

La Gaceta in English

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La Gaceta Médica de México, official publication of the National Academy of Medicine with 150 years of history, has promoted national values, including Spanish language. To give an idea of the Mexican production to non-Spanish speaking international readers, an abstract in English language is included, out of which many works are often referred to in indexes and research papers. Today, it is very clear that English language is the language of international communication, not only for science, but for technology and medicine in general as well, and the requirement of having a good command of it is increasingly greater.

In spite of efforts by many academicians and other collaborators, the so-called impact factor of

La Gaceta has not been attractive enough to be considered a priority option by renowned investigators, or to be awarded a higher status by publication raters, despite the fact that several periodical journals not published in English have had reasonable impact. The truth is that publishing in English can open an additional universe of readers and increase the rate of citations, which, in turn, would raise the impact factor.

The proposed alternative is to maintain the printed edition, approximately with the same features it is published currently, and to add an electronic version with the English translation appearing simultaneously.

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Fortunately, the number of works requesting to be published in the *Gaceta Médica de México* exceeds the budgeting possibilities of the magazine, in spite of having a high rate of rejection, and it has been a policy of the Academy not to publish paid advertising on its pages. This has caused a delay in the appearance of works already accepted for publication, with the ensuing risk of them becoming obsolete or the authors getting desperate and asking to retire them. In order to address this, we have decided to publish some electronic supplements, with the same curricular value of the printed publication, unless the authors prefer waiting their turn to appear in the usual form.