

EDITORIAL

The ANALES DE PEDIATRÍA editors annual report<sup>☆</sup>

Informe anual de los editores de ANALES DE PEDIATRÍA



Corsino Rey<sup>a,\*</sup>, Laia Alsina<sup>b</sup>, Montserrat Antón<sup>b</sup>, Alfredo Cano<sup>b</sup>, Gonzalo Solís<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Editor-in-chief

<sup>b</sup> Associate Editors

In this editorial, as has become our tradition, the editors of *Anales de Pediatría* summarise the proceedings, results and changes occurred in the past year of activity.<sup>1</sup> Along with our usual assessment of manuscript processing, the visibility of the journal and the awards given, we review new developments, such as the transition to a new editorial team, actions taken to address the conflicts of interest of editors, the introduction of verification checklists for reviewers, and aspects associated with article submission by authors. The policies and effort of the editors that preceded us<sup>2</sup> succeeded in maintaining the upward trend in the visibility of the journal in 2017, and preliminary data suggest that its impact factor has also continued to increase.

### Changes in the editorial team

In 2017 there was a seamless transition to a new editorial team that did not result in any delays in the journal's operations.<sup>2,3</sup> A competent coordination of this transition has been key to firmly maintain the course established by the previous team to improve manuscript processing and increase the visibility of *Anales de Pediatría*.

### Processing of manuscripts

The total number of manuscripts submitted to the journal has declined slightly, from 695 in 2016 to 640 in 2017, with a concurrent reduction in the acceptance rate, from 33.9% to 25.3% (Fig. 1), which probably reflects the application of more stringent criteria for publication. The analysis of the distribution of submitted papers by type of article (Fig. 2) shows little variation in the past 3 years, with a mild increase in the proportion of original articles relative to the proportion of scientific letters and letters to the editor. Fig. 3 shows the trends in the number of submissions of original articles with the corresponding acceptance rate. The number of articles submitted has remained stable in recent years (between 250 and 300), while the acceptance rate has declined (from 24% in 2016 to 20.9% in 2017). The distribution by type of the articles published in 2017 was the following: 70 original articles (64 in 2016), 28 scientific letters (41 in 2016), 17 letters to the editor (23 in 2016) and 16 special articles and articles by the AEP (16 in 2016).

The time elapsed from receipt of the manuscript to editorial decision continues to be adequate (Fig. 4): 1.9 days from receipt of the manuscript in *Anales de Pediatría* to assignment to the editor-in-chief; 5.5 days from editor assignment to submission for peer review; 9.3 days from submission to peer review to the first editorial decision (it has decreased from 14 days in 2016, to approximate the shorter time of 9.8 days in 2015); and 6.2 weeks from acceptance of the manuscript to "ahead of print" online publication and indexing in PubMed, allowing citing of the article, an interval that was exactly the same as in 2016. This interval, achieved in 2016, was three weeks shorter compared to 2014.

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\* Corresponding author.

E-mail addresses: [crey@uniovi.es](mailto:crey@uniovi.es), [corsinoeditor@gmail.com](mailto:corsinoeditor@gmail.com) (C. Rey).

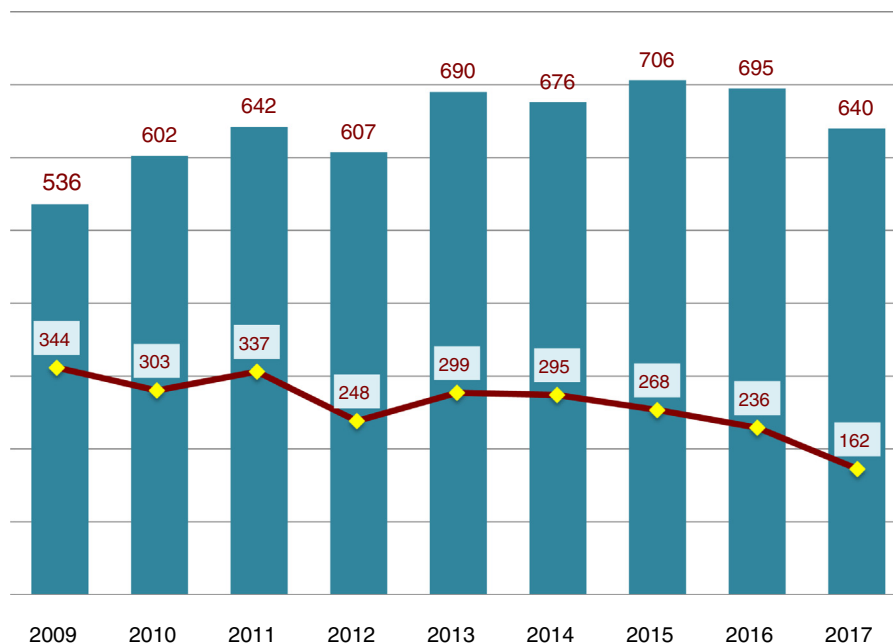


Figure 1 Annual changes in the total number of received and accepted manuscripts, years 2009–2017.

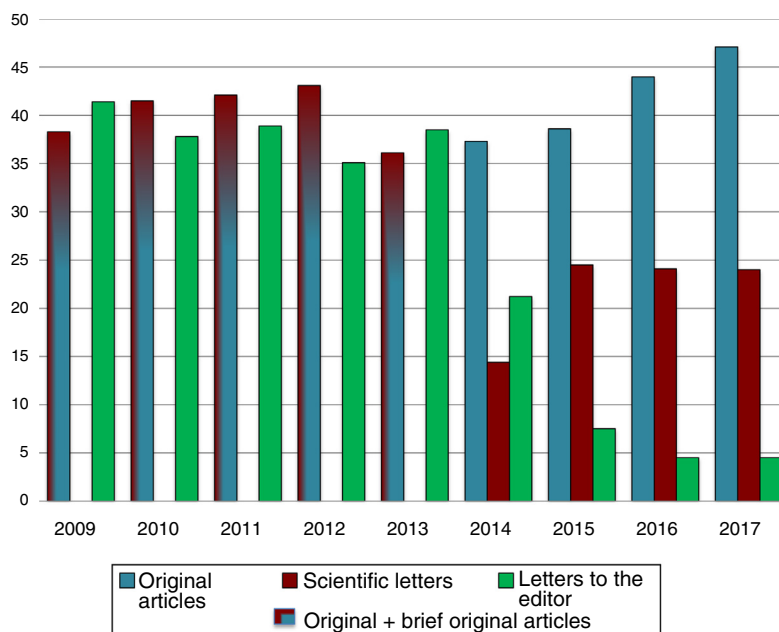


Figure 2 Annual changes in the percentage of original articles, scientific letters and letters to the editor submitted to *Anales*.

## Visibility of *Anales*

The increased visibility of *Anales de Pediatría* has been consolidated, thanks, among other factors, to its simultaneous publication in Spanish and English. The number of visits to the *Anales* website increased by nearly half a million relative to 2016, exceeding 2 700 000 visits (Fig. 5), with visits made most frequently from Spain (amounting to more than 25% of the total) and Mexico (nearly 20%). For the first time, the number of visits received through ScienceDirect exceeded

1 million (Fig. 6), with 75% of these visits made from the United States (Fig. 7).

## Conflicts of interest

Given the ongoing debate on the conflicts of interest of medical journal editors and the publication of a letter to the editor on this subject,<sup>4</sup> we deemed it appropriate to declare our potential conflicts of interest, while remaining aware of the complexity of the situation and that the matter is not resolved with this decision.<sup>5</sup> This statement can

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