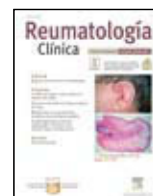




Reumatología Clínica

www.reumatologiaclinica.org



Editorial

REUMATOLOGÍA CLÍNICA. A 5-year review

REUMATOLOGÍA CLÍNICA. Recuento de 5 años

Janitzia Vázquez-Mellado ^{a,b}

^a Servicio de Reumatología, Hospital General de México, México, D.F., Mexico

^b Facultad de Medicina, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, México, D.F., Mexico

ARTICLE INFO

Available online September 27, 2009

Five years ago, *Reumatología Clínica* was only an idea, a plan to be executed, in need of a name, as well as committees, colors, and contents.

Our editorial group was under the command by an enthusiast of this idea such as Armando Laffón and, later on, as editor in chief, I had the honor of leading it during the past 3 years. When we decided to give form to our idea, it involved not only creating a journal, but meeting the wider underlying challenge which had to do with consolidating the fledging scientific and academic relationship between Spain and Mexico's rheumatology and trying to be the flag bearers of Spanish-speaking rheumatologists.

What 5 years ago was only an idea is now a young journal, but with a personality and solidity of its own, which has achieved a place among the world of medical journals, especially those related to rheumatology.

During 4 years it has been regularly published every 2 months, in both countries in a printed format and in 2 languages (Spanish and English) in the electronic version. In the past 2 years, we have had an increase of almost 60% in the number of articles received for publication, allowing us to have enough material to program publication months in advance.

We have 2 web pages, one for consulting and the other for coordinating the work of authors, reviewers and editors that is part of the Elsevier editorial system.

Our webpage (www.reumatologiaclinica.org) received approximately 110 000 visits during 2008; the number has increased in 118% during the present year in the Spanish version and 70% in the English version. Persons consulting the journal in its electronic version are located

in 108 countries or territories, mainly Spain and Mexico, but also in other countries of Latin America, the United Kingdom, the United States, India, the Philippines, and Switzerland.

A constant effort to improve content has led to modifications in the editorial format, as well as the names and members of the committees and the scientific sections of the journal. We have expanded the panorama of *Reumatología Clínica* with publications from other countries, in other languages, from other specialties and areas related to rheumatology.

In 5 years, without a doubt, *Reumatología Clínica* has increased the scientific and editorial quality of its bigger sisters (the Spanish and Mexican Journals of Rheumatology) and this has been thanks to the constant and daily work of persons from the editorial committee, the journal committees, the members of the executive boards of the SER and CMR and the staff at Elsevier both in Spain and in Mexico, who have participated in this great project, building what we have and searching now for the new horizons which are always turning up.

The journal is also, undoubtedly, a pillar in the growing relationship and collaboration among rheumatologists from Spanish-speaking countries, and this exchange has enriched us and allowed us to know each other, as well as appreciate and learn from patients with rheumatic disease tended to in other countries of Latin America.

A very high percentage of scientific information published both in general medicine and rheumatology comes from the United States, western Europe, and Canada, with these countries representing only 16% of humanity, with differences in race, climate, demographics, culture, equality, socioeconomic development, quality of life, access to healthcare and health systems to what the rheumatologists of the rest of the world see every day, who attend other types of patients and have different access to resources in order to diagnose, attend and treat. In spite of this, the academic level of quality rheumatology in Latin America is very good, both in the training of specialists and residents, at a par with any developed country, but with different infrastructure and resources to perform the daily tasks, some of

E-mail address: jvazquezmellado@prodigy.net.mx; jvazquezmellado@gmail.com

which cannot always be adapted to standards and dictums of other countries.

It is here where *Reumatología Clínica* has an undisputed place and its reason for being, constituting a forum for scientific publications of Spanish-speaking rheumatologists who have a lot to say and discuss on the type of rheumatology which is done in other, real-world circumstances.

Therefore, the journal must continue growing as planned from its inception with the constant change and renewal of the editorial

group; this is the farewell message at the end of the period I had the honor of being editor in chief. From now onward I will participate as a member of the committees, collaborating in the grand project that is *Reumatología Clínica*, a ship we put together, has deployed its sails, has the wind at its back and which I invite all of you to travel in.

“The South exists also...”

Mario Benedetti