



Breathe is finally a real journal!



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Dear *Breathe* readers,

The news has reached us that the Executive Committee of the ERS at its last meeting decided that *Breathe* shall continue as a journal on a permanent basis. This is indeed very good news for the ERS School, with all its contributors who have put a lot of work into creating and shaping this journal.

Breathe has turned out to be a new way of communicating respiratory medicine on an educational basis. It took a lot of planning and discussion within the different bodies of the ERS leadership before *Breathe* finally appeared in the autumn of 2004 at the Annual Congress. To have participated in the initiation and creation of this journal, together with the officers of ERS School and the Managing Editors, Jean-Luc Eiselé and Pippa Powell, has been particularly rewarding and a learning process. New ways of presenting all the different aspects of respiratory medicine, from basic science to translational research and clinical medicine, were introduced, together with the strengthening of existing resources, such as the *European Respiratory Topic* (now termed "Hot topics").

Breathe has presented a combination of review articles on important topics within respiratory medicine, together with "Hot topics", materials from recent courses organised by the ERS School found to be of particular educational value, and case reports illustrating important clinical topics.

The authors of the articles of the first issues of *Breathe* should be thanked in particular. They participated with their work and creations without really knowing the fate of this new journal. They did this work without expecting any citation impact, but contributed by sharing their knowledge for the best of respiratory medicine and of the European Respiratory Society.

Since its first issue, *Breathe* has been in constant development and improvement, being helped by the enthusiasm of the officers of the ERS School who have been the active editorial board of the journal. The development of *Breathe* can almost be compared to the process of quality improvement, with impulses governed through the structure of the journal, through the process of creating it, improving the results and giving impact upon the later appearing issues (Triad of Donabedian).

The future of *Breathe* is presently in the very good hands of the ERS School and its Chair Patricia Haslam, who is also the Chief Editor of *Breathe*. The quality of the educational material created through the ERS School is a guarantee of the future of *Breathe*.

Congratulations *Breathe* and ERS School.

First *Breathe* Chief Editor and former School Chair
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