

# The First 30 Years of EUROPEAN UROLOGY (1975–2005)

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The first issue of EUROPEAN UROLOGY was released in January 1975 (Fig. 1).

It logically followed the first congress of the European Association of Urology that was held in September 1974, in Padua, Italy and included the report of the main round table topic discussion on “Traumatic Lesions of the Urethra” chaired by Hans Marberger and Richard Turner-Warwick and a report on “Training in Urology”.

At that time, the EAU was a small but very selective society of key opinion leaders in urology that counted about 150 members who participated to this founding

congress. The first Secretary General of this newly created association was Willy Grégoir from Brussels, the Treasurer was Georges Mayor from Zurich and Alec Badenoch from London was the representative of the EAU Board. They acted as a Board of Editors and I had the responsibility of running the journal on a daily basis.

The Editorial Board was composed by most of the leading academic urologists from Eastern and Western Europe and one of the main and first achievements of the EAU and its congress was to bring together colleagues from the East and West of Europe who did not have a lot of contact at that time.

The Editorial of this first issue stated the aims and goals of EUROPEAN UROLOGY, the Official Organ of the EAU, and these are still of great actuality (Fig. 2).

Vol. 1, 1975

## European Urology

Official Organ of the European Association of Urology

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Fig. 1. Editorial Board 1975.

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### Editorial

Eur. Urol. 1: 1 (1975)

### To Our Readers

*European Urology* is a new journal which promotes the advancement of urology by presenting in one review the most interesting and important work currently performed in European urological clinics. In order to assure the widest readership, including non-European urologists, English has been chosen as the sole language of publication.

Among the tasks set for the journal are the stimulation of contact between European urologists active in both clinical and research centers and the dissemination of current knowledge and recent advances in general urology and related fields, in nephrology, pediatrics, gynecology, endocrinology, general surgery and internal medicine. The editors of the journal also hope to coordinate research projects now in progress at various universities by means of discussions of common problems and a free exchange of new ideas.

The journal features original articles on clinical and experimental urology, review papers, preliminary communications, new techniques, exceptional case reports, descriptions of outstanding European clinics, history book reviews of recent publications, and miscellanea, including personal communications and news of the European Association of Urology.

### The Editors

Fig. 2. Editorial published in the first issue of EUROPEAN UROLOGY.

The first issues already contained different sections such as, reports of the main topics discussed at the Congress, clinical papers, research papers, surgical techniques, historical papers and a section entitled “We visited for you: some of the most renowned urological departments in Europe”. Colour illustrations were also already present in articles devoted to surgical techniques.

A selection of the most interesting articles that were published in the first volume of the journal in 1975 already included well-known names that have made the history of Urology in Europe.

### **First Congress of the European Association of Urology, Padua, 1974**

- *Badenboch, A.W. (London); Mebel, M. (Berlin), and Auvert, J. (Paris): Training in Urology. Conclusions of the Round Table Discussion*
- *Traumatic Lesions of the Urethra. Round Table Discussion. Chaired by Marberger, H. (Innsbruck), and Turner-Warwick, R. (London).*

### **Selected Papers**

- *Steg, A. and Boccon-Gibod, L. (Paris): Uretero-Colic Anastomosis by the ‘Cuff’ or ‘Flap’ Procedure – Goodwin’s Modified Technique, Preliminary Report*
- *Chatelain, C.; Jardin, A.; Le Guillou, M.; Peron, J.; Petit, M.; and Küss, R. (Paris): Segmental Urethrectomy and Urethrorrhaphy for Treatment of Fresh and Late Traumatic Urethral Lesions*
- *Williams, D.I. (London): Rupture of the Female Urethra in Childhood*
- *Wickham, J.E.A.; Coe, N.E., and Ward, J.P. (London): 100 Cases of Nephrolithotomy under Hypothermia*
- *Martinez-Pineiro, J.A. (Madrid): The Treatment of Bladder Carcinoma*
- *Pavone-Macaluso, M.; Caramia, G.; Rizzo, F.P., and Messina, V. (Palermo): Preliminary Evaluation of VM-26. A New Epipodophyllotoxin Derivative, in the Treatment of Urogenital Tumours.*
- *O’Flynn, J.D.; Smith, J.M., and Hanson, J.S. (Dublin): Transurethral Resection for the Assessment and Treatment of Vesical Neoplasms. A Review of 840 Consecutive cases.*
- *Grégoir, W. (Brussels): The Avascular Nephrectomy*
- *Wesolowski, S. (Ljubljana): Uretero-Caliostomy.*
- *Leisinger, H.J.; Schauwecker, H.; Schmucki, O.; Hauri, D.; Mayor, G., and Säuberli, H. (Zurich): Continent Ileal Bladder. An Experimental Study in Dogs.*

- *Ackermann, R. (Würzburg): Tumour-Associated Antibodies against Renal Cell Carcinomas detected by Immunofluorescence*
- *Serrallach, N.; Jimenez, J.F.; Aguiló, F.; Anguera, A.; Clavo, M.; Orejas, V.; Torner, V., and Serrate, R. (Barcelona): Preliminary Report of an Immunological Study in Urological Cancer*
- *Dreikorn, K., and Röhl, L. (Heidelberg): Urological Complications in Renal Transplantation*
- *Iglesias, J.J., and Fiore, G. (Newark, N.J.): Iglesias Resectoscope with the Simultaneous Irrigation, Suction and Low Intravesical Pressure*
- *Couvelaire, R.: George Marion*
- *We Visited for You: The Urological Clinic of the Necker Hospital*

In 1980, the Board underwent some restructuring with a new Editorial Committee and next year a new front cover (Figs. 3 and 4).

During these first years, one has to realise that all communications and handling of articles were processed by regular postal mail. It sometimes took months for a peer-review process to be completed. Time was not such a heavy constraint in those days. Little by little this was replaced by fax, although the

Vol. 6, 1980

# European Urology

Official Organ of the European Association of Urology

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Fig. 3. Editorial Board in 1980.

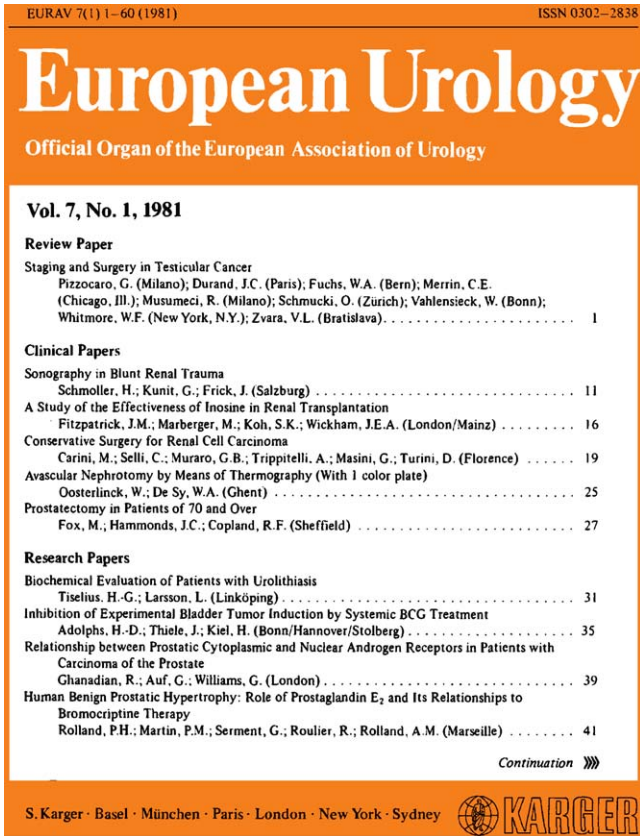


Fig. 4. The cover page of 1981 included the contents.

majority of people didn't have the appropriate equipment in these early years.

A hand-written directory was kept gathering all the information related to each article and its processing (Fig. 5).

In these days, decisions regarding acceptance, rejection or revision of papers was essentially under the

NO	ARTICLE TITLE	AUTHOR	RECEIVED	ACCEPTED	REVISED	REVISIONS	FINAL	ISSUE
1	Staging and Surgery in Testicular Cancer	Pizzocaro, G. (Milano); Durand, J.C. (Paris); Fuchs, W.A. (Bern); Merrin, C.E. (Chicago, Ill.); Musumeci, R. (Milano); Schumcki, O. (Zürich); Vahlensieck, W. (Bonn); Whitmore, W.F. (New York, N.Y.); Zvara, V.L. (Bratislava)	1.3.81	1.3.81				1
2	Sonography in Blunt Renal Trauma	Schmoller, H.; Kunit, G.; Frick, J. (Salzburg)	1.3.81	1.3.81				1
3	A Study of the Effectiveness of Inosine in Renal Transplantation	Fitzpatrick, J.M.; Marberger, M.; Koh, S.K.; Wickham, J.E.A. (London/Mainz)	1.3.81	1.3.81				1
4	Conservative Surgery for Renal Cell Carcinoma	Carini, M.; Selli, C.; Muraro, G.B.; Trippitelli, A.; Masini, G.; Turini, D. (Florence)	1.3.81	1.3.81				1
5	Avascular Nephrotomy by Means of Thermography (With 1 color plate)	Oosterlinck, W.; De Sy, W.A. (Ghent)	1.3.81	1.3.81				1
6	Prostatectomy in Patients of 70 and Over	Fox, M.; Hammonds, J.C.; Copland, R.F. (Sheffield)	1.3.81	1.3.81				1
7	Biochemical Evaluation of Patients with Urolithiasis	Tiselius, H.-G.; Larsson, L. (Linköping)	1.3.81	1.3.81				1
8	Inhibition of Experimental Bladder Tumor Induction by Systemic BCG Treatment	Adolphs, H.-D.; Thiele, J.; Kiel, H. (Bonn/Hannover/Stolberg)	1.3.81	1.3.81				1
9	Relationship between Prostatic Cytoplasmic and Nuclear Androgen Receptors in Patients with Carcinoma of the Prostate	Ghanadian, R.; Auf, G.; Williams, G. (London)	1.3.81	1.3.81				1
10	Human Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy: Role of Prostaglandin E <sub>2</sub> and Its Relationships to Bromocriptine Therapy	Rolland, P.H.; Martin, P.M.; Serment, G.; Roulier, R.; Rolland, A.M. (Marseille)	1.3.81	1.3.81				1

Fig. 5. Processing of articles, a hand-written directory.

responsibility of the Editorial Secretary who nowadays is acting as Editor-in-Chief. This task required a very diplomatic approach towards many great masters of urology. It reminds me of an anecdote: I requested from a “big Professor” to include at the end of his manuscript 2 or 3 references since it didn't have any at all. His hand-written reply to me was: “Young man, I am the only reference” !!!

Progressive changes in the lay-out and presentation were regularly implemented and in 1997, the journal also became the official organ of the European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC) – Genito-Urinary Group and the European Society for Urological Oncology and Endocrinology (ESUOE) having a much more restricted board of Editors (Fig. 6).

The implementation in 1999 of a group of selected Section Editors reflected the evolution of the different sub-specialities in urology (Fig. 7).

In early 2003, EUROPEAN UROLOGY entered the electronic era, being one of the first journals to use an entirely electronic web-based submission and peer-review process that was only available to a limited number of journals.



Fig. 6. Front cover in 1997.

Official Journal of the

**EAU**  
European Association of Urology

**EORTC**  
European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer – Genito-Urinary Group

**ESUOE**  
European Society for Urological Oncology and Endocrinology

# European Urology

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Very rapidly, as we all know, electronic invaded every aspect related to publication and our daily life. This is just the beginning of major changes that await us in the next coming years that will see dramatic changes in the way we publish, read and run a library.

Will paper journals still be the reference in the coming years? No one is a prophet. People will probably work essentially through the internet and on electronic publications, but for some more time, most probably, people will continue to enjoy holding a journal in their hands and read it in a relaxed way at home, in the garden or on a plane. . .

Time for changes in the responsibility of the journal has also come after 30 years of hard and dedicated work.

It is with great pleasure and confidence that I will be succeeded by Francesco Montorsi and his new team that will take over this task. I wish them all the best and a lot of success. The baby has become an adult and I am convinced that it will continue to mature for the best interest of Urology, Science and the EAU.

Fig. 7. 1999 — The Editorial Board now included Section Editors.