

EMERGENCIAS: *citius, altius, fortius*

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Editor. EMERGENCIAS.

EMERGENCIAS starts the new year with a new volume, and renewed determination to excel. This attitude is the only way to keep improving and the Editorial Committee believes there is room for improvement. Our philosophy could not be better expressed than by the Olympic motto in the title of this editorial "faster, higher and stronger".

And what is the basis for all these good resolutions, especially considering that the Journal has achieved a level of quality and recognition that were unimaginable just a few years ago?¹⁻⁴. For the time being, the EMERGER project still has certain goals to reach⁵⁻⁷. The presence of EMERGENCIAS in PubMed is, probably, the major one, since it continues to be the most important bibliographic search tool used by physicians and investigators. This year we will again apply for inclusion in that database; acceptance there would give us maximum international exposure and therefore greatly increase the impact of articles published in our Journal. In addition, we are currently awaiting response to our request for inclusion in EMBASE and CIHNAL, and when that comes about, EMERGENCIAS will have completed its strategy of gaining international standing in the scientific community. The Editorial Board is working to establish alliances that enable us to selectively reach more potential readers, researchers and emergency physicians (EPs) beyond Spain, with special emphasis on Latin America. It will also explore potential collaboration with other like-minded biomedical journals and editorial teams. Joint editorial position papers, priority areas of mutual growth or collaboration in specific research areas are, from the perspective of the Editorial Board, some examples of how EMERGENCIAS can develop. Finally, in consonance with the whole strategy, the Journal's webpage must be completely renewed in the near future. This will provide a more up-to-date interface, with 2.0 tools, a more powerful search engine, online availability of full papers accepted for publication, each with their DOI (digital object identifier) and the incorporation of

the entire collection of full-text Journal material from issue number 1 (currently only available from Volume 8, Number 6 onwards). And all in accordance with the policy of free and open access for the entire scientific community, which has not changed since the outset of the EMERGE project and promoted by SEMES. Any progress in these fields will be rapidly made known to our readers; we want the EMERGE project to continue generating interest and, above all, to be shared.

This quest for internationalizing EMERGENCIAS is being reciprocated. The Journal is aiming for visibility abroad, but it is also beginning to be seen and considered as a vehicle for scientific communication by non-Spanish authors. In fact, growth in the volume of submissions (from 141 in 2007 to 507 in 2011, as shown in Figure 1) has been matched by diversification of author nationality. Last year alone, the Journal received submissions from the United Kingdom, Germany, Austria, Turkey, Italy, USA, Canada, Colombia, Argentina and Mexico.

Everything mentioned above has and will add complexity and workload to the task of the Editorial Committee, which has been remodeled to be able to take on these great challenges in the future. As an Associate Editor, Augustine Julian (besides continuing to edit "EMERGENCIAS in 5 minutes") will coordinate the section Viewpoints, Guillermo Burillo will now take charge of "Continuing Medical Education Courses in Emergency Medicine" (which is based on articles published in the sections Reviews, Consensus Documents and Special Articles) and Francisco Javier Martin will coordinate the English edition of EMERGENCIAS, articles submitted by foreign authors, aspects related with the website and the section called Clinical Notes. Miquel Sanchez, Section Editor until last year and member of the EMERGE project since its inception, has asked to be replaced in order to take on new professional challenges. The achievements of EMERGENCIAS owe much to his work during these last 5 years, and personally I

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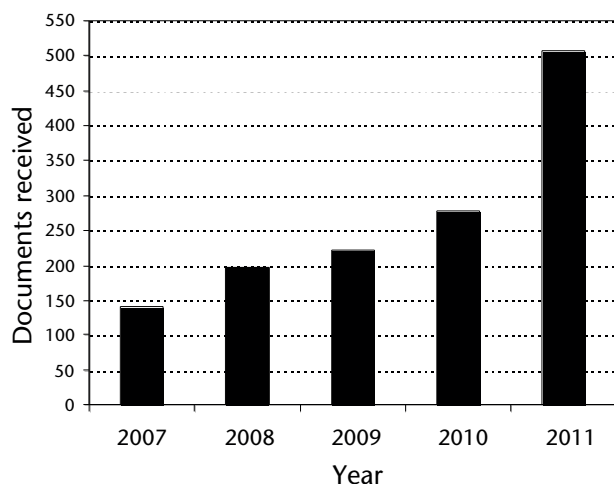


Figure 1. Evolution of the number of documents submitted annually to EMERGENCIAS for publication.

can never thank him enough for his wholehearted support of the EMERGE project as a whole and myself in particular. Gràcies, Miquel! This replacement brings with it the incorporation of three worthy Section Editors, responsible for the sections Images and Letters to the Editor, as well as support for the other editors in their tasks. The first is Santiago Tomás, who at the outset of the EMERGE project already formed part of the Editorial Committee. His extensive experience is a solid asset to the Editorial Committee: he holds a doctorate in Medicine, and is currently head of the emergency department, Hospital Municipal de Badalona, SEMES project coordinator of clinical safety in emergency medicine, author of more than 20 articles in indexed scientific journals and editor of the *Monografías de Emergencias* since its inception. The second is Fernando Rosell, a physician of EPES in Almeria, with a long and fruitful career as a researcher in the field of out-of-hospital Emergency Medicine: he too holds a doctorate in Medicine, has been a researcher in many competitive public projects, and a member of national and international multicenter work groups (Such as ASSENT-III PLUS, ARIAM, PEFEX, TROIKA, STREAM and EUREKA). In addition he has authored numerous books, reference materials and scientific articles, some of which are published in high quality journals⁸⁻¹⁰. And finally there is Alonso Mateos, who practices medicine in SUMMA-112 in Madrid and is responsible for the teaching unit, with a Masters degree in emergency medicine and management of I + D + i, competitive public

research projects and author of a dozen scientific papers, some recently published in *EMERGENCIAS*¹¹⁻¹⁴. With these two latest additions, both from an out-of-hospital context, the Journal will attempt to give maximum impulse to research in this aspect of emergency medicine.

With all these changes, we can only improve. Despite knowing that the impact factor received in 2010 will be very difficult to improve, we believe it will in the medium term; because research activity in emergency medicine is unique and relevant in Spain and abroad, and *EMERGENCIAS* is determined to capture and promote it¹⁵⁻¹⁷. With the daily work of this renewed Editorial Board, discretion, humility and without fanfare, it will be possible to be *citius, altius, fortius*.

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