

Editorial

International Archives of Otorhinolaryngology: 20 Years of Excellence!

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International Archives of Otorhinolaryngology (IAO) celebrates the 20th anniversary of continued publication. Founded in 1997,¹ the journal has been supported by the Otorhinolaryngology Foundation for the publication of experimental and clinical scientific articles in the fields of otorhinolaryngology, head and neck surgery, speech therapy, audiology, and related sciences.

Founded at the beginning of the Internet age, it was the world's first electronic journal to be published in both printed and online versions.^{2,3} Because it seemed like a Science Fiction project at the time, many thought it would not succeed! The journal was originally conceived by Dr. Claudio Lazzarini, an otorhinolaryngologist at Hospital das Clínicas, FMUSP. Since he was an enthusiast and pioneer in the field of computers, software, and this new means of communication “the Internet,” the journal was named *@rquivos da Fundação Otorrinolaringologia*. The “@” symbol replaced the letter “A” since it was available online.

The journal originated in academia at the Universidade de São Paulo, thus, it was rooted in the scientific spirit. The publication is not intended to be used for commercial purposes, and publishing has always been funded by a nonprofit organization.

I was awarded the privilege of being its first editor-in-chief, followed by Professor Tanit Ganz Sanchez (1999–2005),³ Marcelo Miguel Hueb (2006–2008),⁴ and Geraldo Pereira Jotz⁵ since 2009. Aline Bittencourt has been a co-editor since 2013.

Excellence is sought in terms of original articles, systematic reviews, and case reports for publication in the journal; additionally, the content of these must contribute to the body of scientific knowledge in the field of otorhinolaryngology. In 2002, the journal was renamed *@rquivos de Otorrinolaringologia*.⁶ In 2003, Lilacs and Lilacs-Express—Latin American and Caribbean Center on Health Sciences Information⁷ indexed it, which was a first step toward internationalization.

In 2004, the Latindex (i.e., Regional Cooperative Online Information System for Scholarly Journals from Latin America, the Caribbean, Spain, and Portugal) indexed the journal.⁸ In 2006, it was renamed *@rquivos Internacionais de Otorrinolaringologia*.⁴ At the same time, the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

indexed it,^{9,10} and it became an open and universal access journal (no subscription required), since science should be available for all. In the meantime, the Foundation for Science Research of Ribeirão Preto (FUNPEC-RP) also indexed it.¹¹

In 2010, already fully internationalized, it was determined that articles appearing in the journal should be published in English only, following the global trend in which English was regarded as the lingua franca in science because it enabled broader visibility and impact. It was renamed *International Archives of Otorhinolaryngology*, and the Scientific Electronic Library Online (SciELO) indexed it.¹²

In 2011, 2012, and 2013, Scopus,¹³ PubMed, PubMed Central (PMC),¹⁴ and Embase,¹⁵ respectively, indexed the journal, and it reached its pinnacle.

Currently, the journal has reached a level of citations to be officially indexed by International Scientific Indexing (ISI), as it is about to achieve the h-index necessary for this action.

Until 2013, H Máxima Editora edited the journal; since then, Thieme Medical Publishers, a leading international publisher,¹⁶ has performed this service.

The journal is currently available online (open access) and in a printed version for subscribers.

The data below show the importance of IAO over the past 20 years (–Tables 1 and 2). Authors from over 30 countries

Table 1 Publications history (1997–2016)

Editions	Number
Volumes	20
Issues	80
Supplements	7
Documents	3,384

have applied for publication (–Fig. 1).

We are grateful for the collaboration of a highly skilled Editorial Review Board and Peer Review Board.

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Table 2 History of published articles (1997–2016)

Document type	Documents	Definition
Article	874	Original research or opinion. However, case reports, technical and research notes and short communications are also considered to be articles.
Review	150	Significant review of original research. Educational items that review specific issues within the literature are also considered to be reviews.
Article in Press	40	Accepted article made available online before official publication.
Editorial	71	Summary of several articles or provides editorial opinions or news.
Erratum	1	Report of an error, correction or retraction of a previously published paper.
Letter	1	Letter to or correspondence with the editor.
Note	7	Note, discussion, or commentary.
Conference meeting abstracts	2240	Proceedings can be published as serial or non-serial, and may contain either the full articles of the papers presented or only the abstracts.

**Fig. 1** Distribution of articles published by authors from 33 countries.

Geraldo Jotz, the editor-in-chief, and Aline Bittencourt, the co-editor, perform their jobs exceptionally.

Adilson Montefusco, our librarian, participates in journal publishing and publication support.

Enjoy the IAO, an academic journal.

Ricardo Ferreira Bento

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