

A New Cover for the New Year

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Several medical journals—the *British Medical Journal* is an example—publish a special issue for the New Year. It is usually a literary gift, a unique occasion to link science and art and to remind us all that a perfect combination of reason and sentiment can coexist in a person.

We would like to do something similar in our journal, but circumstances have not yet allowed us to do so. We lack the funds of a medical publication with several thousand subscribers and an unlimited number of readers. All in good time. However, we do not wish to let slip this end-of-year opportunity to present our readers with a small gift—our new front cover.

Since *Archivos de Bronconeumología* first appeared in 1964, it has had 7 different covers. We refer readers to the wonderful review by our previous editor, Dr Miguel Perpiñá, published in the book *History of Spanish Pulmonology and Thoracic Surgery*.¹

A journal's cover is its calling card. It is a collection of coded information, a combination of shapes, colors, anagrams, and text that will persuade us to turn the page or cause us to place it on a shelf. Over time, only the name *Archivos de Bronconeumología* has remained the same. New sections have come along and, like offspring, have helped the journal make its way in the world of publications.^{2,3}

Our journal has grown with the times, reflecting the development of respiratory medicine⁴ and thoracic surgery.⁵ *Archivos de Bronconeumología* has extended its areas of interest and has succeeded in attracting an increasing number of articles about closely related or ground-breaking issues.⁶⁻¹² This has certainly led to its establishment as the principal publication about the full range of respiratory medicine in the Spanish-speaking world.

Fifty-seven original articles, 13 editorials, 14 reviews, 7 recommendations or guidelines of the Spanish Society of Pulmonology and Thoracic Surgery (SEPAR), 18 case reports, 27 letters to the editor, and 4 special articles, in addition to supplementary issues, and one for the SEPAR conference: this content that makes up our published

archive for 2008 gives a good example of our activity in recent years. Among the recently published papers, we would like to call readers' attention to the SEPAR guidelines and consensus statements,¹³⁻¹⁹ a description of multicenter registries,²⁰ and a discussion of proposed terminology.²¹ These up-to-date literature reviews on our pages, some initially proposed by the scientific committee of the society, and others invited by the Editorial Board, may be cited by any author publishing a paper on their content. In most cases, the reviews become a mandatory reference for a definition, a diagnostic protocol, or a treatment of choice. Moreover, certain citable items are extremely useful for the Americas.^{16,22,23} *Archivos de Bronconeumología* remains true to its origins, continuing to reflect the concerns and activities of SEPAR from institutional²⁴ and research²⁵⁻²⁸ perspectives in addition to providing useful information for the analysis of management issues.²⁹

Archivos de Bronconeumología is our journal; the one that publishes our work and cites it, the one that responds to our requirements, and the one that makes our work known in other settings. We will begin 2009 with a new cover—though it is only the external projection of the material inside, over which we must take great care. This is a task we are all responsible for. The end result may be more or less to our liking. We may submit our papers hoping they are accepted for publication, or we may be dismayed to receive unfavorable comments from peer reviewers. All this is an essential part of scientific publishing, dependent on real persons, whose work may be on target or not.

Let these lines of reflection serve to welcome in the New Year. In 2009, *Archivos de Bronconeumología* not only aims to maintain but also to improve its position among scientific medical journals. When you receive this issue with its new cover, think about the content. When you write, bear this journal in mind—our journal, the one that belongs to all Spanish-speaking pulmonologists and thoracic surgeons.

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