

The new B-ENT has landed – le nouveau B-ENT est arrivé – de nieuwe B-ENT is er!

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Today is the day, a special day, nevertheless, amidst the COVID-19 pandemic: the new B-ENT has landed!

The history of the journal of the Royal Belgian Society of Ear, Nose, Throat and Head and Neck Surgery, presently known as B-ENT, goes back to the 1890s. At that time, the articles of the founders of the Society were published in the Bulletins of the “Société Belge d’Otologie et Laryngologie”. Subsequently, in 1929, the title of the journal has been changed to “Journal Belge d’Oto-Rhino-Laryngologie” and in 1932 the title changed to “Bulletin”. When the Bulletin stopped publication in the Second World War, a new journal Acta Oto-Rhino-Laryngologica Belgica was created in 1945. The first issue of Acta Oto-Rhino-Laryngologica Belgica was published in 1946 and it started to reach more of the country via university and library subscriptions. After 59 years, B-ENT was created as the continuation of Acta Oto-Rhino-Laryngologica Belgica and it has been continuing publication since 2005.

For more than fifteen years Professor Mark Jorissen governed and managed the B-ENT journal as a true ‘pater familias’ with the help of his co-Editors in Chief and the national and international members of the Editorial Board of the journal. A lot of credits need to be given to him and his team with a peer-reviewed journal being cited in many international databases and currently having a 5-year impact factor of 0.583.

From 2020 on a new Editorial team with headquarters in Antwerp took the challenge to re-new the journal making it a journal with a contemporary website, online manuscript submission and state-of-the art editorial management database

behind the scenes. Apart from original contributions and review papers, the editors call for submission of unique case reports that include a concise review of the literature, protocol papers of innovative clinical trials in the field of ENT-HNS, clinical pearls, interesting images in the field and letters to the editors. According to a long existing tradition, the abstracts presented at the meetings of the Royal Belgian Society of Otorhinolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery will be published in B-ENT too, of course. The journal wants to be the home of residents as well as specialists in ENT-HNS both at the national level in Belgium and at the international scene.

The publication of this first issue of 2020 was delayed because of an obvious reason being the COVID-19 pandemic. The next three issues of 2020 will be published steadily with the fourth issue to be published online in December. The Editors thought that it was appropriate to add a special “B-ENT COVID-19 COLLECTION” including six additional papers on COVID-19 all relevant to the ENT-HNS readership. As a result, this issue of the journal contains a total of seventeen papers: I hope you enjoy reading them as much as I do.

Dear colleagues, just to let you know that ‘le nouveau B-ENT est arrivé’ open for you to read interesting papers or to submit your own work – ‘de nieuwe B-ENT’ is er’ taking the time to reflect on the long tradition of our Society to have our own international journal, something to cherish!

Let’s move forward with this journal that has a tradition of over 120 years and proudly bears the name B-ENT.

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