Notes and news

The Annals Editorial Activity and Performance for 1993

Number of submissions for publication: 541
Acceptance rate: 38%

Processing time, that is, time from date of arrival in office to date of Editor's letter of decision (initial and revised submissions are considered as separate processing events; n = 720; non-normal distribution (figure).

- median processing time 30 days, range 0–125 days
- 70% of manuscripts processed within 6 weeks
- 85% of manuscripts processed within 8 weeks
- 94% of manuscripts processed within 10 weeks

Publication time, that is, number of full months between month of acceptance and month of publication (for extended and concise reports, hypotheses, reviews):

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<th>months</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
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<tr>
<td>% papers</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>3</td>
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COMMENT

The Editorial Office has largely achieved the two goals declared in the Leader of July 1993 (Ann Rheum Dis 1993; 52: 489). A decision has been returned in under eight weeks for 85% of submitted manuscripts (cf. the 1993 target of 90%), and publication time has been maintained at four months or less for 95% of papers. Our policy of external peer review continues and we have introduced new strategies to improve the efficiency and provided to submitting authors. Our processing goals for 1994 are: (1) to maintain the publication time at <5 months, and (2) to provide a decision in eight weeks for >90% of papers. Performance and submission statistics will continue to be published on a yearly basis.

MICHAEL DOHERTY

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Forthcoming events

In 1994

11–14 Oct
3rd Jenner international glycoimmunology meeting, Il Giocco, Tuscany, Italy
Contact: Azita Alavi, Academic Rheumatology Group, Department of Cellular and Molecular Sciences, St George's Hospital Medical School, University of London, London SW17 0RE, UK. Tel: +44 081 672 9944 Ext 55795. Fax: +44 081 784 2649

12–14 Oct
6th European congress of medical thermology, the Guildhall, Bath, United Kingdom. Organised by the European Association of Thermology
Contact: Dr F J Ring, Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases, Bath, United Kingdom. Fax: (44) 225 421202

13–15 Oct
5th Prague International Symposium, Prague
Contact: The Secretariat, Agentura Carolina Ltd, '5th Pipers', Albertov 7, 120 00 Prague 2, Czech Republic. Tel: (42-2) 29 82 23, 29 40 52, 29 69 56. Fax: (42-2) 29 69 83

23–27 Oct
American College of Rheumatology meeting, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA
Contact: American College of Rheumatology, Ron F Olejko, Director, Conferences and Meetings, 60 Executive Park South, NE, Suite 150, Atlanta, Georgia 30329, USA. Tel: 404 633 3777. Fax: 404 633 1870

9–12 Nov
MaltaDerm 94, Valetta, Malta
Contact: Secretariat MaltaDerm 94, University Department of Dermatology, Boffa Hospital, Floriana, Malta. Tel: (356) 23 47 98. Fax: (356) 23 75 16 or (356) 23 56 38

10–12 Nov
Contact: Mr Bernard Williams, The Midland Centre for Neurosurgery and Neurology, Holly Lane, Smethwick, Warley, West Midlands B67 7JX, UK. Tel: 021 558 3232.

4–8 Dec
2nd APLAR symposium on the therapy of rheumatic diseases, Malaysia
Contact: Ms Nina Sharma, Communication Consultants, 336 Smith Street, 06-302 New Bridge Centre, Singapore 0105. Tel: 02 2279811. Fax: 02 2270257

In 1995

26–31 Mar
Fourth international conference on systemic lupus erythematosus, Jerusalem, Israel
Contact: Fourth International Conference on Systemic Lupus Erythematosus, PO Box 50006, Tel Aviv 61500, Israel

4–7 Apr
BSR XIIth AGM, Glasgow
Contact: British Society for Rheumatology, Anne Mansfield, Deputy Executive Secretary, 3 St Andrew’s Place, London NW1 4LB. Tel: 071 224 3739. Fax: 071 224 0156
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>7 April</td>
<td>British Health Professionals in Rheumatology AGM during BSR AGM</td>
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<td>British Health Professionals in Rheumatology, c/o BSR, Anne Mansfield, Deputy Executive Secretary, 3 St Andrew's Place, Regents Park, London NW1 4LB. Tel: 071 224 3739. Fax: 071 224 0156</td>
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<td>18-24 June</td>
<td>13th European congress of rheumatology (EULAR), Amsterdam, The Netherlands</td>
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<td>EUROCONGRES, Koningslaan 52, NL-1075 AE Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Tel: 31(0)20 6793411. Fax: 31(0)20 6737306</td>
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<td>30 July-3 Aug</td>
<td>3rd World congress on myofascial pain and fibromyalgia, San Antonio, Texas, USA</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jon Russell, MD, PhD, Chairman, Organising Committee, Department of Medicine, University of Texas Health Science Center, 7703 Floyd Curl Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78284-7874, USA. Tel: (210) 567 4661. Fax: (210) 567 4654</td>
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<td>14-15 Sep</td>
<td>Heberden Round, Dr T Hothersall, Keele University</td>
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<td>British Society for Rheumatology, Anne Mansfield, Deputy Executive Secretary, 3 St Andrew's Place, Regents Park, London NW1 4LB. Tel: 071 224 3739. Fax: 071 224 0156</td>
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