

## EDITORIAL

# Welcome to ARP Rheumatology

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From now onward, ‘Acta Reumatológica Portuguesa’, the official journal of the Portuguese Society of Rheumatology, changes its name to ARP Rheumatology. ARP Rheumatology honours its history of almost five decades of scientific publishing under the previous title, and projects itself to the future. The fundamental changes that come with the new name pertain mostly to an augmented user experience and to how the journal is positioned in the international landscape of rheumatology journals. With that being said, ARP Rheumatology emerges in its inaugural issue, published in a newly developed website, which is now fully in English, and with an improved manuscript management system, new article layout and optimized communication procedures. In this editorial, we highlight the main new features introduced by ARP Rheumatology as compared to the previous title and how they are expected to improve the experience of our readers, reviewers and editors.

Since the scope and editorial policies do not change, ARP Rheumatology remains indexed to the same repositories (e.g., Medline/PubMed) as its predecessor title (changes in impact factor explained in Figure 1). This means that authors keep benefiting from a worldwide distribution and wide visibility when publishing with ARP Rheumatology. Exposure is further enhanced by the fact that all articles are published open access, with no publication and no pay per view fees, after a thorough review by our editorial board of internationally recognized experts. The journal remains fully online and will migrate to a new website. During a transition period of 24 months, our readers and reviewers will still be able to find us on the previous internet location ([www.actareumatologica.pt](http://www.actareumatologica.pt)) with automatic redirection to the new website ([www.arprheumatology.com](http://www.arprheumatology.com)). After the transition period, only the new website will remain online.

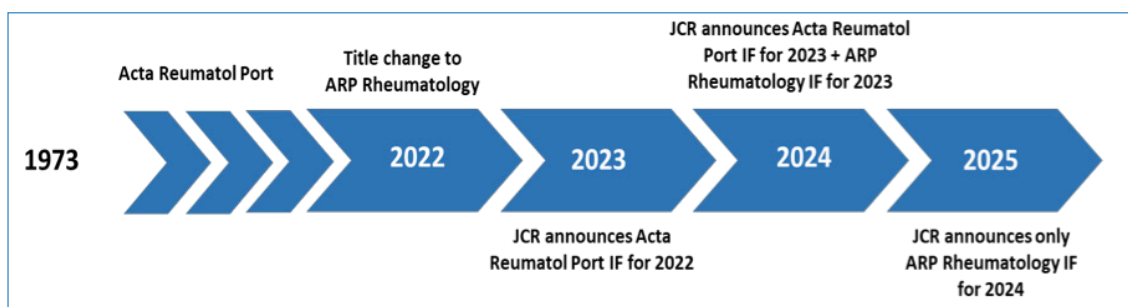
The website is designed to help readers find the most relevant information immediately on the front page.

This includes the latest edition as well as the Editor’s choices on top of the page. Immediately below, the list of the most cited and most read articles is updated regularly. The full version of all articles is available for free. This includes newly accepted articles made available online in full immediately after acceptance (online first). With this service we ought to expedite communication of scientific findings as early and as broadly as possible. All articles, including those in the archive, can be read online or downloaded as PDF files and stored on local computers. Citing and sharing (e.g., by email or in social media platforms) is made easy by ‘sharing buttons’ provided on the right-hand side of the abstract of each article. Clinical readers, and others, may be interested in exploring the page with clinical practice recommendations produced by the Portuguese Society of Rheumatology.

Authors are encouraged to read the page with information about how to submit articles to ARP Rheumatology (section ‘information for authors’). The access to this section is made on the right-hand side of the home page of the website or with the drop-down menus on the top. Information of the type of article published by ARP Rheumatology, authorship criteria and formatting guidelines are examples of the type of information provided in this dedicated page created to help authors in their submission process. Similar instructions are also provided for reviewers and editors. Authors familiar with the journal publication guidelines will identify a few modifications implemented to facilitate not only the submission but also the revision work. One example is the Inclusion of tables within the main text of the article, instead of in a separate word processor file.

The manuscript submission system can be accessed on the top of the home page and on the drop-down menus. As of now, and as often done by several other journals, authors are no longer required to upload the signed coauthorship agreement upfront. This form will only be asked for authors of accepted articles. Coauthors, will however, receive an email informing them about the submission and can, at that stage, opt out by contacting the journal (Table 1). Authors of submitted articles will be asked to provide 5 keywords, from a closed list, relevant to the subject matter of the article. These words are not necessarily the same as those in the main text of the article. This new feature serves the purpose of matching the article with relevant editors and reviewers, who will be periodically asked to update

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**Figure 1.** Calculation of the IF following the change of the journal name from Acta Reumatológica Portuguesa to ARP Rheumatology in 2022. In 2023, the JCR will announce the 2022 IF of the previous title only. In 2024, the JCR will announce the 2023 IF for both titles and in 2025 only the 2024 IF for ARP Rheumatology will be published. Since the calculation of the IF takes into account the articles published in the previous 2 years, the 2023 IF for both titles needs to be interpreted with caution (covers only one year of articles per title). The first ‘full Impact Factor’ for ARP Rheumatology will be announced in 2025. IF, impact factor; Acta Reumatol Port, Acta Reumatológica Portuguesa; JCR, Journal Citation Reports.

their key interests. A set of three key messages, with a maximum of 20 words each, will also be required for some types of articles.

Once the article is submitted, a single PDF file is created to be proofread by the authors. This differs from the previously used multiple file submission system and aims at simplifying the management and handling of the article. The author-approved single-document proof will thereafter be used in the review process, which we hope will also make it more efficient. The review process itself is now boosted with shorter deadlines in each step. In addition, an improved email communication system will keep all parties involved in the loop from beginning to end. This includes automatic notifications to authors, reviewers and editors. After acceptance, the unedited final version of the article will be available to read and to cite at the online first section of the website.

The production of the accepted articles includes a new branding style that is aligned with the new logo of ARP Rheumatology and features the colours of the logo and website of the Portuguese Society of Rheumatology. The main guiding principle of the design of articles published in ARP Rheumatology is simplicity, with emphasis put on the content. We expect to keep tailoring the design features in the future if necessary. A

similar branding is used in our dissemination strategy. ARP Rheumatology is present in social media platforms and will broadcast newly accepted top-priority articles further enhancing their visibility amongst the international community.

ARP Rheumatology succeeds Acta Reumatológica Portuguesa and comes with a new website, renewed manuscript submission system, optimized communication, design and dissemination strategies. At its core, ARP Rheumatology retains the guiding principles that drove its predecessor for almost 50 years of successful scientific publishing. This is a privileged starting point upon which we build the future of the journal. Welcome to ARP Rheumatology!

**Table I. Contact information of ARP Rheumatology**

	Link
Website	<a href="http://www.arprheumatology.com">www.arprheumatology.com</a>
E-mail	<a href="mailto:mail@arprheumatology.com">mail@arprheumatology.com</a>
Twitter	@ARPrheumatology
Facebook	@ARPrheumatology*

\*Merged with the previous account (@ActaReumatologica)