

EDITORIAL

PCRJ doubles its citation rate in a year

In this year's March issue, we reported the phenomenal increase in website traffic to the journal website (www.thepcrj.org) throughout 2007 – the journal's first year of providing free unlimited worldwide internet access to all PCRJ papers. The current download statistics are available on the website – have a look at the website today. We have new services available – such as export facilities to bibliographic software – as well as the usual instructions for authors, information on PCRJ supplements, and our Publisher's newsletter.

We are also delighted to inform readers that the PCRJ continues its extremely successful development with a near-doubling of its citation rate. Data from SCImago, an independent, international academic research group based at Granada University, Spain, show that the PCRJ's SCImago citation index increased from 0.071 to 0.139 over this last year. SCImago measures the citation rates of more than 15,000 scientific journals from over 4,000 publishers using data from the SCOPUS database owned by Elsevier. It includes 4,890 medical titles from PubMed/Medline, measures and compares their citation rates since 1996, and is rapidly becoming a widely recognised and respected measure of the scientific standing of medical journals. A SCImago index of 0.139 puts the PCRJ in the top 20% of all medical publications assessed by this method. This is great news.

We aim always to bring you an interesting and varied contents list with authors from around the world – and as the official journal of the International Primary Care Respiratory Group (IPCRG) this is right and fitting. In this issue we have authors from Iran, the USA, the UK, South Africa, Norway and Sweden, together with an IPCRG consensus statement on smoking cessation with authors from the Netherlands, Norway, Australia, Belgium, Greece, Spain, Ukraine, Turkey and the UK.

The list of topics covered in this issue is also extensive. Highlights are as follows;

- On page 176 we have a pro/con debate on the use of inhaled corticosteroids (ICS) in children under two years of age; Bush and Price¹ make the case for restricting ICS to those children under specialist supervision, whereas Lenney² argues against the motion.
- A review on the management of acute rhinosinusitis in primary care by Ryan,³ with emphasis on the changing role

of nasal corticosteroids.

- A report from South Africa on the development and implementation of the PALSA guideline on the diagnosis and management of patients presenting with respiratory symptoms in primary care,⁴ together with an accompanying focussed editorial by Rashidian.⁵
- Johansson *et al*⁶ report on the bronchodilator efficiency of tiotropium in patients with mild to moderate COPD.
- The IPCRG consensus statement on tackling the smoking epidemic⁷ provides clear guidance for all primary care health professionals in their quest to increase smoking cessation amongst their patients.

We do hope you enjoy this issue. The PCRJ is truly an international journal of primary care respiratory medicine. Subscription information is available on the website at www.thepcrj.org.

References

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