

For better visibility of *Acta Gastro-Enterologica Belgica*

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Associate editors and members of the board present during the *Acta Gastro-Enterologica Belgica* meeting (2020) : Dr Pieter Dewint (Associate editor, BSGIE), Dr Maridi Aerts (Treasurer, VVGE), Mrs Mia Persoons (Secretary, AGEb), Pr. Harald Peeters (Associate editor, BIRD), Pr. Tom Moreels (Associate editor, VVGE), Pr. Peter Stärkel (Associate editor, BASL), Dr Géraldine Dalqvist (Associate editor, BeLIAC), Pr. Nicolas Lanthier (Editor-in-Chief, SRBGE), Pr. Tim Vanuytsel (Deputy editor, VVGE), Dr Karolien Dams (Associate editor, VVKVM).

Key words : Open-access, publication, gastroenterology, literature, website, Belgium.

Acta Gastro-Enterologica Belgica has become a fully open-access Journal!

This was our wish (1), shared by the Associate Editors and founding societies, the *Société Royale Belge de Gastro-Entérologie* (SRBGE) and the *Vlaamse Vereniging voor Gastro-Enterologie* (VVGE). We announced this major improvement during our *Acta Gastro-Enterologica Belgica* board meeting in Antwerpen in March 2020 (Picture). It is indeed very important for the Belgian and international scientific community to get easy access to all the *Acta Gastro-Enterologica Belgica* manuscripts (1).

Open-access publishing is an important opportunity to keep our Journal attractive (1) and to increase its visibility,

to promote disease care, to facilitate communication within and between our national scientific societies and to disseminate this information with the guarantee of our traditional scientific and peer-review process (2;3). Of course, we will continue to print the paper version and provide it to all subscribers, attendees of the *Belgian Week of Gastroenterology* (the first issue also contains the abstracts of the conference) as well as to all members of the SRBGE and VVGE (1).

Acta Gastro-Enterologica Belgica will continue to publish the best national and international manuscripts

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in the field of gastroenterology, hepatology, digestive oncology, pancreatology and clinical nutrition (1;3). Importantly and in contrast to many other open-access journals (2), there is no cost for the authors to publish in our Journal. Finally, this open-access version will help to increase our impact factor, without affecting our traditional signature (3). Indeed, a full-text link and an AGEB icon next to the article in PubMed now directly links the abstract to our library and this will be very helpful for all scientists looking for a specific subject on this renowned international biomedical literature website.

Thank you for your support and do not hesitate to visit our new website: www.ageb.be!

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