

# Portuguese Journal of Pediatrics a decisive tool to improve pediatric research in Portugal

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The Portuguese Journal of Pediatrics experienced major changes in recent years. The changes we have been able to observe surpass the language change into English or the absence of a physical paper journal. Most changes are less obvious and include profound changes in the submission, editorial, and revision processes, allowing a significant improvement in quality. The Sociedade Portuguesa de Pediatria directory board and, in general, all its associates should be grateful to the current and previous editorial teams, who accepted the difficult mission of turning the old Acta Pediátrica Portuguesa into a modern Portuguese Journal of Pediatrics that is paving its path into the desired PubMed indexation.

This way forward is not easy, nor is it certain. Nevertheless, the improvement in quality of the accepted manuscripts (mainly done by giving priority to original research instead of retrospective studies or case reports), the recognition of the work of the reviewers in international platforms such as Publons, and the shortening of editorial, revision, decision and publication time-frames, including the availability of early online publications, are certainly key steps into indexation, which is now concluded for important databases such as Scopus since 2019.

Continuing this process of internationalization and

improvement of the Portuguese Journal of Pediatrics is one of the major axes in the program of the current Sociedade Portuguesa de Pediatria directory board, and we are thankful to Dr. David Lito and Prof. Luís Pereira-da-Silva for accepting this hard mission. We are sure that the journal is in the best of hands to pursue its target. Now it is the time for a major change in the mindset of Portuguese pediatricians and pediatric residents: it is certainly easier to prepare a case-report or a retrospective review than to perform original research, but should not we all aim to give a significant, despite eventually small, contribution to scientific knowledge?

**Keywords:** Editorial Policies; Pediatrics; Periodicals as Topic; Publications/trends

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