



ERS Publications

“SCIENCE AT THE CUTTING-EDGE”

Helping people breathe through educational publishing

The ERS Journals fulfil all aspects of the ERS mission statement by promoting research, improving patient care and fostering education, all through exchange of knowledge in the form of scientific and clinical publishing.

Each publication within the ERS portfolio has a different target audience, allowing our members to select which publications best meets their needs. As well as serving an increased number of members the *European Respiratory Journal (ERJ)*, has over 1,200 institutional subscribers and has defied the trends by increasing the total number of subscriptions in 2004.

This year has been a very successful year for the ERS Journals and one where we have been able to build on previous successes.

European Respiratory Journal

The *ERJ* is the “business card” of the ERS; it is one of the most highly regarded peer-reviewed respiratory journals worldwide, and with its improved online submission, 2004 has seen a record number of submissions, over 1,500. With an acceptance rate of only 22% the quality of the content just gets better and better, which is indicated by the 2004 impact factor of 3.1.

Readers of the *ERJ* have been enjoying the improved *ERJ* online since September 2004. Hosted by HighWire, the functionality of the new online system is far superior to the

old system and as a result hit rates have increased from 5,000 per month to over 100,000 per week, which translates to over 175,000 articles downloaded per month! This means that we can suddenly reach many more clinical and scientific “customers”, thereby serving our readership better than ever before. This will further strengthen the scientific reputation of the *ERJ*, since the number of online hits is a predictor of the number of subsequent citations, which in turn has a positive effect on the impact factor, a key marker for ranking scientific journals.

With all these new features available we took the opportunity to revitalise the *ERJ*, giving it a new bright and dynamic front cover and a more up-to-date article layout starting in the January 2005 issue.

Whilst revenue generated has been at an all time high for the Journals, effective reduction of costs has resulted in a surplus for the first time this year; money which will be used to fund other ERS activities such as Fellowships.

Reprints of particular articles are increasingly required by the pharmaceutical companies to market their products. Sales of these reprints amounted to €700,000 at the end of 2004, which represented a 60% increase compared to 2003. This shows a growing trend when taken with the fact that 2003 figures were 50% higher than 2002; highlighting the growing interest in the *ERJ* and the quality of articles published.



Peter J. Sterk and Klaus F. Rabe, ERJ Editors in Chief

ERJ meets the press

From deep vein thrombosis caused by too much sitting at a computer screen to candles in churches, the articles in the *ERJ* have attracted an enormous amount of interest from the press. The *ERJ* is mentioned regularly by the BBC, has appeared in *New Scientist* and appears in national and international press monthly, facilitating the dissemination of information and raising the profile of the ERS around the world. Thanks to Eric Scharelig and all his staff at Cedos International (ERS Press Office) for all their hard work and efforts.

ERJ Editors in Chief

After two years in office, 3,000 manuscripts, and several important technological improvements in the *ERJ*, Peter Sterk and Klaus Rabe, the Editors in Chief of the *ERJ*, are still very much enjoying the challenge of “manning the helm” of a successful journal.




Maintaining the quality of research published in the *ERJ* is a number one priority. This includes the best clinical research as well as basic science in respiratory medicine.

From patients to cells and molecules, and back again! The journal concentrates on the novel developments that are relevant for clinicians, epidemiologists, and biomedical scientists. It covers the whole spectrum from: genetics to infections, asthma to lung cancer, the animal laboratory to the intensive care unit. This is the mission of the *ERJ*. We aim to make it an attractive journal, based on quality. “ We published 290 papers in 2004, which is a considerable decrease when compared to 2003. First, this is due to a more critical attitude of the Editorial Board and, secondly, to the abolition of *ERJ* Supplements in 2004”. Improvements have also been made in the verdict time “The average verdict time (between submission and first decision by the editor) has been reduced to 28 days. The aim of the Editorial Board is to reduce the verdict time by another week to 21 days in 2 years from now”. Their challenges don’t end there; as with all scientific journals they have to consider the impact factor “No matter how we think about it, the impact factor is the most commonly used marker of the scientific ‘weight’ of a journal. Even though it does not rate individual papers or authors, it is increasingly used for this purpose by universities and grant funding bodies.... Our aim is to get the *ERJ* in the top four respiratory journals by 2007. The *ERJ* has published 290 papers, and if our selection turns out to be successful, we estimate that it will reach an impact factor >4 in 2006 (released in 2007).”

European Respiratory Review

The *European Respiratory Review (ERR)* publishes state-of-the-art reviews on current topical issues in respiratory medicine, science and surgery. This publication is popular among readers who want a review of a single subject area. In 2004 the Editor in Chief, Sherwood Burge, attracted some very interesting topics covering chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, asthma management and community-acquired pneumonia.

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	ERJ Published monthly Print run: 7,000+ Distribution: ERS members, libraries and institutions, web-site		ERM Published 4 times a year Print run: 7,000+ Distribution: ERS members, website, libraries and institutions, and individual purchasers		ERR Published 4+ times a year Print run: 7,000+ Distribution: ERS members, libraries and institutions, web-site, and individual purchasers
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European Respiratory Monograph

The *European Respiratory Monograph (ERM)* series are highly valued throughout the world as exceptional learning aids. They are suitable for all levels of research, teaching and reference and are popular with all our

“Improved online access to the ERJ has resulted in an increase in the number of hits from 5,000 per month to over 100,000 per week!”

members. These publications are also sold as individual publications and links through Amazon and other booksellers have ensured that sales have increased in the last few years. Some of the Monographs were so popular that they sold out and had to be reprinted; evidence of the exceptional quality content that is in these publications. Emiel Wouters, the Chief Editor of the *ERM*, orchestrated the publication of four diverse issues in 2004: *Pulmonary Vascular Pathology: a Clinical Update; Antibiotics and the Lung; Surgery for Non-Neoplastic Disorders of the Chest; and Imaging.*

European Lung White Book

The *European Lung White Book*, published jointly by the ERS and European Lung Foundation (ELF), provides the first comprehensive survey on respiratory health in Europe and demonstrates how respiratory disease affects European Health systems. It was launched in the European Parliament on November 25, 2003 and is available in an abbreviated version: *Lung Health in Europe – Facts & Figures* (aimed at the media and the general public). In 2004, the abbreviated version was translated into several European languages and is now available in: French, German, Italian, Russian, Dutch, Polish and Spanish. With the total distribution of both versions amounting to over 40,000 copies. The year 2005, will see further translations into Danish and Greek.

Launch of the new ERS Website

The new website was launched successfully under the leadership of the ERS Web Editor, Alvar G.N. Agusti, in May, 2004. The new website was developed to cater for the growing needs of our users and to overcome the many technical limitations presented by the old website.

Since the launch the annual hit rates have increased from 1,783,778 to 2,367,915. The objective of the ERS website is to promote the ERS mission by improving and accelerating communication among its members. All aspects of ERS activities are integrated in the website. It also helps to promote respiratory medicine in general and, in particular, the activities of the Society to other national and international medical, scientific and patient societies, the media, health authorities and the general public.

> www.ersnet.org/publications



ERS Newsletter
 Published 6 times a year
 Print run: 7,000+
 Distribution: ERS members individual subscribers and web-site



Breathe - Continuing Medical Education for Respiratory Professionals
 Published 4 times a year
 Print run: 15,000+
 Distribution: ERS members, Congress Participants



European Lung White Book
 Published 2003, *Lung Health in Europe – Facts & Figures* translated 2004
 Print run: 40,000+
 Distribution: National Societies, Sponsors, individual purchasers