

Ambulatory Surgery Journal has now been published for about two years as an internet based journal. It has partly been a success since it has been proved that with small economic investments it has been possible to produce a readable Journal.

On the other hand the number of new contributions has been and is still a problem. This is rather difficult to understand since the International Association for Ambulatory Surgery (IAAS) has 17 member countries and a further number of personal and associated members, and each member country has at least two members in the General Assembly, showing a great interest in the structure and results for Ambulatory or Day surgery.

If each country or each member of the GA contributed with at least one paper every year, we would have a very favourable situation. Why is that not the case?

One explanation could be that our Journal is not yet listed in the big databases for scientific Journals (e.g. PubMed). It is highly ranked on a Google search indicating that it is often read at the internet but for scientific reasons it will be an advantage with more scientific impact via the databases. On other reason can be that other Journals are more attractive or that the topic day surgery is not interesting enough for scientific papers. I will not think of other reasons like lacking interest from the member countries and their members or even lacking activity in the member countries.

Therefore it was discussed at the GA meeting during the congress recently in Brisbane that it is necessary to improve the web based Journal so that it entirely fulfil the demands for listing in the databases. Up till now the expenditure to the web based Journal has been small and is free for everyone at the internet. A new concept may be costly and it can be necessary to ask for a subscription fee in the future. However a possible contribution from vendors or help from members may make it possible even in the future to publish for free.

The editors are now in a process where the required changes will be described and input from members is very welcome.

Because of the shortage of new papers this edition is smaller than usually. The next edition in September will include abstracts from the recent very successful International Congress in Brisbane, Australia.

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