimulated more
conversation than citations

What is my job at *STD*?

Review all papers submitted to the journal
Make decisions about sending on to Associate Editors
versus reject without review
Assign Associate Editors
Review paper and reviews when returned by AE
Make final decisions about accept, revise, or reject
Solicit commentaries, editorials, invited reviews
Identify new initiatives for the journal

STD isn’t broken, so what is my main job?

What is my main job at **STD**, since the journal isn't broken?

Don't mess it up!

What are we looking for in **STD**?

We will publish papers addressing HIV infection that pertain to:

HIV/STD interaction
HIV epidemiology
HIV prevention
HIV diagnosis

We are not looking for HIV treatment papers

How do I get my paper published in **STD**?

Do good science

Write clearly and concisely; follow instructions

Respond to reviewers

Rock the boat!

What are we looking for in **STD**?

Your papers addressing:

- Any sexually transmitted pathogen, including HIV infection
- STD epidemiology, prevention, diagnosis, treatment
- STD basic science if relevant to general STD audience
- Sexual health, especially as it relates to STDs

What are we looking for in **STD**?

A note on case reports:

Yes, we occasionally publish case reports

We do not publish very many, and most are not reviewed.

A case report must be truly interesting, important, or novel

Do good science

The better the science, the better the chance of publication.

Send us your **best papers** – don't send them to a more general journal.

- we understand the context better
- we may have an accompanying editorial
- we may publicize it with a press release or social media

Write clearly and concisely; Follow instructions

Spend time editing your paper – make it crisp, concise, clear

If you are not a native English speaker and writing is not easy for you, ask a native English speaker to review/edit the paper
- check our website for a service to help with this

Follow the author instructions!

Respond to reviewers

Reviewers donate their time to journals

Be respectful in your responses

Make a change in response to nearly all comments

Try to respond, not rebut...

The best way to ensure rejection after an initial review

Rebut all of the reviewers' comments rather than **respond** to them.

Rock the boat

Conventional wisdom is just that – conventional; it isn't necessarily "right".

We welcome commentaries or thought pieces that **rock the boat** – that is how we push the field forward.

But rock the boat respectfully...

I wouldn't be here without rocking the boat

Editorial Response: Two Different Worlds We Live In

Julius Schachter
Chlamydia Research Laboratory, Department of Laboratory Medicine,
University of California, San Francisco, California
Clinical Infectious Diseases 1998;27:1181–5

Editorial Response: Can We Do Better Than Discrepant Analysis for New Diagnostic Test Evaluation?

William C. Miller
Department of Medicine, School of Medicine, Department of
Epidemiology, School of Public Health, University of North Carolina at
Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina
Clinical Infectious Diseases 1998;27:1186–93

Emphasis on STD Programs

We hope to provide a forum for additional papers from the providers in the field

Sometimes, that may mean accepting papers that are not a typical academic paper

When we have an interesting paper that is not suitable for publication in its own right, we may suggest connecting with an established academic investigator to help shape the paper

Junior investigator initiatives

Identification as junior investigator during manuscript submission

Annual award for best paper by a junior investigator

Expedited review of the manuscripts from posters/presentations from this meeting

Paired mentor-trainee manuscript reviews for US STD Prevention Training Center fellows

Increased the number of junior investigator reviewers

Emphasis on junior investigators

We want to encourage
bright, talented junior scientists
to conduct STD research

Emphasis on junior investigators

We want to encourage
bright, talented junior scientists
to conduct STD research

That means **YOU!!!!**

***If you're a junior investigator,
talk to me!***

Stop me at this meeting. Talk to me about **STD**

Tell me what research you're doing.

Ask me for advice – manuscripts, career,
whatever

bill_miller@unc.edu

Special Thanks

Jeanne Moncada for doing the real work with the journal

Julie Schachter for believing that I would be a good person to follow in his footsteps

ASTDA for choosing me as Editor-in-Chief, and their support during my first year in the position.