

EULAR
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EULAR: SIGNIFICANT INCREASE FOR IMPACT FACTOR OF ANNALS OF THE RHEUMATIC DISEASES (ARD), THE EULAR JOURNAL, REFLECTS RAPIDLY IMPROVING QUALITY OF RHEUMATOLOGY RESEARCH

The journal of the European League Against Rheumatism, ARD, has reached a new record, arriving at an impact factor of 16.102 this year, up from 14.299 last year.

The announcement comes after Prof. Dr. Josef Smolen was appointed Editor of the ARD in 2017, at which time the journal held an impact factor of 12.811.

Prof. Josef Smolen, who was appointed Editor-in-Chief in 2017, at which time the impact factor was 12.811, says: "This substantial increase is testament to the outstanding quality of research that is submitted and that proportion that is subsequently accepted in ARD. It is owing to an outstanding group of associate editors, editorial board members and reviewers, and builds on the success and excellent work of the previous editors. All of them, as well our authors from all over the world, deserve our huge gratitude."

Papers published in ARD were cited over 45,800 times in 2019, more than twice as many citations achieved in that year by any other rheumatology journal. Prof. Smolen added: "This shows the high levels of dynamism in this area of medicine, rheumatology, and that the future is very promising."

The impact factor of a scientific journal is a key metric of its outreach and success. Further measures include speed and reach. In 2020, ARD achieved an impressive average of 10 days from manuscript submission to first decision, and 13 days from manuscript acceptance to online publication. To illustrate the journal's global reach, the 2019 total content accesses amounted to 2,500,000.

Other metrics of interest to supplement the impact factor: The CiteScore, which calculates impact and quality based on citations to all papers published over a 4-year period, was also recently released. For ARD it stands at **25.9** ranking it #1 in the rheumatology field. RMD Open, also a journal within the EULAR family and still a young journal in comparison, achieved a score of **5.4**, and ranked just outside the top quartile in the field.

To celebrate the journal's success, the top cited articles published in 2018-2019 have been made free to read: <https://ard.bmj.com/pages/top-cited-articles/>

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About EULAR

EULAR is a non-profit scientific organisation based in Zurich, Switzerland, representing scientific societies, societies of other health professionals, professional associations and organisations for people with rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases (RMDs). The aim of EULAR is to reduce the burden of RMDs on the individual and society and to improve the treatment, prevention and rehabilitation of RMDs. Further information: www.eular.org

The European Congress of Rheumatology EULAR 2020 took place as a virtual congress from 3 to 6 June 2020. All contents are available online until 1 September 2020; register to discover more: <https://www.congress.eular.org/index.cfm>

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Notes to Editors

Read more on the EULAR Journal, ARD, here: https://www.eular.org/EULAR_journal.cfm

EULAR Recommendations: https://www.eular.org/recommendations_home.cfm

EULAR Strategy: https://www.eular.org/eular_strategy_2018.cfm

EULAR School: <https://esor.eular.org/>

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