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EDITORIAL

Continuous publication in single volume - editorial

Publicação contínua em volume único – editorial

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Since its launch in 1998, Scientia Medica has presented constant developments in its editorial process. Several years ago, Scientia Medica has subdivided its annual publication into four quarterly issues (March, June, September and December each year), but with publication by article, once all requirements for peer review, formatting and publishing meet. The year 2020 will mark a new stage in its history: a new graphic project of the journal, appropriate to the visual identity of the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul, and the migration of the current periodicity of publishing to the publication in continuous flow with number in the year. These strategies are being adopted in the editorial process of all university journals, aiming at increasing qualification.

The continuous publication process (or rolling pass or rolling publishing) is recommended by the Scientific Editors Brazilian Association [1] and SciELO [2], and has been used by the Scientia Medica since 2015. It is an online publishing method that facilitates editorial and publishing processes and gives greater visibility to published articles. According to the guidelines for SciELO publications [2, 3], this modality promotes speed in the process of communication and availability of research, with numerous advantages for users of scientific information: researchers, students, readers, publishers and funding agencies. In addition, it offers several operational advantages such as: 1) facilitate the indexation of articles in bibliographic databases where the journal is indexed, with emphasis on Google Scholar, PubMed, SciELO, Scopus and Web of Science; 2) stop accumulating the already approved articles waiting for the composition and diagramming of the next number and 3) keep feeding by sections both in the structure [4].

The use of a single annual number will allow Scientia Medica to have greater agility in its publications and avoid possible delays that could occur in its publishing by issues. Therefore, in December 2019, Scientia Medica closed the current publication cycle with volume and number, with volume 29, number 4. From 2020, the journal's publications will be identified by volume followed by number 1: 30(1) in 2020, 31(1) in 2021, 32(1) in 2022, and so on.



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The biggest challenges for the editorial team will be adaptation to this dynamic model, the complete management of the publication process due to a probable increase in submissions, without losing their quality and care to avoid excessive endogeneity. I hope these little modifications, as desired by my predecessor, Prof. Dr. Eleonor Lago [4], "*maintain the constant growth of this important communication vehicle, example of quality, ethics and integrity in scientific publication*".

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