



Revista Española de Cirugía Ortopédica y Traumatología

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EDITORIAL

New goals

Nuevos objetivos

During the present year, the journal's editorial committee has been assuming the responsibilities entrusted to it by the previous management committee and ratified by the present one. Although the changeover of the members' names occurred quickly, already in this year's January issue, it has not been until these most recent issues that the work undertaken has begun to bear fruit, as most of the material published to date has been the work of previous editorial committees. As can be easily understood, the papers retain a similar line, as the same peer review process, essential in a quality review, has been maintained. What we have tried to do, above all, is shorten the process and, with some exceptions, that goal is being achieved, as we put forward expressly in a previous editorial [RECOT 2010;54(3)].

From the first issue in 2011, each paper will include an indication of the level of evidence backing it up. This is an aim already mapped out by the previous editor [RECOT 2010;54(1):1-2]. Each author will assign this indication when submitting the manuscript and it will be subsequently reviewed by the editorial committee. Without a doubt, this will add another point in the gradual process of quality improvement we have undertaken.

In order to make the journal more attractive, it will be opening up to subjects not normally discussed, to be included in a special section. These topics will cover training aspects of the speciality, such as undergraduate and postgraduate teaching, practical training in specific areas and the status of our speciality in the European context we are all working in. The discussion of preparation for researchers by Prof. Marco [RECOT 2010;54(3):193-9] can be viewed as a prelude and inspiration for this section which will host columnists of renowned prestige.

Through other channels, we have indicated our publication's desire to be read by more and more members and subscribers. There is already a prize for the best article published and, at the proposal of the current president,

Dr. Rodríguez Altónaga, this will be extended further; a prize will also be given to the article most read in the electronic version, in the light of the number of hits recorded. The notice setting out the rules for these awards will be posted on our usual channels, namely in the journal itself, in the newsletter and on the web site.

As soon as the process currently under way is completed and the appropriate accreditation has been obtained, each issue of the journal will include a series of self-assessment questions, which we intend to provide with the printed and the electronic versions. Each set of questions correctly submitted will be awarded the corresponding credits, supervised by SEAFORMEC (the Federation of Scientific Societies for Ongoing Medical Training), thus giving them wide validity. These credits will later be counted in the forthcoming re-certification of qualifications to become a specialist. We also plan to request the awarding of a supplementary recognition in the form of credits for the publication of papers in the journal. We are also studying the possibility of providing an incentive, perhaps in the form of prizes such as the funding of trips to conferences, for the answers to the self-assessment questions.

Several of the aspects mentioned, as we have repeated elsewhere, share the same primary goal: the inclusion of our magazine in the repertoire of the *National Library of Medicine*, *Medline*. Subsequently, we shall apply for an impact factor from the *Institute of Scientific Information* (ISI). When the time comes to submit these applications, it is necessary to provide a prospection or approximate evaluation of the impact factor. It would be extremely useful if the members of the SECOT could include citations from the journal in their papers published in any medium; a keyword index is available by accessing the review through the web sites of the SECOT or the publisher Elsevier. Prof. Forriol is working to obtain funding for the publication of the review's index for the last ten years in CD format, for

distribution free of charge among members so as to facilitate compliance with this new request.

I should like to close this editorial with the expression of my gratitude to the authors who contribute through their articles to helping the journal in its continuous improvement process and also the rest of the members and readers who submit manuscripts so that we can all, collectively, achieve the goal mapped out as the top priority for the society: to

have a high-quality organ of expression included among the international benchmark scientific repertoires.

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