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Achievements and objectives for 2019

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At the beginning of 2019 we wish to inform our readers and share with them the achievements and objectives of the Editorial Board. With the gradual growth of the journal, and to be more efficient and better serve the scientific societies it represents (Spanish Society of Gastroenterology [SEPD], Spanish Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy [SEED] and Spanish Association of Digestive Ultrasonography [AEED]), we made the decision to progressively increase the number of papers per issue, and to adapt manuscript classification to the requirements of Web of Science. The number of original papers was increased to six, and we look forward to having a total of eight, with two clinical notes and two images in digestive disorders, and keeping one review and/or special article per issue. To achieve these aims, and given the limited space available, we have reduced the length of original articles from 3,500 to 3,000 words and 35 references, of reviews from 5,000 to 3,500 with a maximum of 50 references, and of clinical notes from 1,500 to 1,000 words. Furthermore, we have introduced the new categories of brief original articles (1,200 words and 25 references) and rapid reviews (2,500 words and 25 references) to better meet the needs of our readers, shorten time to publication, and promote scientific debate on current topics.

It was decided to publish one monographic issue per year on topics of special interest, and in April 2018 we published an issue on sedation with propofol. This generated several clinical notes, and curiously coincided with Dr John B. Glen (Fig. 1) receiving the 2018 Lasker-DeBakey Clinical Medical Research Award (the maximum distinction in the...
United States] for the discovery and development of this molecule, which has had such a great impact on the evolution of endoscopic and surgical procedures (1-3). In 2019 we are publishing a monographic issue on non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH), which will be coordinated by the associate editors for hepatology. This year we would also like to explore the possibility of incorporating videos of innovative techniques and procedures, with no cost to the authors, which would greatly enhance the educational value of our work.

In the Editorial Board we continuously strive to increase the impact factor of our journal, improving thus its ranking and ability to attract papers of the highest quality (4). Figure 2 shows how the journal has fared in recent years. The measures implemented are reflected in an increase to 1.632 in 2017. Given the importance of this factor, we will continue to work to improve the journal’s ranking. In line with this, we wish to promote the section on scientific letters to the editor, related to studies published in the journal, and implement the use of social networks (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) for research dissemination.

In the course of our editorial work, some issues related to the ethical aspects of publication have arisen, including the detection of duplicate articles, redundant studies, or conflicts of interest (5). For this reason, we have established an Ethics Committee whose job it is to advise the Editorial Board when such problems occur. This Committee makes decisions in a collegial manner, and follows the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE; www.publicationethics.org) guidelines in their recommendations.

In 2018 we celebrated the centenary of our journal. We are the recipients of a magnificent legacy, which we intend to improve with the same interest and enthusiasm as those who came before us.

REFERENCES


Fig. 1. Dr John B. Glen received the 2018 Lasker-DeBakey Clinical Medical Research Award for the discovery and development of the propofol molecule.
Fig. 2. Journal impact factor trend in 2017.