

Toward a new editorial era: from tradition to new horizons and boundless impact

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In the field of medical research, adaptability and commitment are fundamental pillars for the advancement of knowledge. Since its founding in January 2003 by the Scientific Society of Medical Students of the Central University of Venezuela (SOCIEM-UCV), Acta Científica Estudiantil (ACE) has represented an invaluable space for the dissemination of biomedical science generated by students and health professionals. For over two decades, we have maintained the firm purpose of serving as a platform for education and scientific dissemination. However, the medical publishing ecosystem demands constant evolution, which is why, since our institutional brand refreshing two years ago, we have undertaken a restructuring process to position ourselves at the forefront of international publishing.

One of the most important milestones of this transformation is the definitive adoption of the continuous publication model. Traditionally, scientific dissemination in our journal relied on compiling articles into periodic issues, which often delayed the availability of relevant research. By transitioning to a scheme where articles are published individually and immediately once they have passed peer review and copyediting, we have managed to significantly reduce waiting times. This agile and modern workflow not only benefits authors by accelerating the visibility of their findings, but also ensures that the medical community has access to updated literature in real time, a critical and defining aspect of contemporary health sciences.

To support this dynamic workflow and maintain a standard of excellence, ACE's internal management has undergone a methodological reorganization. Formal communication protocols have been established between the editorial committees, and alliances with various scientific societies across the country have been forged or renewed.

In order to increase our visibility, indexing and traceability in cyberspace, we have integrated the mandatory use of the Digital Object Identifier (DOI) for each published manuscript. The DOI guarantees a permanent and unalterable link on the web, avoiding the loss of information due to server crashes or changes in the URLs of the platforms, facilitates the exact citation and enhances the impact of the individual metrics of the researchers.



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This jump is a requirement to strengthen our presence in the databases where we are currently indexed, such as Medigraphic, REVENCYT, DRJI and Imbiomed; And it also represents the technical foundation for future indexing in databases of greater global hierarchy.

Furthermore, Acta Científica Estudiantil has decided to adopt a new model of bilingualism, establishing English as the primary language of publication, without abandoning Spanish. English has established itself as the lingua franca of medical science and clinical research; therefore, publishing primarily in this language broadens the global reach of our research, fosters international cooperation, increases the likelihood of citation, and allows the knowledge generated in our regions to be evaluated, replicated, and applied by the international scientific community. The advantages and projections of this transition are undeniable and mark a turning point in the adaptability and growth of our journal.

Looking toward the immediate future, we are preparing for the implementation of the 2026 Authorship Guidelines Reform. This new regulatory framework, which will be published soon, aligns with the most up-to-date guidelines of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE). Its main objective is to clarify authorship criteria, optimize peer review rounds, detail the ethical responsibilities of researchers, and formally consolidate the new structure for bilingual submissions and associated metadata. This regulatory update reflects our commitment to professionalizing every stage of the editorial process.

Ultimately, the restructuring of Acta Científica Estudiantil goes beyond a simple aesthetic redesign or rebranding; it is an earnest and dedicated commitment to scientific principles. The migration to the continuous publication model, the adoption of persistent identifiers such as the DOI, the forward-looking approach to bilingualism with the primacy of English, and the update of our authorship policies are all evidence of this commitment.

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From the Editorial Board, we thank you for believing in us and in the journal's potential. Our goal is to make ACE a biomedical journal that, endowed with its own firm and independent editorial voice, keeps its identity intact while simultaneously delivering the highest methodological quality suitable for a solid national and international positioning.

Conflicts of Interest

The journal's Editorial Board openly declares that it forms an active, fundamental, and leading part of the core team responsible for the management, administration, and operational coordination of Acta Científica Estudiantil, and that it has directly and actively planned, promoted, and led the structural, methodological, and technological transition detailed herein.

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