A Happy New Year from Thrombosis and Haemostasis. A 5 year reflection from the Editorial team

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A Happy New Year 2015 from Thrombosis and Haemostasis. Writing this, it dawned on us that the current Editorial team are 5 years in post, and the customary review and reflection of the year – in keeping with our annual traditions from previous years (1, 2) – we should perhaps include the last 5 years as well.

Impact Factor
For starters, we had some mixed news from the new-style (and perhaps slightly different) Impact Factor from Thomson Reuters, with our 2014 Impact Factor 5.76, and thus a slight drop (sadly) from 2013.
However, we see a fall in Impact Factor for most of the thrombosis-focused journals close to us. For example, Thrombosis and Haemostasis’ is now higher than J Thromb Haemost (5.55), ATVB (5.53), Thromb Res (2.43), etc. On another note, based on Google Scholar journal rankings, Thrombosis and Haemostasis was ranked no. 3 in the Hematology category, following Blood and Leukemia (and ahead of the other thrombosis journals). Indeed, of the thrombosis-journals per se, we lead the pack!
When the current editorial team started, the Impact Factor was 3.5, rising to a peak of 6.09 in 2013. Thus, perhaps it does not look too bad overall, given we are now the (arguably) top thrombosis-focused specialty journal, but there still remains much more room for improvement, especially with the InCites Impact Factor!
The rise in Impact Factor seems to correlate well with the increasing number of submissions, which for 2014 exceeded 1,000 already in November.

Link societies
We have continued to serve as a link journal for the European Society of Cardiology Working Groups on Thrombosis and on Atherosclerosis & Vascular Biology, as well as being the official journal of the Spanish (SETH) and the Italian (SISET) societies on Thrombosis and Haemostasis and the Australian Vascular Biology Society (AVBS).
As a new and important addition that will be in effect starting January 2015, Thrombosis and Haemostasis will serve as the official scientific organ of the Gesellschaft für Thrombose- und Hämostaseforschung (GTH), which is a large and influential transnational Society for Thrombosis and Haemostasis Research in the Austria, Switzerland and Germany. This should also lead to an increased scientific input, e.g. in terms of submissions and position papers. We value these relationships and hope to foster and cultivate more of them!

Section Editors
We are indebted to our hard working section editors and extend our gratitude, which is duly owed. In 2014, we have welcomed the following new colleagues on the Editorial Board: Kathelijn Fischer (main focus: haemophilia), Stavros Konstantinidis (main focus: thromboembolism). We are also bidding farewell to Gerard Dolan in 2014.

Acceptance rate and decision times
Our overall acceptance rate stays around 30%, including commissioned Editorials and special articles. We keep an average time of 22 days to first editorial decision.

Our excellent reviewers
Our top 10 reviewers this year are:
• Job Harenberg
• Fabrizio Montecucco
• Robert Storey
• Hugo ten Cate
• Simon Panzer
• Bernd Jilma
• Dirk Sibbing
• Dominick Angiolillo
• Rob Ariens
• Philipp von Hundelshausen

Our grateful thanks and sincere appreciation go to them, and the many others who have continued to review in a timely and comprehensive manner.
Theme issues

In 2014 the following theme issues were published.

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<th>Guest editors</th>
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<td>Bernd Engelmann</td>
<td>Highlights from the GTH 2013</td>
<td>April 2014</td>
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<td>John Eikelboom, Gregory Lip</td>
<td>New oral anticoagulants for stroke prevention in atrial fibrillation</td>
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<td>Christine Mannhalter</td>
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<td>Hugo ten Cate, Harald Lowe</td>
<td>Coagulation proteases and cardiovascular disease</td>
<td>November 2014</td>
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In 2015-16 the following theme issues are either in preparation or planned:

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<td>Klaus Preissner, William Boisvert, Derek Hausenloy</td>
<td>Frontiers in cardiovascular research</td>
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<td>Walter Ageno, Sam Goldhaber</td>
<td>Venous thromboembolism</td>
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<td>Kurt Huber, Karsten Schroer</td>
<td>Platelets, inflammation and anti-inflammatory drugs in ACS and CAD</td>
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<td>Pablo García de Frutos, Bengt Zöller</td>
<td>Genetic aspects of thrombotic disease</td>
<td>planned for October 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kim van der Heiden, Jolanda Wentzel, Frank Gijsen, Paul Evans</td>
<td>Biomechanics in vascular biology and cardiovascular disease: Clinical, biological and engineering perspectives</td>
<td>planned for February 2016</td>
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New developments

The journal continues to evolve, integrating new developments and the exciting diversity of thrombosis, haemostasis and vascular biology. Our Categories have been revised and new ones have been opened, and Supplements and coloured Tables of Contents are presented in a ‘new look’ starting 2015! We have introduced new manuscript categories: Basic, Clinical and Translational science, which are highlighted by colour-indexing in print.

To better reflect the content that the journal attracts, the eight subcategories of Original Articles will be changed in 2015 as follows:
- Coagulation and Fibrinolysis
- Cellular Haemostasis and Platelets
- Blood Cells, Inflammation and Infection
- Endothelium and Angiogenesis
- Cellular Signalling and Proteolysis
- New Technologies, Diagnostic Tools and Drugs
- Stroke, Systemic or Venous Thromboembolism
- Atherosclerosis and Ischaemic Disease

From January 2014 we also opened one more category in our journal: “Protocol/design papers”, but to ensure a scholarly quality, we expect a clear review of the evidence as justification to the trial, and not simply a protocol and nothing else!

Finally, we are planning our next Editorial Board Meeting in Canada at the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis (ISTH) 2015 Conference in Toronto (June 20-25, 2015). Save the date!

With best wishes for a happy New Year 2015, and we thank our hardworking Section Editors and the publisher’s team at Schattauer. We also thank you, our reader-

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References