https://doi.org/10.22516/25007440.1497

Editorial

40 years of the Revista Colombiana de Gastroenterología: challenges and opportunities

David B. Páramo-Hernández.[1*]

OPEN ACCESS

Citation:
Páramo-Hernández D. 40 years of the Revista Colombiana de Gastroenterología: challenges and opportunities. Revista. colomb. Gastroenterol. 2025;40(4):399-400. https://doi.org/10.22516/25007440.1497

[1] Gastroenterologist and Clinical Epidemiologist. GutMédica, Digestive Health Institute. Editor, Revista Colombiana de Gastroenterología. Bogotá, Colombia.

***Correspondence:** David B. Páramo-Hernández. paramo.david@gmail.com

Received: 26/11/2025
Accepted: 27/11/2025

With this volume, Revista Colombiana de Gastroenterología (RCG) marks 40 years since its founding, having demonstrated steady progress and upward development throughout its editorial life. At present, however, it must confront challenges and obstacles to continue its growth. First, it faces a highly competitive and global publishing market, dominated by oligopolies and characterized by paywalled models that impose very high costs for access to scientific information, yielding high profitability for publishers while providing little or no benefit to authors, reviewers, and editors. In addition, this market has established its own bibliometric indices to assess the quality of scientific articles and research output[(1)].

In contrast to this model stands so-called open science (open access), which has emerged as a growing necessity to democratize access to scientific knowledge so that it is free and unrestricted, given that it is, in fact, a public good. Scientific societies and the academic community must promote a system that values open access, ensures fair compensation for authors and peer review, and fosters more sustainable editorial practices[(2)]. The future of academic publishing should not only be profitable for publishers; it must also ensure that the benefits of research are shared broadly and equitably. We must advocate for change by promoting models that prioritize accessibility, equity, and the free dissemination of knowledge[(1,2)].

Given that the very nature of our journal is open access—and in keeping with its current motto, "A living journal of all for all"—one of the main achievements of this editorial administration has been its inclusion in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), which brings together high-quality journals operating under this model.

Another challenge that the academic and medical community must recognize and guard against is the growing threat posed by so-called "predatory" or questionable journals. These are fraudulent scientific publications that charge for article publication without providing a rigorous peer-review process, prioritizing profit over research integrity. They are characterized by deceptive practices such as aggressive solicitation of manuscripts, falsification of metrics (such as impact factor), and the absence or inadequacy of quality control[(3)].

A third challenge that our journal will need to address is the incorporation of technological advances, such as the adoption of artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning technologies to support peer review, detect plagiarism and scientific misconduct, and facilitate data analysis. Achieving this will require an investment budget for personnel, technology, and training.

© 2025 Asociación Colombiana de Gastroenterología

This Volume 40, No. 4 is accompanied by three valuable supplements. Together with the Board of Directors of the Colombian Association of Gastroenterology, chaired by Dr. Diego Aponte Martín, we have decided, in celebration of the 40th anniversary, to publish the updated Clinical Practice Guidelines[4–6]. These three documents were developed with strict methodological and epidemiological rigor and underwent an updated evaluation by subject-matter experts. Undoubtedly, they represent a major contribution for health professionals, institutions, and health policy decision-makers, ultimately aiming to positively impact the health of our population. This issue also includes a diverse and engaging collection of original articles, reviews, and case reports. Among them, we invite readers to consult the Consensus for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Eosinophilic Esophagitis in the Pediatric Population: Diagnosis. Part 1[7]. We also recommend the excellent narrative review Gastric Cancer: Detection and Prevention by Dr. Oliveros and colleagues[8]. Finally, in the Research and Publishing section, it is also essential to read Essential Bioethical Considerations in Biomedical Research: Foundations, Standards, and Indispensable Practices by Dr. Granada[9].

REFERENCES

1. Larivière V, Haustein S, Mongeon P. The Oligopoly of Academic Publishers in the Digital Era. PLoS One. 2015;10(6):e0127502. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0127502
2. Arita M, Pulverer B, Uemura T, Sakuma C, Hayashi S. Publishing in the Open Access and Open Science era. Genes Cells. 2024;29(4):275-281. https://doi.org/10.1111/gtc.13100
3. Laine C, Babski D, Bachelet VC, Bärnighausen TW, Baethge C, Bibbins-Domingo K, et al. Predatory journals: What can we do to protect their prey? PLoS Med. 2025;22(4):e1004542. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1004542
4. Aponte Martín DM, Gil Parada FL, Castaño LLano R de J, Bareño Silva J, Ortíz Chamorro AX, Ibarra Burgos JA, et al. Guía colombiana de práctica clínica para el tamizaje de cáncer colorrectal adultos: actualización 2025. Rev. colomb. Gastroenterol. 2025;40(Supl. 2):3-24. https://doi.org/10.22516/25007440.1451
5. Hani de Ardila AC, Cañadas Garrido RA, Aponte Martín DM, Ortiz Chamorro AX, Bareño Silva J, Ibarra Burgos JA, et al. Guía de práctica clínica para el diagnóstico y tratamiento de la enfermedad por reflujo gastroesofágico (ERGE) en adultos: actualización 2025. Rev Colomb Gastroenterol. 2025;40(Supl. 3):3-31. https://doi.org/10.22516/25007440.1450
6. Otero Regino WA, Trespalacios Rangel AA, Marulanda Fernandez H, Rojas Gualdrón DF, Aponte Martín DM, Cañadas Garrido RA, et al. Guía de práctica clínica para el diagnóstico y tratamiento de la infección por helicobacter pylori en adultos: actualización 2025. Rev Colomb Gastroenterol. 2025;40(Supl. 4):3-32. https://doi.org/10.22516/25007440.1458
7. Vera-Chamorro JF, Zambrano-Pérez CA, Carias-Domínguez AM, Higuera-Carrillo M, Riveros-López JP, García-Paba MB, et al. Consenso para el diagnóstico y tratamiento de la esofagitis eosinofílica en población pediátrica: el diagnóstico. Parte 1. Revista. colomb. Gastroenterol. 2025;40(4):450-462. https://doi.org/10.22516/25007440.1371
8. Oliveros-Wilches R, Facundo-Navia H, Pinilla-Morales R, Bonilla A, Aguirre G. Cáncer gástrico: detección y prevención. Revista. colomb. Gastroenterol. 2025;40(4):463-471. https://doi.org/10.22516/25007440.1399
9. Granada-Copete AM. Principios éticos básicos en investigación clínica. Puntos bioéticos esenciales en la investigación biomédica: fundamentos, normas y prácticas indispensable. Revista. colomb. Gastroenterol. 2025;40(4):472-476. https://doi.org/10.22516/25007440.1140