

Acta Dermato-Venereologica Goes Open Access From 2011!

ANDERS VAHLQUIST, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, ACTA DERMATO-VENEREOLOGICA AND AGNETA ANDERSSON, MANAGING EDITOR

Acta Dermato-Venereologica will as the first of the top 10 ranked dermatology journals go for full open access to increase the visibility of all publications.



The Impact Factor Leaps Again

We are very pleased to inform our readers that *Acta Dermato-Venereologica* is thriving. We receive more and more articles for consideration. Probably as a result of the rising impact factor, the number of submissions per year has now risen from 300 (2008) to a prognosis of over 600 for the year 2010. Concurrently the number of published pages has increased but not to the same extent, meaning that the acceptance rate has fallen to presently 45%. The development of the impact factor for Acta Dermato-Venereologica during the last 8 years are shown below (Fig. 1). Also a list of the 20 top journals with the highest impact factor are shown for your comparison (Table I).

High Quality Papers

In our attempt to always present a stringent message easy to grasp we try to reduce the length of the submitted papers and convert full case reports into Letters to the Editor or Quiz cases. This also allows us to publish more papers. By and large we feel that the quality of the published material in *Acta Dermato-Venereologica* is getting better every year. In Fig. 2 you can see the country distribution of published papers during the last three years. Most papers come from Japan, Italy, Germany and the Scandinavian countries. When compensating for the much

bigger populations of the former country, the Nordic countries (especially Denmark) rank exceptionally high.

The Sections Editors take an essential part in the review process. A high standard of selected peer-reviewers and a swift processing of the submitted papers is a sine qua non for a scientific journal like *Acta Dermato-Venereologica* striving to be among the best in its field worldwide. To accomplish this and to assist the editors, reviewers and authors as much as possible when working with papers submitted to us, we have recently launched a totally new online system which is much improved compared to the older one. The new system is very user friendly and will help the authors to track their papers during the process and will also help the reviewers in their work. We have also made a total face lift of our website. Please visit www.medicaljournals.se/adv and have a look.

Impact Factor for Acta Dermato-Venereologica 2003-2009

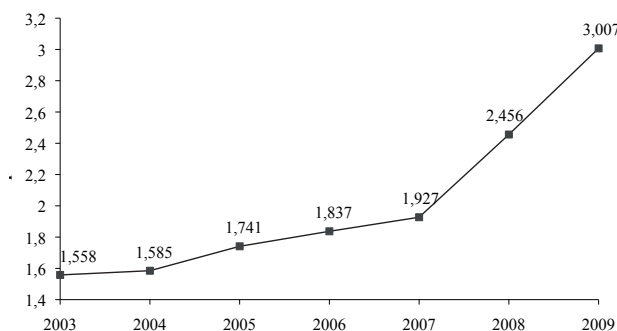


Fig. 1. Increase in Acta Dermato-Venereologica's impact factor during the period 2003-2009.

Table I. The twenty dermatological journals with the highest impact factor

Journals	Impact factor
J Invest Dermatol	5.543
Arch Dermatol	4.760
Pigm Cell Melanoma R	4.344
Br J Dermatol	4.260
J Am Acad Dermatol	4.105
J Dermatol Sci	3.713
Contact Dermatitis	3.635
Exp Dermatol	3.239
Clin Dermatol	3.107
Acta Derm-Venereol	3.007
J Eur Acad Dermatol	2.787
Wound Repair Regen	2.781
Dermatology	2.741
Dermatol Surg	2.343
Dermatitis	2.264
Eur J Dermatol	2.251
Skin Pharmacol Phys	2.117
Melanoma Res	2.061
Arch Dermatol Res	1.844
Dermatol Ther	1.828
Am J Clin Dermatol	1.820

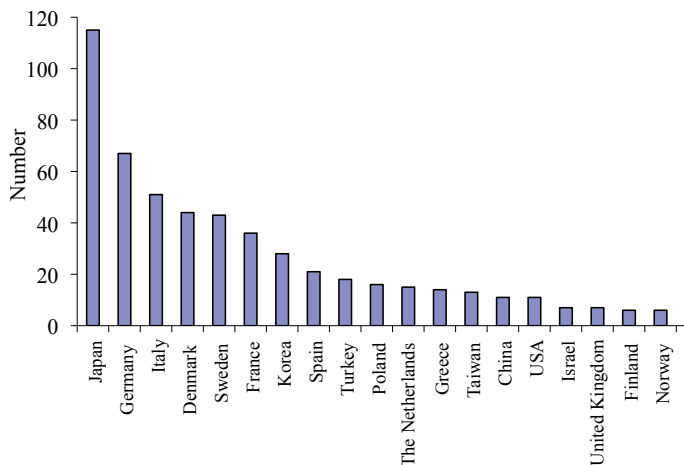


Fig. 2. Country distribution of papers published in Acta Dermato-Venereologica during 2008 to 2010.

The Benefits of Open Access

To increase the visibility of all papers published in *Acta Dermato-Venereologica* the full step towards open access has now been taken and will be in process from the 1st of January 2011. Open access will offer the research presented the potential to reach every scientist and medic in the world with an Internet connection! It will also provide everybody with instant access to the entire Acta Dermato-Venereologica’s archive. There is a general drive towards open access in the world of science and medicine and we are proud to be the first of the top 10 ranked dermatology journals to take this positive step.

The transition to open access has to be funded somehow. Therefore, from October 2010 we will introduce a non-refund-

able submission fee of € 40. Also, page charges for accepted papers will increase from January 2011. We feel, however, that these additional costs are a relatively small price to pay for the enormous benefits of open access.

Paper version

The paper version of Acta Dermato-Venereologica will still be available for some time to come. How long remains to be seen and will be judged by the interest from the readers. For the members of any of the Nordic dermatological societies there is still the option to buy the paper copy to a very reduced price (see advert below). There will also be a possibility to buy the complete volume at the end of a year, either in a paper copy or on CD.

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