



This edition of the Journal highlights the quality assurance areas of eye banking, a necessary but often under-appreciated part of our profession. The technical expansion of eye banking services, i.e. DSAEK and DMEK, make protocol compliance, environmental monitoring and control, and evaluation and documentation of numerous policies and procedures even more critical eye banking functions. Eye banking's goal of quality and safety of all the allografts provided depends in part on the eye bank quality assurance staff and the vital role they play within their organization. By sharing some of the practices and functions of quality assurance, we hope to emphasize the benefits of sharing within our profession to benefit patients' and physicians' needs.

The need for sharing and networking is illustrated in the article about the trials of a population and an eye bank following a major long-term disaster. Certainly, Puerto Rico Lions Eye Bank's horrific hurricane experience challenges us to reexamine our disaster planning and our combined response capabilities should we experience nature's ravages or other major disruptions in what we take for granted as our operating conditions.

As always, the Journal appreciates our authors' submissions and our reviewers' prompt and helpful suggestions. We encourage new and former authors to continue supporting the Journal with a variety of topics to advance the field of eye banking and contribute to the care of ocular services.

Ellen Heck  
Editor in Chief