A new look for EJCTS, ICVTS and MMCTS: better service for our readers with the support of our new publisher, the Oxford University Press

Friedhelm Beyersdorf*

Department of Cardiovascular Surgery, Albert-Ludwigs-University Freiburg, Hugstetterstr. 49, D-79106 Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany

* Corresponding author. Tel: +49-761-2702818; fax: +49-761-2702550; e-mail: friedhelm.beyersdorf@uniklinik-freiburg.de (F. Beyersdorf).

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All three scientific publications of the European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery (EACTS)—the European Journal of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery (EJCTS), the Interactive CardioVascular and Thoracic Surgery (ICVTS) and the Multimedia Manual of Cardiothoracic Surgery (MMCTS)—have been exceedingly successful over the last many years [1–3]. In the light of this, we shall now take the next steps in the evolution of our successful journals with our new publisher, Oxford University Press (OUP). One of the major changes will be that OUP will publish all three journals together. This will allow us to develop a common strategy but—at the same time—diversify, further specialize and concentrate on the strength of each product. Marko Turina will stay on as the Editor-in-Chief of the MMCTS and I will be the Editor-in-Chief for the EJCTS and the ICVTS. These changes, which we are now going to implement, are a result of comments and suggestions from the readers, the publishers, the Editorial Office, the Councillors of the EACTS and from various other persons. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for their input and thoughtful ideas.

In the EJCTS, the following changes will be put into place:

• A new website.
• A new cover design.
• ‘Editor’s Choice’ articles—these will be articles chosen by the Editor-in-Chief as being particularly topical and/or interesting and will be made freely available.
• Supporting material such as additional data or videos can be made available by the publisher as online-only content [4] linked to the online article.
• Free colour figures at the discretion of the Editor.
• Changes in the layout
  - clearly delineated sections within each issue (Thoracic, Adult Cardiac, Congenital, TX & MCS, etc.) with dynamic thumb tabs,
  - article type (Original Article, Review, etc.) above the title, on the top right corner,
  - ‘camera’ symbols will indicate when there is video content available online.
• A new set of instructions for authors providing guidance on the latest experimental and publishing ethics.
• A new EJCTS App in 2012. Our launch of the EJCTS App in April 2011 [5] has generated positive responses from our readers. As such we will continue to develop and build up our offerings with our new publisher to provide greater functionality through our App. Readers will be informed once the new App is up and running.

In the ICVTS, the changes are as follows:

• Same layout and style changes as for EJCTS.
• More interactive features will be made available.
• Access to advance content of the corrected proof.

In the MMCTS, the format of the videos will be changed.

In addition to these primary changes, we strive to continually improve and develop our journals to meet the expectations of our readers as much as possible. Further comments would be greatly appreciated.

‘If you think adventure is dangerous, try routine. It’s lethal’

Paulo Coelho

REFERENCES


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