

Your journal needs you and your research!

Hospital pharmacists have many duties and tasks, and their areas of activity are very broad. Most of the time, work will be devoted to routine, but even in such activities, hospital pharmacists can strive for and demand development of services. Improvements must be based on sound evidence as well as scientific thinking and planning. Documentation is the basis for success and results should be general and reproducible. This is fundamental in science.

Hospital pharmacy needs its own platform for publication. Regular information about progress in every aspect of hospital pharmacy science should be welcome to all hospital pharmacists. Attendance at scientific conferences can be helpful but is not enough because science is developing at a rapid rate. Therefore, the *European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy Science (EJHP Science)* is beneficial for all hospital pharmacists because it publishes papers showing easier methods and better methodology. Easy access to a familiar scientific paper can hopefully implement new ideas to solve pharmacy problems.

Hospital pharmacy and hospital pharmacists are involved in a broad range of science-based projects such as pharmaco-economics, pharmacoepidemiology, clinical pharmacy, pharmacokinetic-pharmacodynamics and microbiology. Scientific methods should also be applied to areas such as drug formulation, service production of cytostatic drugs, antibiotic drug reconstitution, drug stability studies, incompatibilities, validation of new drug products and of new procedures, drug consumption, patient care, drug information and education. All these take up a large part of the day of many hospital pharmacists; science-based education of all pharmacists can also increase the quality of work and procedures.

There is a responsibility to report achievements and to disseminate progress to others. *EJHP Science* is the platform for such dissemination but it is essential that reports are based on sound scientific principles. Publishing is

encouraged and support is at hand. In the journal there is an ongoing series on how to perform and report scientific studies; so far, the following topics have been covered: stability [1], bioanalysis [2], clinical pharmacy [3] and risk analysis [4]. More editorials are planned to continue this series of scientific advice. All information about stability and incompatibility studies can also be accessed (www.stabilis.org or www.infostab.com) as a result of the cooperation with the database *Stabilis*.

During the period July 2008 to June 2009 the major subjects published in *EJHP Science* were drug stability and pharmacotherapy/side effects with the latter constituting more than 70% of the articles. Pharmacoeconomic evaluation and methods for bioanalysis each constituted 10%. Thus, there are more subjects that need to be highlighted and *EJHP Science* will welcome papers on other topics. It is not necessary to write long articles; much can be written succinctly. As it is said: it is the quality, not the quantity, which counts!

***EJHP Science* is a pharmaceutical science-based journal striving to cover all aspects of hospital pharmacy**

Regular publishing of the journal will increase the possibility of indexing it. A constant publishing rate or a moderate increase in the number of articles will benefit the journal over the coming years. All well documented studies within hospital pharmacy are most welcome for publication (after peer review). *EJHP Science* must be a mirror to what is happening in European hospital pharmacies. Time constraints and economics can make it difficult to start studies. However, it is vital to remember that it takes no extra time to work scientifically and sound validation processes are an assurance of quality for the future.

***EJHP Science* has an important place in hospital pharmacy science in Europe**

EJHP Science should be the first journal that hospital pharmacists read when searching for important information on all aspects of hospital pharmacy and its progress.

REFERENCES

1. Vigneron J. Stability studies: ten pieces of advice. *Eur J Hosp Pharm Sci.* 2008;14(1):2.
2. Hartvig P. Quality demands for bioanalytical methods. *Eur J Hosp Pharm Sci.* 2008;14(2):2.
3. Hartvig P. Clinical pharmacy: what to do and what to publish. *Eur J Hosp Pharm Sci.* 2009;15(1):2.
4. Dranitsaris G. Advice to authors preparing manuscripts on patient risk or treatment benefit. *Eur J Hosp Pharm Sci.* 2009;15(2):2.

Professor Per Hartvig
Editor-in-Chief
peh@farma.ku.dk