Editor's page

Revista Española de Cardiología: Expectations Accomplished



Revista Española de Cardiología: expectativas cumplidas

Ignacio Ferreira-González,^{a,*} Ángel Sánchez-Recalde,^b Emad Abu-Assi,^b Miguel Ángel Arias,^b Pastora Gallego,^b and Iria del Río^c

^a Editor-in-Chief, Revista Española de Cardiología ^b Associate Editor, Revista Española de Cardiología

^c Editorial Director. Revista Española de Cardiología

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INTRODUCTION

October 2018 marked the third year of the current editorial team and, after ratification by the Executive Committee of the Spanish Society of Cardiology, the beginning of the second 3-year term.

As every year, in this "Editor's Page", the editorial team appraises the previous year of Revista Española de Cardiología (Rev Esp Cardiol) and reports its overall situation and future direction. In 2018, an impact factor of 5.166 was reached, a historical high for our journal that once again places our journal in the first quartile. Beyond reflecting the unquestionable and exceptional success of the journal, this achievement should be interpreted as consolidating Rev Esp Cardiol not only as a benchmark for Spanish and bilingual cardiovascular journals, but also as a marker of bibliometric stability, given its placement in the top tertile of all indexed cardiovascular journals for the fourth consecutive year. The second major development is the launch of the 2 new publications of the REC Publications family (REC: CardioClinics1 and REC: Interventional Cardiology²), which, as announced in the last "Editor's Page",³ are intended to publish work of undoubted interest and scientific value that cannot find a place in Rev Esp Cardiol due to space limitations. In the corresponding "Editor's Pages" of these journal titles, the editorial teams explain in detail their characteristics and their plan of action.

PUBLICATIONS OF REV ESP CARDIOL DURING 2018

The total numbers of articles published in Rev Esp Cardiol vs previous years-specifically, Original Articles, Editorials, Scientific letters, Images in Cardiology, Letters to the Editor, and Special Articles-are shown in Figure 1. There was a slight decrease in the total number of publications, 294 vs 312 in 2017, the main reason being the reduction in the number of Letters to the Editor published, from 44 to 18. Nonetheless, there were no changes in the numbers of original articles and reviews, the key contributors to the scientific visibility of a journal. In addition, in 2018, as in the previous year, there was a slight decrease in the general demand for publication in Rev Esp Cardiol, with 966 manuscripts received vs 1047 in 2017 (Figure 2). However, this decline did not affect original articles, whose submission rate has slightly increased vs the previous year. Indeed, in 2018, the journal had the second all-time highest demand for publication of original articles (Figure 3). We must also note the manuscript acceptance rate of 9%, a slight decrease vs the previous year, which is related to both the growing demand and the need to maintain a stable annual number of original articles (around 60-70). The drop in the acceptance rate of original articles in 2018 is partly due to the necessary stock adjustments for this type of articles.

As already mentioned in the 2 most recent "Editor's Pages", ^{3,4} this editorial team has chosen to publish reviews addressing various topics of potential interest to the reader, avoiding repetition and trying to cover different knowledge areas. During the last year, 9 review articles were published on various topics, such as the role of magnetic resonance imaging in predicting sudden cardiac death,⁵ percutaneous pulmonary valve implantation,⁶ direct-acting anticoagulants in renal failure,⁷ coronary physiology,⁸ interventional therapies in pulmonary hypertension,⁹ advances in cardiac resynchronization therapy,¹⁰ fusion imaging techniques for interventional procedures,¹¹ hybrid imaging techniques in ischemic heart disease,¹² and Fontan-associated liver disease.¹³ Considerable effort, time and planning is required to write a quality review, especially when working to journal deadlines, so we must congratulate all authors. As our readers know, the review topics are usually selected about halfway through the year in a full editorial team meeting. In addition to the topics proposed by the members of the editorial team, unsolicited proposals are also considered at this meeting. Interested authors should send a summary of their proposed topic along with a development outline to the editorial office. Authors should also highlight their previous publications in the corresponding field and their experience.

The total annual number of scientific letters has increased again, from 84 in 2017 to 96 in 2018 (Figure 1). This has mainly been due to the decision to continue to make sufficient space for unsolicited scientific letters that, for the second year running, share the same format as the update articles of the scientific sections of the Spanish Society of Cardiology. The section "Atrium", which summarizes the contents of each issue, was also published in 2018. We again benefited from a monthly contribution from Fernando A. Navarro, a member of our Advisory Board, who helps to resolve scientific language doubts

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^{*}Corresponding author: *Revista Española de Cardiología*, Ntra. Sra. de Guadalupe 5, 28028 Madrid, Spain. *E-mail address:* rec@revespcardiol.org (I. Ferreira-González).



Figure 1. Year-on-year comparison of the total number of manuscripts published.







Figure 3. Number of original manuscripts received and the acceptance rate from 2010 to 2018. *At the time of publishing this article, there were 9 original articles received in 2018 pending acceptance or rejection.

and peculiarities in the articles comprising the section, "Viaje al corazón de las palabras" (Into the heart of terminology).

With regard to the Internet and social media strategy of Rev Esp Cardiol, 2018 saw a noticeable 15% increase in traffic to the website, which achieved a new record of 7.8 million visits and 12.9 million page views (Figure 4). These data consolidate the website of the journal¹⁴ as one of the main Spanish-language references for information on cardiology. The Rev Esp Cardiol blog¹⁵ continues to provide our authors with an opportunity to present the results of their research in an educational and entertaining way, which increases their dissemination to a new audience of at least 3000 visits per post. Finally, the activity on social media (Twitter and Facebook) grows steadily (Figure 4) and now comprises 250 000 messages per month on the best in cardiology research.

THE EDITORIAL PROCESSES

The annual changes in the times required for the editorial process, from manuscript submission to the first decision, are shown in Figure 5. These times fell slightly in the last year and, currently (including articles that are rejected without being sent for review), are generally below 13 days on average between the beginning of the editorial process for an article and the first decision.

The excellent response times of our reviewers remain very stable (Figure 6) and we must congratulate them effusively. We would also like to convey our gratitude to all reviewers who work with Rev Esp Cardiol despite not belonging to our Editorial Committee or Advisory

Board (Table 1). Due to the quantity, quality, and speed of their evaluations, the elite reviewers of 2018 also deserve special mention (Table 2).

Regarding the time from acceptance to online publication, at least in the original submission language, the current editorial process involving the sequential processing of the 2 versions (Spanish and English) implemented in 2017, has allowed us to maintain quite competitive times, which remains under 7 weeks.

BIBLIOMETRIC ASPECTS

As mentioned at the beginning of this article, the journal's 2017 impact factor (published in the 2018 Journal Citation Reports [JCR]¹⁶) is the highest in the entire history of Rev Esp Cardiol. This is not just an incidental statistic; it shows that the impact factor has been consolidated, having remained in the first tertile for the last 5 years. We remind our readers that the impact factor is a bibliometric index that increases with a higher number of citations generated by articles in a journal and a lower number of citable articles, specifically original articles and reviews, in the previous 2 years. The bibliometric evolution of Rev Esp Cardiol is shown in Figure 7. In the 2018 edition of the JCR, the journal was placed at number 26 of 128 cardiovascular journals.

As in previous editions of the "Editor's Page", it is important to determine which articles have had the highest scientific dissemination and visibility in recent years. The publications of 2015 and 2016 influence the impact factor for 2017, whereas those





Figure 5. Mean manuscript processing time for initial submissions between 2010 and 2018. The line corresponding to the average time from Editor assignment to reviewer invitation only includes the articles submitted for evaluation.



Figure 6. Response time for Rev Esp Cardiol reviewers for first drafts of original articles (data from the first 6 months of each year).

published in 2016 and 2017 influence the impact factor for 2018; those published in 2018 influence the immediacy index, a reflection of the speed of the scientific visibility of a publication. This information, extracted from the Web of Science of the Institute for Scientific Information¹⁷ at the start of 2019, is shown in Table 3. We would like to warmly congratulate the authors of these articles. Finally, as in every year, we must mention and commend the authors of the publications receiving awards conferred by the Spanish Society of Cardiology based on their scientific impact and quality (Table 4).

THE NEW JOURNAL TITLES

As has been mentioned in successive "Editor's Pages",^{3,4} in recent years Rev Esp Cardiol has registered an increasing demand for publication that cannot be met by its current capacity. This

has led to a progressive reduction in the acceptance rate, as can be seen in Figure 3. For this reason, this editorial team decided to explore the creation of a new journal title to disseminate some of the rejected manuscripts that are of sufficient quality to be published. At the end of 2016, study began of the feasibility and characteristics of this editorial project. It has been 2 years of constant work, which at times threatened to overwhelm our editorial office, whose staff must be heartily congratulated for their enthusiasm, work ethic, and creativity when solving the many problems encountered. Finally, the project has come to fruition with the March publication of the very first issue of REC: CardioClinics. In that issue, the Editor-in-Chief Dr Antonio Muñoz, along with Associate Editors Luciano Consuegra and Sergio Raposeiras, explains in the corresponding "Editor's Page" the editorial line and the future projects of the new journal. From

Table 1.

Professionals Who Collaborated With Revista Española de Cardiología in 2018

César Abelleira	José Cuende	Justo Juliá	Sergio Rodríguez de Leiras
Harry Acquatella	David de Gonzalo-Calvo	Alfonso Jurado-Román	Oriol Rodríguez-Leor
Alejandro Adsuar	Irene Dégano	Adrienne Kovacs	Ramón Rodríguez-Olivares
Rosa M. Agra	David Dobarro	Pablo Loma-Osorio	José F. Rodríguez-Palomares
Aristides Alarcón	Fernando Domínguez	José R. López-Mínguez	Marisol Ruiz-Meana
Dimpna C. Albert	Laura Domínguez-Pérez	Alfonso Macías	Anna Sabate
Manuel Almendro-Delia	Sonia Eiras	Nicolás Manito	Rafael Salgado-Bodes
Ignacio J. Amat	Alberto Esteban-Fernández	Begoña Manso	Rafael Salguero
Ignasi Anguera	Rosa Fernández-Olmo	María D. Marrodán	Luisa Salido
Fernando Antoñanzas	Juan Fernández-Armenta	Gerard Martí	Pablo Salinas
Javier Aranceta	Nuria Fernández-Hidalgo	Victoria Martín-Yuste	Adriana Saltijeral
Ángel Aroca	David Filgueiras-Rama	Isaac Martínez-Bendayán	Marianela Sánchez-Martínez
Antonio Arrebola	Xacobe Flores	Efrén Martínez-Quintana	Laura Sanchis
Pablo Ávila	Ángela Flox	Domingo Marzal	Marcelo Sanmartín
Enrique J. Balbacid	José F. Forteza	Pilar Mazón	Gloria Santos-Beneit
José Banegas	Eduardo Franco	José Montero	Paz Sanz
Jordi Bañeras	María Gallego-Delgado	Roberto Muñoz	Fernando Sarnago-Cebada
Eduardo Barge	Juan Gálvez	Luis Nombela	Inés Sayago
Gonzalo Barón-Esquivias	Carlos García Santos-Gallego	Raymundo Ocaranza	Hugo Spindola-Franco
Vivencio Barrios	Alberto García-Lledó	Soledad Ojeda	Gisela Teixido-Tura
Antonio Barros	Pablo García-Pavía	Jordi Ordóñez-Llanos	Luis Téllez
Teresa Bastante	Juan C. García-Rubira	Julián Palomino	Luis Teruel
Víctor Bazán	Inés Gómez Otero	Pablo Pazos	Leire Unzué
Michele Biscuola	Josep Gómez-Lara	María L. Peña	José A. Urbano
Ramón Bover	José González-Costello	Pablo Peñafiel	Félix Valencia
Montserrat Bret	Elvira González-Obeso	Alberto Pérez-Castellanos	Israel Valverde
María Brion	Álvaro González-Rocafort	Esther Pérez-David	Berta Vega
José A. Cabrera	Antonio González-Calle	Antonia Pijuan-Domènech	Sonia Velasco
Naiara Calvo	Francisco González-Vílchez	Joan Pons	Maite Velázquez
Eva M. Cantero	Ferran Gran	Francisco Portela	Ana Viana
José A. Carbonell	María Grau	Raquel Prieto	Rafael Vidal-Pérez
Juan Caro-Codón	Encarnación Gutiérrez-Carretero	Valentina O. Puntmann	Gemma Vilahur
Antonio Castro	Enrique Gutiérrez-Ibáñes	Sergio Raposeiras	David Vivas
Pilar Cejudo	Federico Gutiérrez-Larraya	Juan J. Ríos	Fernando Worner
Marinela Chaparro-Muñoz	Gabriela Guzmán-Martínez	Tomás Ripoll	Esther Zorio
Isabel Coma	Javier Inserte	Rami Riziq-Yousef Abumuaileq	José L. Zunzunegui
Félix Coserria	Carmen Jiménez	Jessica Roa	
David Couto	Juan Jiménez-Jaimez	Ivo Roca	

Table 2.

List of Elite Reviewers 2018

Fernando Alfonso	
Víctor Bazán	
Juan Caro	
Amelia Carro	
Luciano Consuegra	
Alberto Cordero	
José M. de la Torre	
Carlos Escobar	
Ramón López-Palop	
Luis Rodríguez-Padial	

Rev Esp Cardiol, we wish the greatest success to the editorial team of REC: CardioClinics.

In addition, also forming part of the Rev Esp Cardiol family, the first issues of REC: Interventional Cardiology will be published in 2019. This new journal is an initiative of the Cardiac Catheterization and Interventional Cardiology Section of the Spanish Society of Cardiology and will be launched as 4 issues per year, with priority access online and fully bilingual publication. Dr José M. de la Torre is the Editor-in-Chief, with Associate Editors Fernando Alfonso, Raúl Moreno, and Juan Sanchis, and, as a new publication of the REC Publications family, editorial management is also conducted in the editorial office of Rev Esp Cardiol. Again, we wish our colleagues a very bright and successful future.



Figure 7. Changes in the ranking of Rev Esp Cardiol among other journals in the field of cardiovascular medicine according to their impact factors.

Table 3.

Research Articles and Reviews Published in Revista Española de Cardiología in 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018 Receiving the Most Citations in 2018

Year	Title	Type of publication	Total citation
2015	Valve Thrombosis Following Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation: A Systematic Review ¹⁸	Original	9
	Anticoagulation Control in Patients With Nonvalvular Atrial Fibrillation Attended at Primary Care Centers in Spain: The PAULA Study ¹⁹	Original	13
	Prognosis and Management of Acute Coronary Syndrome in Spain in 2012: The DIOCLES Study ²⁰	Original	9
	Acute Heart Failure: Epidemiology, Risk Factors, and Prevention ²¹	Review	7
	Comparison of Estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate Equations for Dosing New Oral Anticoagulants in Patients With Atrial Fibrillation ²²	Original	7
	Adherence to the ESC Heart Failure Treatment Guidelines in Spain: ESC Heart Failure Long-term Registry ²³	Original	6
	Cardiorenal Syndrome in Acute Heart Failure: Revisiting Paradigms ²⁴	Review	4
2016	Prevalence of General Obesity and Abdominal Obesity in the Spanish Adult Population (Aged 25-64 Years) 2014-2015: The ENPE Study ²⁵	Original	23
	Update on Myocarditis and Inflammatory Cardiomyopathy: Reemergence of Endomyocardial Biopsy ²⁶	Review	15
	Prevalence, Diagnosis, Treatment, and Control of Hypertension in Spain. Results of the Di@bet.es Study ²⁷	Original	13
	The Risk of Cardiovascular Events After an Acute Coronary Event Remains High, Especially During the First Year, Despite Revascularization ²⁸	Original	7
	Iron Status in Chronic Heart Failure: Impact on Symptoms, Functional Class and Submaximal Exercise Capacity ²⁹	Original	9
	Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance in Cardiology Practice: A Concise Guide to Image Acquisition and Clinical Interpretation ³⁰	Review	8
	Transitions of Care Between Acute and Chronic Heart Failure: Critical Steps in the Design of a Multidisciplinary Care Model for the Prevention of Rehospitalization ³¹	Review	7
2017 - - - -	Cardio-Onco-Hematology in Clinical Practice. Position Paper and Recommendations ³²	Position paper	11
	Attainment of LDL Cholesterol Treatment Goals in Children and Adolescents With Familial Hypercholesterolemia. The SAFEHEART Follow-up Registry ³³	Original	11
	Mid-range Ejection Fraction Does Not Permit Risk Stratification Among Patients Hospitalized for Heart Failure ³⁴	Original	11
	The Ratio Between Visceral and Subcutaneous Abdominal Fat Assessed by Computed Tomography Is an Independent Predictor of Mortality and Cardiac Events ³⁵	Original	8
	Three-dimensional Printed Cardiac Models: Applications in the Field of Medical Education, Cardiovascular Surgery, and Structural Heart Interventions ³⁶	Review	8
	Multivessel Versus Culprit-only Percutaneous Coronary Intervention in ST-segment Elevation Acute Myocardial Infarction: Analysis of an 8-year Registry ³⁷	Original	5
	Burden of Recurrent Hospitalizations Following an Admission for Acute Heart Failure: Preserved Versus Reduced Ejection Fraction ³⁸	Original	5
2018 - - - -	Left Ventricular Assist Device Therapy for Destination Therapy: Is Less Invasive Surgery a Safe Alternative? ³⁹	Original	6
	Perioperative and Periprocedural Management of Antithrombotic Therapy: Consensus Document of SEC, SEDAR, SEACV, SECTCV, AEC, SECPRE, SEPD, SEGO, SEHH, SETH, SEMERGEN, SEMFYC, SEMG, SEMICYUC, SEMI, SEMES, SEPAR, SENEC, SEO, SEPA, SERVE', SECOT and AEU ⁴⁰	Position paper	5
	Dual Versus Single Antiplatelet Regimen With or Without Anticoagulation in Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement: Indirect Comparison and Meta-analysis ⁴¹	Original	5
	Persistence With Statins in Primary Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease: Findings From a Cohort of Spanish Workers ⁴²	Original	4
	Tricuspid but not Mitral Regurgitation Determines Mortality After TAVI in Patients With Nonsevere Mitral Regurgitation ⁴³	Original	3
	Factors Influencing the Phenotypic Expression of Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy in Genetic Carriers ⁴⁴	Original	3

Source: Clarivate Analytics Web of Science, January 5, 2019.

Table 4.

Articles Receiving an Award From the Spanish Society of Cardiology in 2018

1. Prizes awarded by the Spanish Society of Cardiology for articles published in Rev Esp Cardiol

First prize

Awamleh García et al. Prevalence of Electrocardiographic Patterns Associated With Sudden Cardiac Death in the Spanish Population Aged 40 Years or Older. Results of the OFRECE Study. Rev Esp Cardiol. 2017;70:801–807.

Second prize

Santas et al. Burden of Recurrent Hospitalizations Following an Admission for Acute Heart Failure: Preserved Versus Reduced Ejection Fraction. *Rev Esp Cardiol*. 2017;70:239-246.

2. Prizes awarded by the Spanish Society of Cardiology for the articles published in Rev Esp Cardiol with the greatest international impact

Most-cited articles. long-term

First prize

Barrios et al. Patients With Atrial Fibrillation in a Primary Care Setting: Val-FAAP Study. Rev Esp Cardiol. 2012;65:47-53.

Second prize

Fernández-Bergés et al. Metabolic Syndrome in Spain: Prevalence and Coronary Risk Associated With Harmonized Definition and WHO Proposal. DARIOS Study. *Rev Esp Cardiol*. 2012:65:241-248.

Most-cited articles, midterm

First prize

Córdoba-Soriano et al. Valve Thrombosis Following Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation: A Systematic Review. Rev Esp Cardiol. 2015;68:198-204.

Second prize (awarded to 2 articles)

Barrabés et al. Prognosis and Management of Acute Coronary Syndrome in Spain in 2012: The DIOCLES Study. Rev Esp Cardiol. 2015;68:98-106.

Barrios et al. Anticoagulation Control in Patients With Nonvalvular Atrial Fibrillation Attended at Primary Care Centers in Spain: The PAULA Study. *Rev Esp Cardiol.* 2015;68:769-776.

3. Prizes awarded by the Clinical Cardiology Section for articles published in Rev Esp Cardiol (awarded to 2 articles)

Awamleh García et al. Prevalence of Electrocardiographic Patterns Associated With Sudden Cardiac Death in the Spanish Population Aged 40 Years or Older. Results of the OFRECE Study. 2017;70:801–807.

Massó-van Roessel et al. Analysis of the Association Between Electrocardiographic P-wave Characteristics and Atrial Fibrillation in the REGICOR Study. *Rev Esp Cardiol.* 2017;70:841-847.

4. Prize awarded by the Ischemic Heart Disease and Acute Coronary Care Section for the best article published in Rev Esp Cardiol

Carol Ruiz et al. Predictors of Late Reperfusion in STEMI Patients Undergoing Primary Angioplasty. Impact of the Place of First Medical Contact. *Rev Esp Cardiol.* 2017;70: 162-169.

5. Prize awarded by the Electrophysiology and Arrhythmias Section for the best article published in Rev Esp Cardiol

Awamleh García et al. Prevalence of Electrocardiographic Patterns Associated With Sudden Cardiac Death in the Spanish Population Aged 40 Years or Older. Results of the OFRECE Study. *Rev Esp Cardiol.* 2017;70:801–807.

6. Prize awarded by the Cardiac Pacing Section for the best article published on cardiac pacing

López-Aguilera et al. Long-term clinical impact of permanent cardiac pacing after transcatheter aortic valve implantation with the CoreValve prosthesis: a single center experience. *Europace*. 2018;20:993-1000.

7. Prize awarded by the Pediatric Cardiology and Congenital Heart Disease Section for the best article published in Rev Esp Cardiol

Ponz de Antonio et al. Prevalence of Neuroendocrine Tumors in Patients With Cyanotic Congenital Heart Disease. Rev Esp Cardiol. 2017;70:673-675.

8. Prize awarded by the Vascular Risk and Cardiac Rehabilitation Section for the best publication

Barrios et al. Usefulness of a Cardiovascular Polypill in the Treatment of Secondary Prevention Patients in Spain: A Cost-effectiveness Study. Rev Esp Cardiol. 2017;70:42-49.

9. Sixth Magda Heras prize for the best article published in an Iberoamerican cardiovascular journal

First prize

Awamleh García et al. Prevalence of Electrocardiographic Patterns Associated With Sudden Cardiac Death in the Spanish Population Aged 40 Years or Older. Results of the OFRECE Study. Rev Esp Cardiol. 2017;70:801–807.

Second prize

Acuña-Valerio et al. Aortic valve calcification prevalence and association with coronary risk factors and atherosclerosis in Mexican population. Arch Cardiol Mex. 2017;87: 108-115.

Third prize

Villalba et al. Biventricular Repair in Patients with Transposition of the Great Arteries, Ventricular Septal Defect and Pulmonary Stenosis: Rastelli, Nikaidoh or REV Procedures? Rev Argent Cardiol. 2017;85:241-249.

Finally, we encourage readers of Rev Esp Cardiol to contribute to the success of the 2 new journals by submitting their research results and clinical cases^{45,46}. We are convinced that the talent and energy in the Spanish and Latin American cardiology field can guarantee the success of the new projects.

CONCLUSIONS

Rev Esp Cardiol is the official scientific publication of the SEC and one of its vehicles of expression. During 2018, a new bibliometric success was achieved for Rev Esp Cardiol, consolidating the impact of our journal in the international sphere. In 2019, 2 new publications within the REC Publications family will be launched, a general journal (REC: CardioClinics) and another specific catheterization title (REC: Interventional Cardiology). The contents of these journals will complement those of Rev Esp Cardiol and we hope for their success.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A major contributor to the quality of Rev Esp Cardiol is the work done by its translators and proofreaders. The authors would like to thank them for their attention to detail and their perceptive comments, which help to improve both the English version and the Spanish version. In particular, the translation team for the English version, comprising Simon Bartlett, Helen Casas, Celine Cavallo, Kevin Clayton, Simon Coxon, Jane Marshall, Greg Morley, and Anne Murray, with Gail Craigie as copy-editor, has played an essential role in the upward trajectory of our journal and has had a positive impact on the visibility of Spanish cardiology.

We would like to acknowledge the continued support of our ICT consultant Dr José Juan Gómez de Diego and the entire ICT department of the Spanish Society of Cardiology.

The Editors of Rev Esp Cardiol and the Editorial Director are grateful for the excellent work and continued efforts of Eva M. Cardenal, María González Nogal, Helena Gómez-Lobo, and Belén Juan. Their involvement and professionalism are indispensable in our daily work, required for a publication of excellence and essential to take on new challenges.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

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