



Acta Otorrinolaringológica Española

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EDITORIAL

Novelties for 2009

Novedades del año 2009

This year we are starting corresponds to the last of the 3-year term for which the current Editorial Committee of *Acta Otorrinolaringológica Española* was elected. As in previous years, in this editorial we are going to set out the changes that are going to take place in the journal this year; changes that, in our opinion, are going to contribute to improving its quality.

First of all, it must be noted that there has been a change in the composition of the Editorial Committee. Dr Rubén Cabanillas Farpón has left the Committee and has been replaced by Dr Luis Lassaletta Atienza. In this way, the Committee's new formation comprises Dr César Orús Dotú as Secretary, with Dr Carmelo Morales Angulo and Dr Luis Lassaletta Atienza as ordinary members (the latter will be in charge of the "Review articles" section). From these columns, I should like to thank Dr Cabanillas for the work he has done in the last 2 years as Secretary.

As we already indicated in the editorial from January 2008, the future of medical journals requires an attractive and highly visible presence on the Internet. In this sense, work has been undertaken to enhance the journal's web page and the new version (www.elsevier.es/otorrino) has been available since the last months of 2008. Apart from a new, more modern design, this attractive and easily readable web site is available in its entirety in both English and Spanish, thus facilitating the dissemination of the journal's contents among potential non-Spanish-speaking readers and authors. There can be no question of the effectiveness of a version in English when it comes to increasing the journal's readership, as shown by the fact that the downloads of articles that have increased most in the last year have been those in English (110% in only 9 months) and these now represent a third of all downloads. It is to be expected that, with the new version of the web page in English, the numbers of visitors and downloads will continue this upward trend, thus increasing our penetration in non-Spanish-speaking countries.

Another important novelty for this year is the change in the journal's frequency. Starting with this issue, it will change to a bimonthly distribution, with the total number

of issues a year thus going down from 10 at present to 6 (plus supplements). With this change, we intend to have a more regular periodicity and, above all, adapt to the reality of journal; in order to improve quality, it is necessary to be stricter in the choice of article and this is only possible at present by reducing the number of articles published. In this way, we will go from publishing about 100-110 articles to about 80 a year.

Finally, the most important change that is going to take place is the incorporation of the journal to Elsevier's global production system. This system comprises 3 interconnected electronic platforms: Elsevier Editorial System (EES), Production Tracking System (PTS), and Electronic Warehouse (EW). The EES is accessible via the Internet (<http://ees.elsevier.com/otorrino/>) and provides authors, reviewers, and members of the editorial committee with the necessary tools for the end-to-end electronic handling of manuscripts. The PTS is an Internet-based system for processing manuscripts, in connection with the EES, streamlining the editorial production procedures: correction, lay-out, galley proofs, and page proofs. It allows the manuscripts to be laid out for their subsequent publication on any electronic platform. The EW allows electronic products to be launched on the various platforms of Elsevier (ScienceDirect, Scopus, etc), the journal's web site and other international databases where the title is indexed (MedLine).

The interconnection between the 3 platforms (EES, PTS, and EW) facilitates article-based editorial production, which facilitates its speedy electronic publication on Internet portals and international databases. Once a manuscript is accepted for publication in the journal, and within the mean term of 6 weeks, authors as well as the rest of the scientific community will be able to access the article exactly as it will be subsequently published on paper: on the journal's web site, on Elsevier's portals (ScienceDirect, Scopus, Embase, etc), and in the international databases that include the journal, such as Medline (e-pubmed) and Science Citation Index. At this stage, the article has been assigned its DOI and is already visible electronically through publication on the Internet platforms indicated above.

The journal's inclusion within Elsevier's global production system implies the automation of many of the production processes, therefore it is necessary to standardize the final format for the articles' presentation in the journal. This "laying-out" of the various articles conforms to certain pre-determined formats following the standards habitually applied in other international publications produced by Elsevier. In this way, and as can be seen in this issue, the style of the articles in *Acta Otorrinolaringológica Española* is also going to change in order to adapt to these standards.

Starting with the publication of this issue, manuscripts will only be accepted if sent using this system, therefore aspiring authors must either access directly the URL mentioned earlier (<http://ees.elsevier.com/otorrino/>) or else click on the link provided on the journal's web page. Since this software system is shared by all the international journals published by Elsevier, most of the browsing is in English but instructions and tutorials are available in Spanish. We are hopeful that this new way of submitting

manuscripts will also facilitate the remission of papers by non-Spanish-speaking authors, as they will now be able to access a tool in English, unlike the previous situation in which, despite our willingness to accept articles in English, the system through which they had to be submitted was only available in Spanish.

As we indicated at the outset, we hope that these changes will contribute to a more modern and flexible journal of high quality, included on the international bibliographic databases (therefore reaching a greater readership) as well as more attractive for readers and authors.

We cannot close this editorial without once more thanking the reviewers of the articles for their efforts, as their unselfish dedication is fundamental for the flexible operation of the journal and to maintain its quality.

Juan Pablo Rodrigo Tapia
Editor of *Acta Otorrinolaringológica Española*