



Editorial

Modernising *EMERGENCIAS*

In 2006, our journal, *EMERGENCIAS* came of age as we celebrated 18 years since the first edition. We accepted a presiding role in the Spanish Emergency Medicine Society (SEMES) in 2001 and, in our capacity as the national board of directors, we took the following two measures ; to negotiate a new publishing agreement with SANED, the publishing company responsible for this magazine and to establish Dr. Moya Mir as the new director of the publication.

The first measure allowed us to create a stable relationship with the publishing company and we were also able to improve the journals financial situation and secure additional income for SEMES.

Regarding the second measure, we believe it was the correct decision to place our trust in Dr. Moya and time has proved us right. Over the last 6 years he has directed our business card as a scientific Society with scientific and editorial rigor. We are also aware of the time he has dedicated to *EMERGENCIAS* and the intellectual effort that that his role entails, including all those times he has had to wrack his brains to resolve the issue of a shortage of original studies. At this stage it is also important to mention Dr. Moya's colleagues in the editorial department, namely the Editors in Chief; Dr. Laguna de Estal, Dr. Perianez Matesanz, and Dr. del Río Gallegos. Of course we must not forget the group of consultants whose work is generally anonymous and receives little recognition but forms a basic part of the editorial process of any serious biomedical publication.

However, following the example of many other national publications¹⁻³, it is now time for us to modernise. Given that the magazine has now been consolidated in editorial terms, publishing 8000 copies, the national Board of Directors is considering new challenges in their quest to raise the scientific profile of its members, of all Spanish emergency professionals and of those who work within the specialisation. Therefore, we believe that entering the publication into *Index Medicus/Medline* and establishing ourselves as a published reference work in Spanish speaking countries are realistic medium term objectives. The fact that we are even attempting to do this represents real progress for the magazine.

After a long process which involved a great deal of consideration and searching we chose Dr. Óscar Miró i Andreu for

this task. He is a specialist in internal medicine, a doctor and emergency physician by profession and by vocation and was trained by our esteemed ex-Chairman Pepe Millá at the Hospital Clínic in Barcelona, where he has been working for the last 12 years. At 41 years of age, he is probably one of the Spanish emergency physicians with the highest number of indexed publications with the highest impact factor, and in most cases has been the first author. In addition, apart from his basic research work focussing on the mitochondria⁴⁻¹³, his work in the field of clinical medicine¹⁴⁻²⁴ and in the organisation of the emergency department²⁵⁻⁴⁵, are undoubtedly national reference works and this is supported by the fact that he has for the best paper at the SEMES National Conference on more than one occasion (2000, 2004, 2005 and 2006) and he has been awarded also won the Lainco Clinical Toxicology award (2002 and 2003). With regard to his publishing work, he contributes to the magazine *Medicina Clínica* as Associate Editor in clinicopathological conferences, he works with the Editorial Council of *JANO* as an expert in emergency medicine and, last but not least, he works as a consultant for *EMERGENCIAS*. If one of the first requirements in order to be considered for Medline is to demonstrate the scientific prestige of the director of the nominated publication, then we believe that with Dr. Miró we will not have any problems.

Finally, *EMERGENCIAS* would not be what it is today and it will not be what we want it to be in the future without the active participation of our members and the professionals that work in the varied and exciting world of emergency medicine and emergency health care. Innovative diagnostic and therapeutic techniques⁴⁶⁻⁴⁷, the increasing development of assistance for emergency departments⁴⁸, the growth in demand in emergency departments in hospitals^{48,50}, natural disasters, new social threats⁵¹ related to infections⁵² and the weather^{53,54}, access to medical bibliographies in record time using methods that had never been considered before, incredible innovations in IT and even specialisations in emergency medicine and nursing, along with professional recognition for technicians⁵⁶, all force us to examine the scientific and professional void. *EMERGENCIAS* should not stand by and only observe, it should act as the main vehicle for change.

Alea jacta est.

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