

## EDITORIAL

# Actas Dermo-Sifiliográficas 1909-2009

The year 2009 is one of great celebration and joy because it marks the centenary of the publication of the first issue of *Actas Dermo-Sifiliográficas*. The journal was founded in May 1909, and ever since has been an essential reference within Spanish dermatological literature and has published valuable contributions from distinguished figures from other countries. These achievements are a source of great pride and satisfaction to us all. Since Juan de Azúa, with the help of José Sánchez Covisa (the original secretary of *Actas*) and Miguel Serrano (the first manager), had the excellent idea of founding a journal that would reflect the achievements of Spanish dermatology on a national and international scale, a great deal of water has flowed under the bridge. The new journal survived and consolidated its position, its publication was interrupted during the Spanish Civil War, and its long history has been marked by occasional crises and recoveries. In spite of difficult times, *Actas Dermo-Sifiliográficas* has always managed to keep its head above water thanks to the hard work and enthusiasm of the many authors who have left their mark on its pages. Today, the official publication of the Spanish Academy of Dermatology and Venereology (Academia Española de Dermatología y Venereología—AEDV) finds itself in the congenial company of other prestigious journals in the vanguard of the thriving field of global scientific publishing.

In 1959, the AEDV celebrated the 50th anniversary of the foundation of both the society and *Actas Dermo-Sifiliográficas* with a simple religious service in memory of deceased members, a scientific symposium, and a fraternity dinner.<sup>1</sup> The journal celebrated its 75th anniversary in 1984<sup>2</sup> and this year we celebrate its centenary. Throughout 2009, we will publish a series of editorials featuring the experiences and reflections of people who have played an active and decisive role in the journal's management and editorial policy. In a temporary new section called "Actas 1909-2009," we will hark back to earlier days and enjoy rereading some of the articles that had particular impact on different areas of dermatology. But we cannot remain anchored in the past. All of the knowledge expounded in *Actas Dermo-Sifiliográficas* over the last hundred years is but a seed that must germinate and a solid base for a very promising future in scientific knowledge. And this promise will be reflected by a supplement in which scientists working at the highest national and international level will expound on the latest advances in our specialty in a "glimpse into the future."

We must also take stock of the past year. Thanks to the work of many collaborators, our objectives have been largely achieved. The free English edition of *Actas* has been published online

since January 2007 and promoted through advertisements in such prestigious international publications as the *Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology* and the *European Journal of Dermatology*. The number of pages in the journal and the number of article submissions have both increased considerably. The monetary award for the *Actas-Isdín* prize for the best published articles has also been increased. Our publisher Elsevier has redesigned the *Actas* website on their portal and we now have a manuscript management section that allows authors, peer reviewers, and the editorial committee to monitor the editorial process online. The national and international editorial board has been expanded substantially. A great deal remains to be done, however, and we will confront the task with great enthusiasm and willingness to work. Our objectives for the journal in 2009 are to further improve the content from the point of view of both text and graphics, to reduce the turnaround time for peer review, to create new sections (scientific-clinical letters and history and humanities in dermatology), to encourage more active participation from AEDV working groups, to foster continuous professional development, and to work on the accreditation of the journal. We plan to build bridges with a view to achieving a larger circulation and greater international participation, and to work towards achieving the much desired impact factor that will situate our journal in the place it deserves on its own merits. We also anticipate the publication of a special issue dedicated to contributions from the society's regional chapters and working groups.

At this time, we would also like to thank all of those whose hard work has helped *Actas Dermo-Sifiliográficas* to move confidently into the future: the authors, the editorial team, the reviewers, the members of the editorial board, the staff of the AEDV, all the team at our publisher Elsevier, and the companies that have supported our work financially. And we take this opportunity to apologize for any errors we may unintentionally have committed.

Finally, we must congratulate our dearly beloved *Actas Dermo-Sifiliográficas* on its one hundredth birthday, and look forward to celebrating many more!

## References

1. Del Río E, Conde-Salazar L. Breve historia de *Actas Dermo-Sifiliográficas*. *Actas Dermosifiliogr*. 2006; 97: 159-68.
2. García-Pérez A. 75 Aniversario de la fundación de la Revista y de la Academia Española de Dermatología y Sifiliografía. *Actas Dermosifiliogr*. 1984; 75: 2.

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