



EDITORIAL

Facing the new phase of *Anales de Pediatría* ☆

Afrontando la nueva etapa de *Anales de Pediatría*

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In September 2013, the incoming editorial board took up its tenure with a list of specific goals, which have already been addressed in a previous editorial.¹ Taking these goals as a starting point, a number of changes will be made to the journal content and format. The underlying idea is to improve manuscript quality while shortening time to publication, culminating in increased diffusion. These changes involve new manuscript structures, and they also mark the launch of a bilingual Spanish-English edition.

Format changes include a) setting a maximum length of 3,000 words for original articles and documents endorsed by the *Asociación Española de Pediatría* (AEP); b) special articles will be by invitation; c) phasing out brief reports, which usually consist of small case series, and replacing them with a new kind of manuscript, a *scientific letter*, which will be used for the same type of study but in a more direct letter format; d) restricting the publication of single case reports to truly exceptional circumstances; and e) transforming letters to the editor into a platform for debate on editorial matters and comments in response to articles previously published in the journal. For more detailed information, see the section on instructions for authors.

The bilingual Spanish-English edition, which makes its debut to coincide with the AEP's Special Congress in 2014, is a new and costly challenge that the AEP is taking on to

advance paediatricians' work published in Spanish in our journal on international scientific forums which use English as their main language.

The journal will translate Spanish manuscripts into English. This, as mentioned, is a significant expense and *Anales de Pediatría* will therefore only be able to publish a bilingual online edition of a limited number of pages, while the print edition will remain in Spanish. The editorial board has decided, to begin with, to translate the editorials, original articles and brief reports, until they disappear, making way for the scientific letters. As long as the changes to the editorial guidelines will allow, articles endorsed by the AEP will also be published in English.

The new direction that has begun with this issue of *Anales de Pediatría* also envisages accepting papers submitted in English for evaluation, with the subsequent need to expand the journal's pool of reviewers. The aim here is to give the journal's readers access to publications by English-speaking authors.

The editorial board believes that with the changes in the editorial guidelines and this new bilingual edition, it has taken two major steps forward on a path that will make *Anales de Pediatría* a modern and competitive journal.

To conclude, we would like to reaffirm our commitment to ensuring the strength of *Anales de Pediatría* as a scientific

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journal at the same time as making organizational changes to streamline the publication process. We firmly believe that the changes in the guidelines, the enhanced online publication and launch of the bilingual journal-format are positive steps towards achieving our goals.

References

1. Lurbe i Ferrer E, Alsina Manrique de Lara L, Rodríguez Fernández LM, Solís Sánchez G. Anales de Pediatría: una nueva etapa. *An Pediatr (Barc)*. 2013;79:275-6.