Editorial

Journal of hematology & oncology: A journal open to all
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Paul Ehrlich prophesied "magic bullet" in early 1900 [1], but it was not until 1975 that Kohler and Milstein developed the hybridoma technology [2]. Since then hematology and oncology have become closely intertwined and rapidly evolving fields. New findings from laboratory-based research are rapidly being turned into clinical applications. Within less than a decade, targeted therapy has become a treatment of choice for many diseases, with imatinib and rituximab representing the many recent major breakthroughs in cancer therapy [3,4].

The "magic bullet" theory has finally become a reality in cancer therapy with the advent of novel drugs, such as gemtuzumab ozogamicin (mylotarg), denileukin difitox (ontak), tositumomab (bexxar), and ibritumomab (zevalin), to name a few. Studies of angiogenesis and monoclonal antibodies make it possible for a new modality of cancer therapy [6]. Not until recently, ubiquitin and heat-shock proteins were only familiar to scientists who are "mouse doctors", but not to "human doctors". However, proteasome inhibitors that target the ubiquinization-pathway have virtually revolutionized therapies for multiple myeloma in only a few years [7]. Epigenetic studies have led to the development of new drugs which have changed the lives of patients with myelodysplastic syndrome [8]. Clinical trials are increasingly performed in many centers across the world.

With all these rapid developments and findings, volume of information has grown enormously. However, many publications are in inaccessible places, and many more are not published until months later or not at all. A few top-rated journals in the field of hematology and oncology already exist. Many doctors and scientists from developing countries can not afford to pay for the access to these expensive journals. Meanwhile, journals become more focused and increasingly specialized.

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