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Editor's Column

by Jeff Miller

Welcome to the March 2000 edition of the *Health Section News*. We haven't sent out a newsletter for a while because we figured that health actuaries had enough material to read these days! However, we're now starting a new millennium, and *Health Section News* will take a new approach to keeping our members informed and entertained.

Bernie Rabinowitz, chair of the Health Section Council, asked me to take this job for the next year. I have been a health actuary for more than 20 years. My father was a health actuary for 30 years before that. Thus, if I seem a bit strange, you all know the reason.

When I started out as a health actuary 20 years ago under the tutelage of Howard Bolnick, we were dealing with run-away trends and a crisis in the small-group market. Somehow, things don't seem to have changed that much. Fortunately, the positive aspects of our profession haven't changed much either. Health actuaries deal with a wide variety of challenges when we go to work each day. We do the best we can, and then deal with a new set of challenges the next day. We may not have solved all of the problems of the health care system, but we have certainly made significant contributions, and we seem to make a good living in the process.

This issue of *Health Section News* includes many excellent contributions. Expect to see even more in June and September. You'll find some technical material, such as "Credibility" by James Robinson, some thought-provoking material such as "The Simple Logic of Health Care Inflation" by Gerry



The Health Section proudly introduces its newest editor, Jeff Miller, from Overland Park, Kansas. Welcome aboard Jeff!

Smedinghoff, and some current events, such as "APC's ..." by Pat Dunks and Nick Ortner. I think you'll find all of the other articles to be worth your while as well.

Have a great spring, and I hope to see many of you in Las Vegas in May.

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