

Rhinology Journal: where are we going?

In the past 5 years, Rhinology has evolved into a high impact Journal in Otorhinolaryngology with a citation index of 2.182. This is the result of an enormous increase in the number of papers sent to the journal for review. In 2010, we expect to receive over 300 manuscripts, which forces us to take some important decisions about the future of the Journal. One of those decisions has already been taken. Last year, we published 10 case reports with subjects ranging from nasal reconstruction in advanced sinonasal sarcoidosis, to bilateral allergic fungal rhinosinusitis caused by *Schizophillum commune* and *Aspergillus niger* and a Pott's puffy tumour as a late complication of a frontal sinus reconstruction⁽¹⁻³⁾. This year, we published the last case reports we had in stock and in this issue of the Journal we really publish the last case report⁽⁴⁾. But no longer printing case reports will not be enough. More fundamental choices have to be made. To guide the editorial team in the choices we have to make, we ask our readers to help us. On the website of Rhinology you can find a questionnaire. All readers of Rhinology are asked to fill in this questionnaire. We hope many of you will make the effort to go to the website (www.rhinologyjournal.com/questionnaire) and fill it in. The questionnaire contains questions on the sort of papers you would like to read. During the last 5 years, we increased the number of papers by 50% from around 60 papers in 2005 to around 90 papers in 2009 (Figure 1). This increase has mainly been in the clinical papers. The top cited papers in the last five years were mainly guidelines, position papers and reviews⁽⁵⁻⁹⁾. However, in the last two years we have published a different range of articles, with subjects ranging from olfaction to foreign bodies and CRS with or without post nasal drip⁽¹⁰⁻¹⁴⁾. We would like to ask you what sort of papers you are interested in reading in the coming years, be it clinical papers, surgical papers and/or basic research and on what topics. The journal has become much thicker from 48 pages a few years ago to maximal 144 pages now. This has resulted in a significant increase in the printing costs and next year we have to increase

the subscription price to cover these expenses. Of course the price of the journal has always been very low (€ 74,-) compared to other journals so we have some scope for a legitimate increase, but how far do we like to go? Do you want a lot of space to publish your manuscripts, which would mean that we have to increase the size of our Journal even further or are we aiming at an even stricter selection and do we only offer you the very highest quality papers? We would love to go to 6 issues to have more space and to reduce the time from acceptance to publishing, but that would further increase the subscription rate. We really need your opinion.

Many of us read the Journal on the net. We can imagine that a number of people are interested in having an online subscription only. It will reduce the costs of printing. This question can be also addressed in the questionnaire.

A number of societies in Europe have a shared membership with ERS and in some countries the Journal is sent to all members of the otorhinolaryngology society with a grant from the pharmaceutical industry. If your rhinologic society is interested in a shared membership please let us know.

In summary, Rhinology is a rising star. We are at a point that we have to decide how to proceed to future-proof the journal. We really hope that you will fill in the questionnaire on the Rhinology website (www.rhinologyjournal.com/questionnaire) to help us to make the right decisions for all of those with an interest in the nose and sinuses.

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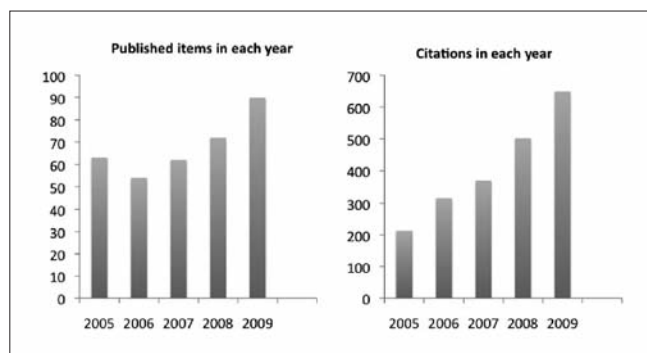


Figure 1. Number of items published and citations from 2005 to 2009 based on web of science, ICI.

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Valerie Lund, Editor in Chief,
London, United Kingdom



Wytske J. Fokkens, Associate Editor,
Amsterdam, the Netherlands