

Editor's Report on Volume 82, 2011

Anders Rydholm

Production

The 6 regular issues of volume 82 2011 (2010, 2009, 2008, 2007) contained 765 (771, 741, 877, 862) printed pages with 125 (120, 126, 122, 128) Original articles (including 2 Case reports and 5 Technical notes), 1 Editorial, 2 Reviews, and 3 Letters to the editor. 3 Supplements (altogether 77 pages) were published.

The total number of pages printed in 2010 was 842 (876, 1140, 963, 1018): regular issues 765 pages, supplements 77 pages. The reduced number of pages in the regular issues the latest years corresponds to the larger format of Acta introduced 2009.

Submission and publication of manuscripts (Table 1)

741 manuscripts were submitted in 2011 (685 in 2010, 667 in 2009, 651 in 2008, 645 in 2006, 632 in 2004, 414 in 2003). 60 % were clinical, 20 % case reports, and 15% experimental, the same distribution since several years.

One fifth of the manuscripts were submitted from Scandinavia and The Netherlands.

Of the 125 published articles, Sweden contributed 26, Netherlands 8, USA 7 and Finland 6.

19 were register studies, 13 randomized studies (all time high) and 4 were meta-analyses.

Country distribution of submitted and published manuscripts is similar since several years except for an increase in manuscripts submitted from China.

Please note that direct comparisons of the number of submitted manuscripts and published articles per country and year is not meaningful. There is an overlap between years; many of the ms submitted one year are published the next year.

Handling times and acceptance rate

During 2011 the time from submittance to the first letter from coeditor was less than 1 month for two thirds of the ms and less than 2 months for 90 %.

The mean time from submittance to acceptance was 2 (1 -4) months, the time partly depending on the number of revisions necessary and the time taken by authors to do these revisions. The mean time from

acceptance to paper publication was about 6 months 2011.

The half year from acceptance to paper print is of less interest; in 2009 we started online preprint publication of proofs which are free on PubMed (Epub ahead of print) 2-3 weeks after the authors has accepted them.

The acceptance rate in 2011 was 20%, approximately the same since 2004. Most case reports were rejected (without review). Of the other ms slightly more than one half were sent for external review.

Subscriptions

On Dec 2011 (2010, 2009, 2008, 2006, 2004) we had 4626 subscribers (4768, 4603, 4592, 4484, 4830).

4 092 were collective subscribers, 512 institutional (mainly libraries), and 22 personal (Tables 2-4).

Institutional (mainly libraries) subscriptions have, as expected, decreased: from 1703 in 1999 to 512 in 2011 (Table 3). The decrease is caused by our Open Access (although the decrease started already before we introduced OA).

The subscription cost for collective subscribers (orthopedic surgeons in the Nordic Orthopaedic Federation) has been unchanged since many years and is as low as 50 Euro since 1996, for others it is 525 Euro, low compared to most journals.

Finances

Slight deficits in 2006 and 07 were compensated for by a surplus in each of the years 2008 - 2011, see economy report from Peter Frandsen.

Our costs have been reduced in many ways. In 2009 we changed printing into a standard format and on a cheaper paper. From 2012 we have changed to a cheaper printing house, in UK. (Acta on paper will certainly go on for many years. One reason is that our advertisers strongly prefer the paper version).

Open Access

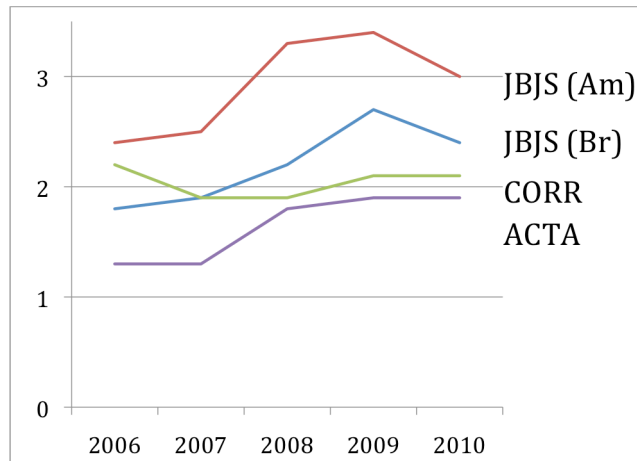
All full text Acta-articles published since start 1930 are free for everyone, easily accessible via a link at our web-site (www.actaorthop.org) to the electronic library of our publisher.

Acta articles from 2005 are also easily accessed via PubMed where abstracts are marked with an icon "Open Access" linked to our publisher. From 2009 all articles are saved and also available for free in PubMed Central via a link from PubMed.

Our Open Access has lead to a dramatic increase of the number of downloads of full-text Acta articles via the link in PubMed to the publishers database .

Impact factor

Acta's impact factor was 10 years ago 0.6, for 2010 (latest published data) it was 1.9, close to that of the other large, general orthopedic journals.



Website

Among other things it is now used for deposition of large tables, some of which are not printed but only available on the website, with reference from the printed article (Supplementary data).

App

Apps with all (regularly updated) Acta articles and supplements since start 1930 were launched 2011.

Editors' meetings

The Editors 2 meetings were in London (JBJS office) in April and in Rungstedgaard, Denmark, in November.

At the London meeting a citation analysis was presented: search words "fracture" (probably hip), "register" and "RSA" were associated with high citation rates.

At the Rungstedgaard meeting news in our electronic manuscript system were presented. Publishers' checks for plagiarism was discussed,

At both meetings Jonas Ranstam lectured on biostatistics.

The Future

The Open Access movement will go on. An increasing number of the large international grant givers (including NIH) now require funded authors to publish their research results in Open Access journals or, in other ways, make publications free on the Net. Still, very few of the leading medical journals, including orthopedics, are Open Access. An increasing number of journals, owned by commercial publishers, offer authors to have their specific article laid free on the Net for a cost around 2000-3000 Euro! Obviously some authors are already prepared to pay for Open Access publication.

If Acta, in the future, need to increase the income, one option would be to introduce page charges (considerably lower than the sums above) and, at that time, most authors should know that there is a price for Open access and be willing to pay it. At start of Open Access some warned for Acta's bankruptcy, This has not been the case and there seems to be no need for introducing page charges at least for the next 2-3 years.

Anders Rydholm, May 24, 2012

Table 1. Submission and publication of manuscripts

	Manuscripts submitted										Manuscripts published									
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011		
Sweden	37	38	53	34	46	46	41	51	41	28	31	30	43	25	26	24	23	29		
Denmark	20	25	18	23	26	24	34	33	31	14	6	9	11	12	14	9	10	16		
Norway	7	18	18	20	14	19	17	33	21	4	10	11	11	13	10	12	15	19		
Finland	13	19	23	21	12	25	23	13	13	5	1	9	8	5	6	7	9	7		
Iceland	0	1	2	0	0	0			0	1		1	0					1		
The	26	45	40	55	30	57	62	52	48	6	7	18	11	20	8	15	15	14		
Total	103	146	154	153	128	171	177	182	154	58	55	78	84	75	64	67	72	86		
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011		
Australia	1	5	3	8	4	7	8	10	16		5	4	2	3	2		7	3		
Austria	7	13	10	9	13	11	13	6	11	3	1	1	3	2	1	2	1	3		
Belgium	12	10	6	11	4	5	5	4	7	3					1		3			
Canada	4	4	5	4	7	5	6	6	7	3		2	1	1	4		4			
Egypt								14	11											
China	5	12	3	8	9	35	26	42	40				1	1	2	3	3	1		
France	7	9	6	8	4	6	7	2		2	3	1	1			2	1			
Germany	41	42	42	48	43	52	53	61	36	11	7	7	13	13	11	9	5	10		
Greece	10	16	16	12	13	13	13	8	2	2	0	1	1		1	2	1			
India	6	26	19	24	23	19	20	27	18		1		1							
Iran	1	6	8	1	1	6	14	4	13											
Ireland	3	5	3	5	5	6	11	13	7	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	2		
Israel	7	13	8	6	9	6	9		6	3	5	1	1	1		2				
Italy	9	17	19	24	19	26	23	17	20	2	1	1	2	2	1	4	2	1		
Japan	65	56	49	51	43	40	30	26	41	7	10	8	4	3	5	6	4	4		
Poland	8	5	4	10	9	7	8	8	6	2						1				
South Korea	14	13	27	21	42	41	46	29	62	2	3	5	4		1	1		2		
Spain	9	28	21	23	13	14	7	8	20	1	3	2	2	1	3					
Switzerland	6	14	17	6	9	12	12	9	11	2		4	3			1	2	3		
Taiwan	12	16	22	29	14	8	28	24	30	1	2	3	3	1	2		2	1		
Turkey	36	66	42	38	28	15	14	20	23	3		3		1						
UK	27	68	89	86	71	78	72	80	80	14	7	10	5	8	10	12	5	6		
USA	5	18	26	21	25	24	25	18	32	3	5	6	8	4	7	8	2	2		
Others	77	14	21	4	15	34	41	66	88	17	13	12	8	9	5	3	4	1		
Total	414	632	629	645	660	651	677	685	741	125	114	142	143	128	122	126	120	125		

Table 2. Collective subscriptions

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Sweden	1,245	1,180	1,171	1,196	1,180	1,210	1,210	1,250	1,272
Denmark	656	687	706	684	708	798	817	864	885
The Netherlands	489	469	478	519	523	524	561	660	660
Norway	393	421	432	447	559	664	665	725	746
Finland	405	489	495	505	513	527	543	553	448
Iceland	27	18	34	32	32	32	32	31	31
Eustonia								50	50
Total	3,164	3,279	3,316	3,383	3,515	3,755	3,868	4,133	4,092

Table 3. Distribution of Acta in the top 10 foreign countries

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
USA	341	328	240	282	230	168	172	122	101
Japan	255	258	212	214	203	171	151	134	118
UK	96	84	82	65	61	55	46	44	26
Spain	61	69	81	41	56	50	46	33	24
Germany	54	50	62	38	36	28	32	24	23
South Korea	33	39	56	38	41	34	27	25	24
France									17
Canada									17
China									16
Italy	35	45	48	40	35	26	29	20	13

Table 4. Institutional and personal subscriptions

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Institutional	1,325	1,237	1,154	1,047	870	807	705	605	512
Individual	150	69	85	54	39	30	30	30	22