

SPECIAL ARTICLE

On the 50th anniversary of *Anales de Pediatría*, official publication of the Spanish Association of Paediatrics[☆]



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Abstract The 50th Anniversary of *Anales de Pediatría* is a good time for the celebration of events and tributes, and also for critical thought.

Anales de Pediatría is the official publication of scientific expression of the Spanish Association of Paediatrics (AEP). It has been published continuously since October 1968. The journal *Anales* has contributed so much to the narrative of the advances in Spanish paediatrics, as well as the AEP.

Throughout its 50 years of history, the editorial teams of the journal have worked to streamline its management, improve the quality of the content, and to ensure its dissemination and national-international visibility.

From 1968 to 1972, *Anales* was published as a Journal-bulletin.

From 1977 until 2000, presence of original articles.

Since the year 2000, continuous modernisation and recognition with international journals of prestige, indexing in SCI-JCR, impact from 2009, electronic management of manuscripts, Spanish/English from the 2014 Edition.

The evolution of the journal is reviewed in this article. With this, the AEP history committee wants to collaborate in a greater understanding of the development of Spanish paediatrics, as well as to present the history of *Anales* to its authors and readers.

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PALABRAS CLAVE

50 aniversario;
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The History committee proposes that a small percentage of space is destined for the humanities and to the humanisation of paediatrics. Best information will ensure the best care for children and also for paediatricians.

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En los 50 años de *Anales de Pediatría*, publicación oficial de la Asociación Española de Pediatría

Resumen El 50 aniversario de *Anales de Pediatría* es un buen momento para la celebración de la efeméride, para los homenajes y también para la reflexión.

Anales de Pediatría es la publicación oficial de la Asociación Española de Pediatría (AEP), su órgano de expresión científica. Se publica de forma ininterrumpida desde octubre de 1968. *Anales* ha contribuido a la narración de la evolución de la pediatría y la de la Asociación Española de Pediatría.

A lo largo de sus 50 años de historia, los distintos equipos editoriales de *Anales* han trabajado para agilizar su gestión, mejorar la calidad de los contenidos y asegurar su difusión y visibilidad nacional e internacional.

De 1968 a 1972, *Anales* se editó como Revista-Boletín.

Desde 1977 hasta el año 2000: evolución a revista con artículos originales.

Desde el año 2000: modernización continua y homologación con revistas internacionales de prestigio, indización en SCI-JCR, índice de impacto desde 2009, gestión electrónica de manuscritos, edición en español/inglés desde 2014.

En este artículo se revisa la evolución de la revista. Con ello, el Comité de Historia de la AEP quiere colaborar en una mayor comprensión del desarrollo de la pediatría española, así como acercar la historia de *Anales* a sus autores y lectores.

El Comité de Historia propone que se considere destinar un pequeño porcentaje de espacio a las humanidades y a la humanización de la Pediatría. La mejor información devendrá en un mejor cuidado de los niños y también de los pediatras.

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General characteristics of the journal *Anales de Pediatría*

Anales de Pediatría is the official journal of the Asociación Española de Pediatría (Spanish Association of Paediatrics, AEP), its organ of scientific expression. It has been published without interruption since October 1968, when it was launched under the name *Anales Españoles de Pediatría* (Spanish Annals of Paediatrics). In 2003, its title was changed to *Anales de Pediatría* (Annals of Paediatrics).

One of the main goals of the AEP is to disseminate rigorous and updated scientific evidence on different fields in paediatrics. *Anales* is a peer-reviewed biomedical journal that publishes original articles on clinical research in paediatrics conducted in Spain, Latin America and other countries, as well as review articles and guidelines developed by the different paediatric specialty sections and associations integrated under the umbrella of the AEP. Until a few years ago, the journal also published the presentations and communications given at the annual congress of the AEP in special issues.

Through its 50 years of history, the different editorial teams of the journal have ceaselessly strived to streamline its administration, improve the quality of its contents, increase its scientific rigour, promote its diffusion and

increase its national and international visibility.^{1,2} Fig. 1 lists the editors-in-chief of *Anales* to date.

The print journal is published in Spanish and, since 2014, the online version that can be accessed at www.analesdepediatría.org is bilingual (Spanish/English). The current publisher of the journal is Elsevier, and its ISSN is 1695-4033.

Anales is indexed in the major international databases: *Science Citation Index Expanded*, *Index Medicus/Medline*, *Scopus*, *Embase/Excerpta Medica*, *MEDES*, *IBECs* and the *Índice Médico Español* (IME, now included in the *INDICES CSIC*).

Creation of *Anales Españoles de Pediatría*

The Asociación de Pediatras Españoles (Association of Spanish Paediatricians, APE) was established in 1949. In 1970 it changed its name to the current name (AEP).³ In the early 1940s there were only two regional associations of paediatrics in Spain, those of Madrid and of Catalonia, which had been established in 1913 and 1926, respectively. Further information on the history of the AEP can be found on its website, aeped.es.

Other regional associations emerged around the 1950s: the associations of Galicia (1949), Valencia (1953) and



Figure 1 Editors-in-chief of *Anales Españoles de Pediatría* and *Anales de Pediatría*. Photographs obtained from the Internet, with the knowledge of the pertinent individuals, especially from www.bancodeimagenesmedicina.com.

Castile-Asturias-Leon (1956). This was followed by the establishment in the 1960s of the regional associations of Aragon, the Canary Islands, Basque Country-Navarre, Eastern Andalusia, Western Andalusia-Extremadura, and Balearic Islands. The regional associations started integrating with their own particularities into the APE. Many regional associations of paediatrics launched their own publications (Bulletins). Sections on paediatric specialties started to be established within the APE^{3,4} since 1961, such as the Sections of Cardiology and Neurology (1967), followed by those of Neonatology, Nephrology and others from 1973.

The first number of *Anales Españoles de Pediatría* was published in October 1968 on occasion of the XII National Congress of the APE, which was held in Torremolinos. The then-professor of paediatrics in Madrid, Ciriaco Laguna Serrano, also President of the APE, was the driving force and first editor-in-chief of *Anales*. In his "Presentation", which occupied the first two pages of the first issue, Laguna remarked: "The absence of a journal in paediatrics of national scope as an official organ of the APE was perplexing. Such a journal need not interfere with other paediatric publications. . . and we hereby greet the editors and contributors of specialty journals in Spain and other Spanish-speaking countries. *Anales* intends to reprint some of the articles of greatest scientific value published, back in the day, in the bulletins of their respective regional associations".

Table 1 and Fig. 2 present the table of contents of the first issue. Tables 1 and 2 present the members of the first Editorial Committee and the successive committees and content editors of the journal.

The first publisher of the journal was Garsi, located in calle Londres 43, Madrid.

For the purpose of discussion, we will refer to three distinct periods in the history of the journal.

First period in *Anales Españoles de Pediatría*: 1968–1972

From 1969 to 1972, *Anales* was published as a Journal-Bulletin. According to an editorial by professor Suárez,

Anales was the "source of news on Spanish paediatrics, mainly based on the activity of regional associations, and the work conducted in Spain by government and non-governmental organisations."⁵ The contents consisted of citations of significant works published in various journals with commentaries, that is, did not include original works (see Table 1).

In the 1969 issue (vol II, No. 1), Manuel Suárez Perdiguero (Seville), President of the APE, already appeared as the Editor-in-chief, with the Executive Board of the APE in 1969 presented as the Editorial Committee. Suárez Perdiguero was a Professor of Paediatrics and Child Development and Dean of the School of Medicine of the Universidad de Sevilla.⁶

Evolution of *Anales Españoles de Pediatría*. The 1973–2000 period

In 1973 the journal underwent a radical transformation.

Since 1973, the Editor-in-chief was Ernesto Sánchez Villares, President of the AEP and professor of Paediatrics in Valladolid.⁷

The Advisory Committee corresponded to the Executive Board of the AEP (president, vice-presidents, secretary, vice-secretary, treasurer, accountant, nonvoting members, presidents of the regional associations). The Editorial Committee, on its part, consisted of 27 renowned Spanish paediatricians. This organisational structure, "encompassed the most representative groups in Spanish paediatrics. In addition to academics, it included professionals immediately responsible for the management of major hospitals and those promoting the various paediatrics specialties represented in the Association" (Editorial, January 1973).

The first original article, published in the January–March issue of 1973, was "Sistemática de las pubertades y pseudopubertades precoces," authored by Federico Collado.

Between 1973 and 1976, the sections in the journal were: *original articles*, *reviews*, *section on case reports*, *diagnosis and treatment*, *practical paediatrics* ("paediatric paediatrics" was the title in the early volumes) and *surgery*.

Table 1 First Editorial Committee and the initial contents of *Anales Españoles de Pediatría*, through 1972.

The first Editorial Committee (1968) consisted of the Executive Board of the Asociación de Pediatras Españoles (Association of Spanish Paediatricians, APE):

President, Ciriaco Laguna, Vice-President 1^o: V. Jiménez (Valencia), Second Vice-President: E. Sánchez-Villares (Valladolid), Secretary General: L. de la Villa (Madrid), Treasurer-Accountant: M. Navarro (Madrid), Board members: Presidents of the regional associations: L. de la Villa (Madrid and Central Region), L. Gubern Salisach (Catalonia), M. Gómez Pedreira (Galicia), J. Martínez Costa (Valencia), E. Sánchez Villares (Castile-Leon-Asturias), L. Ros Lavin (Aragon), M. Guigou (Canary Islands), J. Muguruza (Basque Country-Navarre), M. Suárez Perdiguero (Western Andalusia and Extremadura), A. Galdó Villegas (Eastern Andalusia), J.M. Valle Fite (Balearic Islands)

Content sections in the first issue (152 pp total):

Presentation, Original Articles, Selected Articles, Daily Radiograph, Reviews, Case Reports, Recent Advances, New Laboratory Methods and Doctoral Dissertation Summaries.

Original articles: professors M. Lamy, R. Laplane and M. Jeune, invited on occasion of the First International Meeting of Paediatrics Associations (23-11-1967, Madrid).

From 1969 to 1972, Editorial Committee:

Editor-in-chief: the president of the APE, Manuel Suárez Perdiguero (Seville). Editorial Committee: the new Executive Board established in 1969.

From 1969 to 1972, the contents consisted on commentaries on publications on:

–Spanish paediatrics journals: *Acta Pediátrica Española, Revista Española de Pediatría, Archivos de Pediatría, Actualidad Pediátrica, Referata Pediátrica.*

–Bulletins of regional paediatrics associations in Spain: Madrid and Centre Region, Catalonia, Valencia, Castile-Asturias-Leon, Canary Islands, Basque Country-Navarre.

–Other publications: *Revista Española de Medicina e Higiene Escolar, Anales del Desarrollo.* It also included news from the International Paediatric Association (IPA) and the APE (Executive Board, Regulations, International Congress, VII Annual Meeting) and the Executive Boards of regional societies, as well as a list of the Conferences held by societies and other institutions, Workshops and Congresses and Meetings (advances on the programmed contents), competitive examinations, grants, scholarships and awards, news and book reviews.

Paediatric Surgery was very prominent in the early years, including articles on its Congresses and Meetings, until the launch of the journal *Cirugía Pediátrica*. Other sections were *paediatric education, specialty sections* (some of them published the summaries of the oral communications in their early meetings), *Committee recommendations, summaries-excerpts* and *Letters to the Editor*.

Between 1973 and 1976 there was a fixed section on the History of Paediatrics, which featured contributions from authors such as Luis S. Granjel, J. Riera, J.M. Jiménez Muñoz, P. Frontera Izquierdo and J. Vázquez Pérez Coleman.

In an Editorial published in *Anales* in 1983, Sánchez Villares discussed the trajectory of the journal over the past 10 years.⁸ He praised the efficient work of Garsi, its publisher, with especial mention of Florentino García, a key figure in this house. He also highlighted the flaws of the journal: the lack of definition of certain sections, the delay in the publication of works, the low quality of the tables and figures and the uneven contents of the issues.⁸ At the time, *Anales* was distributed on a subscription basis, with subscription fees covering 50% of its costs; the remaining costs were covered by funding from AEP and revenue from advertising. The journal was published every two months between 1968 and 1977, from which time there have been 12 issues published each year, not counting the special issues.

Sánchez Villares was the editor-in-chief of *Anales* from January 1973 to December 1989. He was followed by Manuel Bueno Sánchez, professor of Paediatrics in Zaragoza since 1975, from January 1990 to December 1995.⁹

In this period and through 1996, the Advisory Committee corresponded to the Executive Board of the AEP, and the

Executive Committee was formed by the presidents of the medical specialty sections. The Editorial Committee had 53 members.

In January 1996, Juan Rodríguez Soriano, a professor of paediatrics in the Universidad del País Vasco and chief of the Department of Paediatrics of the Hospital de Cruces, became editor-in-chief and remained in this position until December 1999.¹⁰⁻¹²

The publisher, Garsi, was succeeded by Ergon (1990s), which in turn was succeeded by Doyman in 2000.

Anales Españoles de Pediatría was included in the *Current Contents-Clinical Practice, Index Medicus* and *Medline* databases from 1974 to 2002, with only a brief hiatus during this period (1994–1995). Rodríguez Soriano commented on this aspect in an Editorial from 1999, also highlighting the start of the online publication of the journal through the AEP website.¹³ “Although *Anales* has achieved considerable scientific quality and a significant international distribution, its articles are not cited often enough for the journal to be included in the *Science Citation Index* (SCI)... despite the efforts made, its distribution and impact in Latin America have not reached the desired levels”.¹³

Anales de Pediatría. From 2000 to present

Doctor E.G. Pérez-Yarza was the editor-in-chief between 2000 and 2013.

Pérez-Yarza was the chief of the Department of Paediatrics of the Hospital Materno-Infantil Donostia of San Sebastián and, since 2011, an associate professor of paediatrics in the Universidad del País Vasco (UPV/EHU).



Figure 2 Cover of the first issue of *Anales Españoles de Pediatría* (October 1968).

The Executive Board of the AEP continued to be the Advisory Committee of the journal. At this point, the Editorial Committee had grown to include 81 specialists.

Anales de Pediatría (Barcelona) started its trajectory under this new name in 2003, replacing *Anales Españoles de Pediatría*, to express a desire for openness and universality, in a spirit that was similar to the one behind the changes in the names of the journals of the paediatric societies of France, Belgium and Scandinavia.¹⁴ The new name was approved in the General Assembly of the 51st Congress of the AEP.

During the 2000–2013 period, further historical milestones were achieved under the leadership of professor Pérez-Yarza and with the direction of the AEP^{14–21}:

- The full text of *Anales* was published online in open access. Print copies were distributed at no cost to the members of the AEP. In 2000, the circulation grew from 3000 to 10 000 copies.
- The appointment of the editor-in-chief by a universal vote was replaced by the proposal of a candidate by a permanent Committee for approval in the General Assembly of the AEP.
- The journal was indexed for the first time in the *Journal Citation Reports* (SCI-JCR) in 2009, and was first included in the impact rankings.
- The management of the journal, flow of manuscripts, quality assurance controls, independent peers in charge of reviewing the manuscripts and independence of the

Table 2 Executive directors and Editorial Teams of *Anales Españoles de Pediatría* (until 2003)/*Anales de Pediatría*.

Years	Editor-in-chief of <i>Anales</i>	Editorial Committee/Content editors
October 1968. Launch	Ciriaco Laguna Serrano	Editor-in-chief: Dr Luciano de la Villa Rodríguez Secretaries: José Antonio de Paz Garnelo and José Antonio Velasco Collazo
January 1969 to December 1972	Manuel Suárez Perdiguero	Editor-in-chief: A. Arbelo López de Letona Editorial team: G. Abeledo Mezquida, J.L. Madrazo Crespo, .PJ. Puyol Buil, M. Ruiz Gómez
January 1973 to December 1989	Ernesto Sánchez Villares	Editor-in-chief: E. Sánchez Villares; Deputy Editor: F. Collado Otero. Secretaries: A. Arbelo L. de Letona (Madrid), J.M. Bosch Banyeras (Barcelona), J.A. Tovar Larrucea (Madrid). Executive Committee: A. Canosa Cipriano (Valencia), J. Colomer Sala (Valencia), M. Crespo Hernández (Seville), M. Hernández Rodríguez (Bilbao), E. Jaso Roldán (Madrid), J. Monereo (Madrid) and J. Peña Guitián (Santiago)
January 1990 to December 1995	Manuel Bueno Sánchez	J Argente, JL Olivares and JI Sánchez
January 1996 to December 1999	Juan Rodríguez Soriano	Gloria Bueno Lozano, Santos García García, Manuel Sánchez Luna
December 1999 to June 2013	Eduardo González Pérez-Yarza	Fernando Cabañas González (Madrid), Antonio Moreno Galdó (Barcelona)
June 2013 to June 2017	Empar Lurbe i Ferrer	Associate editors: Laia Alsina Manrique de Lara (Barcelona), Gonzalo Solís Sánchez (Oviedo), and Luis Miguel Rodríguez Hernández (Leon)
June 2017	Corsino Rey Galán	Associate editors: Laia Alsina Manrique de Lara (Barcelona), Montserrat Antón Gamero (Cordoba), Alfredo Cano Garcinuño (Palencia), Gonzalo Solís Sánchez (Oviedo)

editorial team were brought to the level of the journals of greatest international prestige.

The *Jerónimo Soriano* award was created to recognise the best article published in the journal. It was named in homage to the XVI century physician from Teruel that is considered the first Spanish paediatrician. This award was given by the AEP in collaboration with the Sociedad de Pediatría de Aragón, La Rioja y Soria, the Town Council of Teruel and the College of Physicians of Teruel.

The AEP also launched *Noticias AEP* (AEP News). Issue 1 came out in October 2012, offering news about the Association and its Congresses, and interviewing various prominent figures.

The publisher changed to Elsevier-Doyma in 2009 and subsequently to Elsevier. An electronic manuscript management system was introduced.

Empar Lurbe i Ferrer was the first woman to lead *Anales*, from June 2013 to June 2017. She is a full university professor of Paediatrics and chief of the Department of Paediatrics of the Consorcio Hospital General Universitario de Valencia.

In an Editorial dating from 2013, she presented the objectives for her tenure as editor-in-chief: "(a) increasing the quality, importance and impact of the manuscripts received, (b) reducing response times to authors, (c) improving the journal's impact factor and quartile ranking and (d) Strengthening our presence and recognition in the scientific world."²²

At the close of her tenure, Lurbe, in an Editorial from 2017, wrote: "The impact factor of *Anales de Pediatría* in

2017 (referring to 2016) is 1140, the highest it has achieved since it first started to be indexed in the JCR database." Another favourable bibliometric indicator was the journal's rise from the fourth quartile to the third in the journals in its field.²³

The *Jerónimo Soriano* award was replaced by the *Anales de Pediatría* award. Later on, an award named *Juan Rodríguez Soriano*, which remains to date, was established to acknowledge "the article that has most contributed to the impact factor of the journal in the past 2 years".

The Spanish/English bilingual edition started to be published in 2014. This entails a considerable effort on the part of the editorial teams, and, combined with the free access to the articles, promotes the relevance, diffusion and national and international visibility of *Anales*.²⁴

Two salient milestones achieved in this period were the formation of a peer-based Editorial Committee, established in 2013 and still active today, with continuity with the previous Committee, as two of its associate editors remain.

Last of all, the current editor-in-chief of *Anales*, since June 2017, is Corsino Rey Galán, professor of Paediatrics in the Universidad de Oviedo since 2016 and chief of Paediatric Intensive Care of the Hospital Universitario Central de Asturias.

The Advisory Committee continues to correspond to the Executive Board of the AEP, and the Editorial Committee is composed of 44 paediatricians.

The current editors have been ever mindful of potential conflicts of interest, in adherence to current ethical principles. The visibility of *Anales* continues to increase, with

visits to the site coming mainly from Spain, Mexico and the United States.²⁵

Journal metrics for *Anales de Pediatría*

There are several articles in *Anales*^{26–29} and one book³⁰ assessing the importance and quality of its published contents by means of bibliometrics, authored by J. González de Dios, R. Alexandre-Benavent, A. Alonso-Arroyo and others (the results of decades of research, from 1995, 2002, 2001, and especially 2011 and 2013).

The impact factor is a widely used metric, but also a controversial one. In the case of *Anales*, it has increased progressively since it was first applied to the journal: the impact factors as reported by JCR have been 0.363 (2009), 0.57 (2010), 0.77 (2011), 0.867 (2012), 0.722 (2013), 0.773 (2015), 1.140 (2016) and 1.318 (2017). The impact factors estimated for the previous period (1997–2001) ranged between 0.052 and 0.101.

Abad et al. have noted that *Anales* contributes to the international visibility of a significant volume of the Spanish research output in paediatrics.^{1,31} In the 2010–2014 period, *Anales* published 965 works, which amounted to 35.8% of the Spanish paediatrics research output and 1% of the worldwide output.¹

An objective yet unmet is to increase the volume of Latin American research published in the journal, especially now that involvement in international research networks is common. In the 2010–2016 period, only 4.9% of the articles were by authors affiliated with Latin American institutions.³²

Anales is the only Spanish journal devoted to a medical specialty other than *Cirugía Pediátrica* included in the Medline database, and it is the only one included in the *Web of Science* (WoS). Other specialty journals in Spanish in these databases are *Archivos Argentinos de Pediatría* (in Medline since 2008) and *Revista Chilena de Pediatría* (published since 1931 and included in Medline since 2014).

The metrics also reveal that the profile of Spanish research in paediatrics is highly specialised. Thus, 61.7% of the articles have been published in paediatric subspecialty journals. This is one of the potential threats to the continued growth of the impact of *Anales*, that is, that authors of specialty articles may prefer to publish in other journals with a higher IF.

Nevertheless, a different perspective can be gained from the analysis of citation numbers and IFs, as described by Quinn et al. (2013),³³ who provided a historical perspective of the paediatric articles published between 1945 and 2010. Their analysis of the most cited articles revealed a sustained interest in works based around criteria or guidelines rather than clinical trials, as well as those of a descriptive nature (e.g., Brunton, Menkes, Kawasaki). In evidence-based medicine, the Internet allows the widespread dissemination of studies focused on patient care, exploring new ideas, and guiding the path for future research. The most cited articles were by LA Papile, LM Dubowitz, JM Tanner, LO Lubchenco, ME Avery, LE Gibson and R Guthrie, among others. The authors listed the 100 most cited articles for this period, which were from 17 countries (none of them Spain).³³

Anales de Pediatría and the history of paediatrics

Throughout the decades, *Anales* has published various supplements that have provided information on the evolution of paediatrics in Spain. Among them, we can cite the works published in the Paediatric Education section by Ballabriga (1982),³⁴ Sánchez Villares (1987 and 1992) and Collado, among others.³⁵

Fig. 3 shows the cover of the supplement published on occasion of the XVIII Spanish Congress of Paediatrics and the First Extraordinary Congress of the ALAPE held in 1992. Another 2 special issues were published containing presentations made in congresses and symposia. Their subject was not history, but they were part of the history of the AEP.

We have already mentioned that the journal had a fixed section devoted to the History of Paediatrics in the 1970s. Some of the journals that currently have a high IF do have a History section. On the other hand, we must also take into account that since 2011 the AEP has been publishing its *Cuadernos de Historia de la Pediatría* (Records of the History of Paediatrics): <https://www.aeped.es/comite-historia/cuadernos>.

Anales has published several *In Memoriam* articles acknowledging notable paediatricians: Julio Monereo (1978), Ciriaco Laguna (1991), Fanconi (on occasion of the centenary of his birth in January 1993), Jaso (1994), Antonio Galdó (1994), Juan Bosch Marín (1995), Frank Oski (1997), Waldo Nelson (1997), Joaquín Cravioto (1998), Prats Viñas (1998), Torrado da Silva (1998), Juan Rodríguez Soriano (2011), Ángel Nogales Espert (2013) and Claudine Amiel-Tison (2014).

In addition, *Anales* has published some articles written by members of the Committee on the History of Paediatrics of the AEP, such as: the first descriptions of some malformation syndromes³⁶ or the Centenary of the First Spanish Congress on Paediatrics in 1914,³⁷ in addition to some *Letters to the Editor* about the first monographs on Spanish paediatrics on the 400th anniversary of the death of Cervantes³⁸ or devoted to ‘eponyms in Paediatrics’.³⁹

Commentary

This year of 2018 marks the 50th year of uninterrupted activity of *Anales de Pediatría*. It is a fitting time to celebrate and also to reflect.

This may be a short span of time from a historical perspective, but it is sufficient to assess a journal that has been at the forefront of Spanish paediatrics and paediatric publications in Spanish.

This article is not intended to provide a bibliometric analysis of *Anales*, but a historical perspective on its trajectory. It has the limitations that come with the difficulty in retrieving older data and merging them in a balanced and coherent way with more recent data. The inaccuracies that it may have were not intentional, and may even encourage further historical research.

Anales has contributed to the account of the progress of paediatrics, the Asociación Española de Pediatría, the advent of children’s hospitals, the transition from the

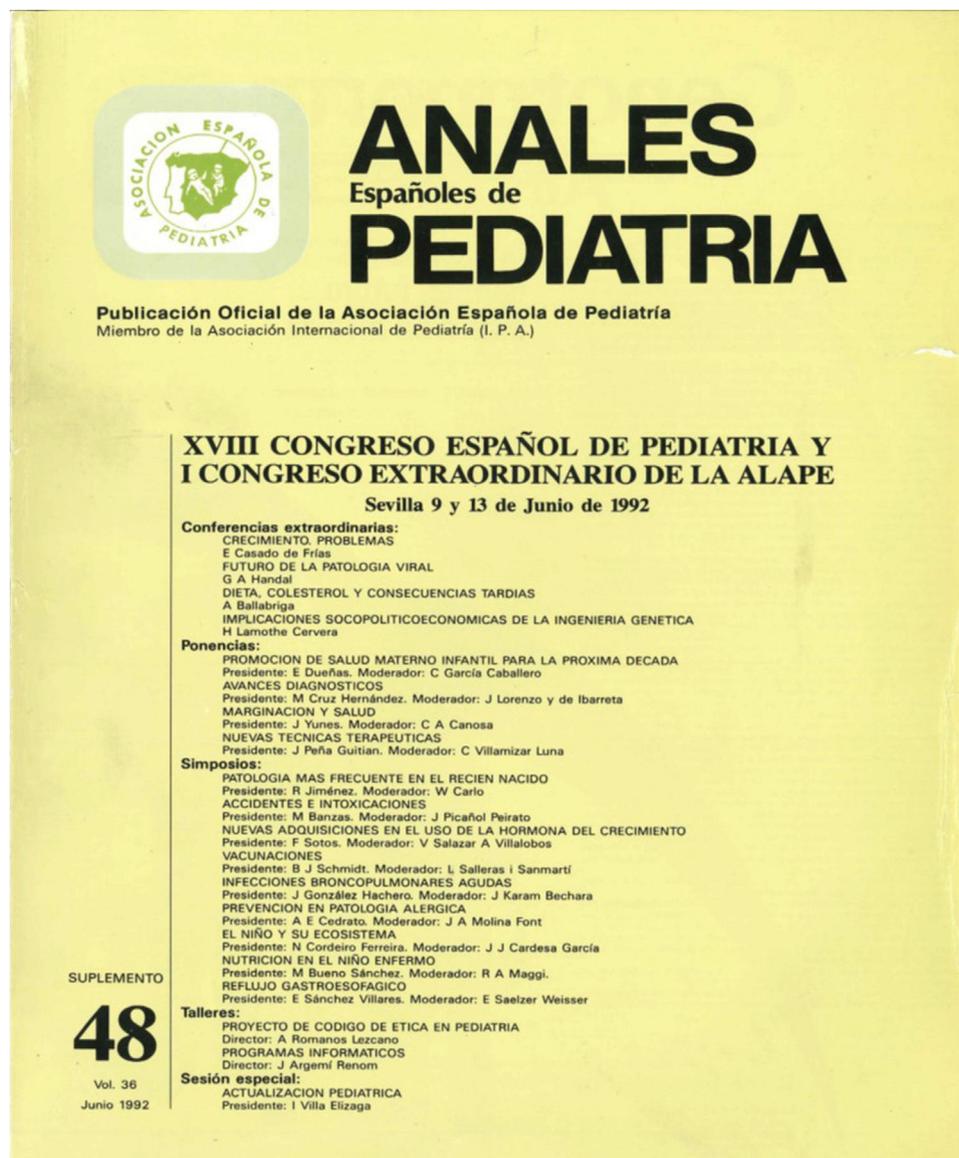


Figure 3 Cover of the supplement devoted to the XVIII Spanish Congress of Paediatrics and the First Extraordinary Congress of the Asociación Latinoamericana de Pediatría held in Seville in June 1992.

local puericulture specialist to the health district primary care paediatrician, from public health care delivered from the Social Security system to the National Health System, the development of private medicine, primary care services, paediatric specialties, the MIR medical residency programme, the training of specialists and continuing education.

Through all these years, multiple authors, editors, content contributors and anonymous reviewers have participated in *Anales*, and we ought not forget our esteemed readers. Clinicians, scientists, educators, physicians in training, managers and health care administrators that have contributed to improve the health of the paediatric population in Spain and beyond have all put their best effort and hopes in *Anales*: "The best information for the better care of patients". Perhaps it would be fitting to publish a

book commemorating *Anales* with contributions from those that lived its history, its milestones.

Anales has also been a driver of cohesion in Spanish paediatrics.

We propose to researchers and editorial teams alike, always prioritising the scientific quality of studies in their evaluation, to use bibliometric indices (such as the impact factor) as a guide, but not as a rigid yardstick in the decision to consider or accept incoming manuscripts. We would like to propose that, as is done in other journals, a small proportion of the content, at least in supplements, be devoted to the humanities and to the humanization of paediatrics,⁴⁰ even if these articles may have a lower impact a priori: articles with room for ethics, philosophy, history, sociology, psychology, anthropology and the arts, so that the best information is also aimed for the better care of paediatricians.

Conflicts of interest

The aim of the Paediatrics History Committee is to disseminate the history of paediatrics. There were no financial conflicts of interest.

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