

Call for applicants for the position of Editor-in-Chief of the *Annals of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine*

The *Société française de médecine physique et de réadaptation – SOFMER* (French Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine) is inviting applicants for the position of Editor-in-Chief of the *Annals of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine*.

Owned by the *Société française de médecine physique et de réadaptation – SOFMER* (French Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine), the *Annals of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine* (“the *Annals*”) is a peer-reviewed, academic, abstracted journal that publishes clinical and basic research in rehabilitation worldwide.

The *Annals* is one of the leading Journals in Rehabilitation: in 2023 its Impact Factor was 3.9 (6th/170), and its Citescore was 7.8 (5th/238). The journal’s mission is to advance scientific knowledge and clinical practice in rehabilitation by publishing high-quality articles and improving its rankings (first IF obtained in 2018). The journal is indexed in all major international databases.

The *Annals* is a digital publication with 8 issues per year, with contents currently organised in 4 domains: interventions, the pathophysiology of impairments & understanding disability, clinimetrics, and academics and education. It is a generalist rehabilitation journal covering all areas: neurological rehabilitation (neuromotor function, neuropsychology and neuro-urology), osteoarticular rehabilitation (rheumatology, orthopaedics and sports medicine), cardiovascular rehabilitation, respiratory rehabilitation, paediatric rehabilitation, geriatric rehabilitation etc. The journal publishes full-length articles and research letters, with a particular interest in high-quality randomised controlled trials and meta-analyses.

The Editor-in-Chief oversees the day-to-day running of the *Annals* (around 800 articles submitted each year), recruit associate editors, leads and manages the editorial team, and is part of the steering committee that defines and guides the journal’s strategy. Applicants must present a clear vision for the journal's future and outline a strategy for success. Changes in the organisation of the editorial team may be suggested. The Editor-in-Chief represents the journal at international and national congresses and in networks. The Editor-in-Chief is ultimately responsible for the content published in the journal and can set the agenda within the field. The role involves daily communication with the editorial management team, requiring significant availability.

Conditions of application

Must be a specialist in PRM with an academic career.

Should regularly publish rehabilitation articles in high-level journals with better metrics than the Annals.

Must have a keen interest in editorial activities.

Must be able to organise personal schedule to prioritise the Annals for several years.

Should have strong interpersonal and leadership skills and be an excellent communicator.

Must be aware of current trends across most domains within the field.

Should be involved in international networks (eg, learned societies) and have the ability to develop them.

No simultaneous other position as Chief or Associate Editor in another journal (this is not feasible in terms of time and mental energy).

Other skills

Previous experience as journal Editor or Associate/Assistant/similar role. Applications from people who already know the journal and served as Associate Editors, consultants, authors, or reviewers are encouraged.

Ability to meet tight deadlines.

Excellent writing and verbal skills.

Proficient in the latest electronic technology (EES system) to expedite the review and publication of submitted manuscripts.

For more details, visit: [Annals of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine | Journal | ScienceDirect.com by Elsevier](https://www.elsevier.com/locate/annals)

Position description and roles

1. Peer review

Oversee and handle the manuscript pipeline. This commitment takes time and requires checking the journal website several times a week.

Oversee the content of the Annals, ensuring that published papers reflect the full scope of the journal.

Encourage the submission of manuscripts that maintain the highest scientific standards and highlight the latest advances in the speciality.

Assign submissions to Associate Editors or organise the assignment process.

Arrange for contributions to be peer-reviewed by appropriately qualified reviewers.

Communicate with authors in response to the reviewers' reports and editorial comments.

When needed, communicate with Associate Editors on decisions on submissions.

Communicate with the editorial assistant and copyeditors on submissions when needed.

Ensure that deadlines are respected, the submitted article is original and has not been published elsewhere, is not defamatory or otherwise unlawful, is available for publication in the journal without restrictions.

Personally accept or reject all contributions to the journal.

Provide the material to the Publisher in accordance with the production schedule and ensure that this is complete with all graphics, illustrations, and tabular matter and in accordance with the guidelines provided in the "Guide for Authors".

2. Editorial policy and standards

Set the editorial policy to ensure that the Annals remains a leading journal in the field of PRM.

Define and defend publishing standards. Ensure brand strength through quality and rigour.

Understand the need for equality and inclusivity and have ideas that broaden diversity amongst the editorial team.

Work with Elsevier, Consulting Editors and Editorial Board, Reviewers and the SOFMER Executive Committee to ensure the journal fulfils its goals and objectives and remains useful and relevant to the SOFMER members and subscribers.

Propose and renew Associate Editors and Consulting Editors for an agreed-upon term and ensure the Board's composition is sufficiently broad in scope to provide appropriate advice to the Editor-in-Chief, in agreement with the journal's Steering Committee.

3. Vision

Provide the vision and leadership to ensure that the Annals of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine remains one of the leading scientific journals in the field of PRM. Organise and chair the Editorial Board meetings.

Maintain and even improve the Impact Factor and position of the journal relative to competing journals.

Understand and build metrics of success beyond the Impact Factor.

Develop new initiatives to keep the journal at the forefront of PRM research and technology.

4. Team working and communication

Discuss and maintain the annual budget for the journal together with the Publisher, and the journal's Steering Committee.

Attend several PRM meetings per year – including the SOFMER annual congress – to stay informed about the latest developments in PRM worldwide.

Candidates should:-

- present a strategy for the Annals of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine. This should focus on maintaining content quality and scientific rigour; broadening the readership and addressing the needs of our speciality; measures for demonstrating the reach of the journal beyond the Impact Factor; and actions to improve diversity, equality and inclusivity within the editorial team;
- be proficient in scientific English;
- have a successful track record of scientific writing;
- have proven managerial experience;
- have experience in an editorial role;
- recognise the need to check the journal website several times a week;
- have a vision for the Key Performance Indices of the journal for the next few years (proposed KPIs should reflect the SOFMER's priorities);
- have a vision for the role of the journal in furthering the purpose and mission of the SOFMER;
- demonstrate independence in the selection of manuscripts, authors and working groups in terms of gender, country of origin, religion, age, social and ethnic backgrounds;
- demonstrate an understanding of the need for transparent editorial processes that minimise potential bias in the acceptance of publications, particularly regarding submissions from authors affiliated with the institutions, research groups, or nationalities of the editorial team members.

Application

Individuals wishing to apply must:-

- submit a Curriculum Vitae along with a personal Statement of Interest indicating their understanding of the position and detailing all relevant experience;
- provide a current Disclosure/Conflict of Interest Statement;
- send a 3-to-5-year plan reflecting their vision for the journal. Discuss methods to maintain content quality and scientific rigour; broaden the readership and address the needs of our speciality; incorporate measures that demonstrate the journal's reach beyond the Impact Factor; and implement strategies that improve diversity, equality and inclusivity amongst the editorial team.

These documents should be sent to n.toure@elsevier.com **before March 15th, 2025.**

The journal Steering Committee will review all applications and select possible candidates for an interview in April 2025.

The new Editor-in-Chief of the Annals of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine will officially take office by July 2025, following a transition period in consultation with the current Editor-in-Chief.