



# Orthodontic journals: interactions of readers, authors, reviewers and editors in perspective

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This supplementary issue of the Hellenic Orthodontic Review, contains 14 papers derived from the corresponding presentations delivered during the International Conference of Orthodontic Journals held in Athens (March 1, 2002).

The Organizing Committee of the Symposium was fortunate to have the editors from all major orthodontic periodicals as well as eminent scholars, presenting key information on a variety of aspects pertinent to the editorial management of journals. Moreover, Hellenic Orthodontic Review gratefully acknowledges the consent of all but one participants of the conference to contribute the papers of their lectures to this supplement. Considering that most of the authors of these papers are themselves involved in journal editing positions, their willingness to submit their paper in this relatively new orthodontic periodical, implies that the necessity for international collaboration has prevailed over marketing views and journal competition; this is beneficial for readers and the global orthodontic community.

In this succinct report, all aspects of journal service to the profession and the clinicians are demonstrated. The topics covered are of interest to clinicians, authors, reviewers and editors and include: an essay on the broad picture of biomedical journals (Basdra) and the current status of the periodicals in our field (Graber); the readers' viewpoint of the content and format of journals (Stutts), and the interactions among

editors and readers (Tuncay); an overview of the refereeing process viewed from a reviewer's perspective (Huggare); a useful, step-by-step guide for authors to improve the format and structure of their submissions (Jones); an analysis of topics (Miethke) and statistics of orthodontic papers (Kiliaridis); a view of the ethical dilemmas arising during editing (Turpin); the usefulness of e-mail referring (O'Brien); the local picture of orthodontic journals in Thailand (Viteporn) and Japan (Kitafusa and Tomihisa); aspects of impact factor and its variation among periodicals (Ciger); and advances in electronic submission (Isaacson).

The papers contained in this issue represent the current status of the main body of orthodontic literature and as such, constitute a fundamental source of information with a variety of applications: for the readers this issue provides at-a-glance a representative picture of orthodontic journals today; for authors, the current report contains valuable tools for improving their manuscripts; for editors, the evidence presented reflects the views expressed by readers and authors; for referees it is a useful overview of their role in formulating the state of science; and for publishers it offers an outline of current trends in readership preferences. Further, this report taken along subsequent relevant publications may facilitate a comparative assessment of the status of orthodontic literature reflecting the changes occurring in our field.