

Editor's Note: To allow readers more time to submit solutions, responses in this column will now appear 2 issues after the questions were posed. Thus, please see the upcoming issue for responses to "A Question of Consent". A new question appears below.

New Question: A Question of Reviewer Confidentiality

A member of a professional society becomes editor of its periodical. As editor,

she has access to records on peer reviewers assigned to manuscripts in recent years, and she plans to consider these records when choosing reviewers. One problem, though: Authors are not to know the identity of reviewers of their manuscripts, but before assuming her current role, the editor had some articles published in the periodical. What should she do in this situation?

The situations described as New Questions in this column are not necessarily based on actual situations, and the ones that are may have been modified to focus the question. Send your responses to the new question to Della Mundy, Kaiser Foundation Research Institute, Department of Medical Editing, 1800 Harrison Street, 16th Floor, Oakland CA 94612-3429; telephone 510-987-3573; fax 510-873-5131; e-mail della.mundy@ncal.kaiperm.org.