



## The *Vojnosanitetski pregled* in 2022 – Challenges as an incentive for improvement

Vojnosanitetski pregled u 2022. godini – Izazovi kao podsticaj za napredak

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As the Editor-in-Chief of *Vojnosanitetski pregled* (VSP), I have the distinct honor of wishing a warm welcome to the readers of the first issue of 2023. Being in this position in these challenging and unpredictable times is a big responsibility. I would like to thank our former editors, Colonel Professor Tihomir Ilić and Professor Silva Dobrić, for their help in ensuring a successful Editorial transition. In particular, I wish to express my deepest gratitude to Professor Silva Dobrić, who held the position of VSP Editor-in-Chief from 2006 to 2020, for her dedication to the Journal during the last two years. Her precious pieces of advice and engagement facilitated my initial steps in the responsible path of leading a scientific journal. I am convinced that Professor Dobrić will continue to enhance the quality of the Journal through her contribution to the Editorial Board (EB) of VSP.

We were hoping that 2022 would be better than 2021. However, for most of the world, it was another year in pandemic mode, affecting all of us. Besides, the world faced the consequences of climate change and war in Europe with no end in sight.

For VSP Editorial Office (EO) members, last year will be a year to remember. We will recall it by obstacles that seemed insuperable. Some of us will remember it by personal probations and professional challenges that represent a turning point in every person's life. Nevertheless, we will also remember it by the spirit and energy that kept us going and gave us the strength to endure. Thanks to the tremendous commitment and professional responsibility, but most of all, teamwork, VSP EO members managed to fulfill all stages of receipt, review, and preparation of manuscripts without delay, ensuring that our readers and authors were not affected in any way. Therefore, I would like to thank all the members of VSP EO who worked hard every day to achieve these goals.

Furthermore, I deeply appreciate the support received from the members of VSP EB in these difficult times. I would like to express my sincere respect to them.

Sadly, in 2022 we said farewell to Professor Zoran Krivokapić, a world-renowned colorectal surgeon who joined VSP EB already with a reputation as a world-class. We were honored to have him as a member of EB of VSP from 2021 to 2022.

The beginning of the New Year is an excellent opportunity to look back and summarize what we did well.

VSP gladly receives submissions of articles reporting research results related to clinical and experimental investigations obtained in the fields of medicine, dentistry, and pharmacy, thus covering a wide range of topics. During the last year, VSP received insignificantly fewer manuscripts to be considered for publication compared to 2021, 264 vs. 278. As usual, the largest number was from the categories "Original articles" (187 or 70.6%) and "Case reports" (45 or 17%) (Table 1). In the pre-review phase, we declined 134 manuscripts, and 130 (49.2%) entered the review stage. Among reviewed manuscripts, until January 01, 2023, we accepted 37.7% for publication in electronic form (as online first with an assigned DOI number) and rejected 29.2%. The rest (33%) are currently in the review process. We are especially proud of foreign authors for submitting their manuscripts from 18 countries not only from our region but also from all around the world: Australia, Bulgaria, China, Cyprus, Great Britain, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Mongolia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Turkey, and the United States of America (in alphabetical order). Thank you for your trust.

The total number of articles with assigned DOI numbers in 2022 (including the ones submitted for consideration before 2022) was 97. They will be published in printing form in future issues of the Journal.

**Table 1**  
**Categories and the number of manuscripts submitted to the *Vojnosanitetski Pregled* in 2022**

Category	Manuscripts
	n (%)
Original articles	187 (70.6)
Case reports	45 (17)
Current topics	7 (2.6)
General review	16 (6)
Short communications	1 (0.4)
History of medicine	4 (1.5)
Letter to the editor	0 (0)
Editorial	1 (0.4)
Practical advice for physicians	0 (0)
Meta-analysis	3 (1.1)
Book review	0 (0)
Preliminary report	1 (0.4)
<b>Total</b>	<b>265 (100)</b>

We are extremely proud of how we managed to accelerate the editorial review process. In 2022, the average time from submission to first decision was 55 days, and from submission to online ahead-of-print publication was 181 days.

The structure of the papers published in 2022 (Table 2) and the representation of authors, domestic vs. foreign, did not change significantly compared to 2021. Most of the published papers were from the categories “Original articles” (119 or 66.1%) and “Case reports” (39 or 21.7%). Domestic authors made up the majority of the published papers (141 or 78.3%). Of these, 76.11% and 23.8% were written by authors from the so-called civilian health and academic institutions and the University of Defence in Belgrade, Serbia, respectively. The authors of the remaining 21.7% of the published manuscripts were foreign authors from 16 countries from the region and the world. Once again, I would like to express my gratitude to all the authors who chose our Journal to present their results, especially the foreign ones who significantly contributed to the development of VSP and

**Table 2**  
**Categories and the number of articles published in the *Vojnosanitetski Pregled* in 2022**

Category	Articles
	n (%)
Editorial	1 (0.6)
Original articles	119 (66.1)
Case reports	39 (21.7)
General review	1 (0.6)
Current topic	4 (2.2)
Short communications	6 (3.3)
Preliminary report	0 (0)
Practical advice for physicians	3 (1.7)
History of medicine	3 (1.7)
Letter to the editor	3 (1.7)
Book review	0 (0)
Mini review	1 (0.6)
<b>Total</b>	<b>180 (100)</b>

stimulated its impact in the scientific and academic community.

Since last year, the Journal’s impact factor has reached a value of 0.245 as a result of all the interesting papers we published in 2021.

According to the Serbian Citation Index, a database through which articles from the VSP can be downloaded in full text, in 2022 (until January 01, 2023), the number of total worldwide visits to the VSP journal homepages was about 1,830, and the number of full-text downloads of the VSP articles is about 51,828. According to the EBSCO database, the number of downloads of the VSP articles published in 2022 was 4,956. In total, 9 articles were downloaded more than 100 times (Table 3), and 56 articles were downloaded more than 20 times. The highest number of downloads of an article is 895, and the title of that article is *Anxiety and depressive symptomatology among children and adolescents exposed to the COVID-19 pandemic - A systematic review*. In total, 3,000 different universities, colleges, libraries, and other institutions from all over the world accessed the papers published in VSP in 2022. That encourages us to continue our editorial policy in 2023. We hope that, in the future, we will be able to continue publishing innovative and important papers for all our readers.

Apart from the unquestionable authors’ contribution, it is essential to emphasize that we would not be able to ensure the scientific quality and produce the Journal without the dedicated support of our EB members and reviewers.

The experts who provided reviews of papers during 2022 are cited in Table 4. I am incredibly grateful to all our reviewers who have voluntarily dedicated their time and expertise to ensure the publication of only the best of the best in VSP. Their highly competent and thoughtful comments were and will remain outstanding support for the Journal.

The beginning of the New Year was a good opportunity to implement changes we can influence to ensure that the ascending path of VSP continues this year. The biggest tasks ahead of us are shortening the time for publication of accepted papers, changing the Journal website and Instructions for authors, and converting VSP to a digital-only issue.

Last year was full of challenges, but it showed us that challenges could also turn into opportunities to make a difference. The greatest challenge this year will be the workload that awaits us. However, remembering everything we did in 2022, I believe nothing is unachievable with teamwork. For our initiatives to become a reality, we receive great support from the publisher’s advisory board of VSP for the benefit of all our readers, authors, and the academic community. Therefore, I am enormously grateful for their understanding.

I hope 2023 will be the year to remember with pride and joy and that we will be able to make the changes my predecessors have considered. Looking ahead, I hope VSP will continue ascending toward the position where the most valued journals of biomedical science are. I sincerely hope this year will be better than the previous one for all contributors to VSP and all our valued staff members.

May the New Year bring lots of health, success, and many beautiful moments to You and Your loved ones.

**Table 3****Articles downloaded more than 100 times, arranged according to their number of downloads (N)**

Article title	Corresponding author	N
Anxiety and depressive symptomatology among children and adolescents exposed to the COVID-19 pandemic – A systematic review (DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP210521092D">https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP210521092D</a> )	Sanja K. Djurdjević	895
Children and youth in the institutional setting – mental health characteristics of children from the Center for Protection of Infants, Children, and Youth in Belgrade (DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP191205092M">https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP191205092M</a> )	Ivana Milosavljević-Djukić	340
Inflammatory cardiovascular risk markers and silent myocardial ischemia in type 2 diabetic patients (DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP201012010M">https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP201012010M</a> )	Gabrijela Malešević	276
Selection of the optimal medical waste incineration facility location: A challenge of medical waste risk management (DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP200521072S">https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP200521072S</a> )	Nataša Petrović	142
COVID-19's impact on radiotherapy in the Republic of Srpska (DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP211018024K">https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP211018024K</a> )	Goran Kolarević	118
Effect of aerobic exercise on frequency of vaginal birth – A meta-analysis (DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP200311080B">https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP200311080B</a> )	Ksenija V. Bubnjević	110
Distance visual acuity in air force pilots and student pilots when exposed to + Gz acceleration in human centrifuge (DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP200607066R">https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP200607066R</a> )	Danijela Randjelović	104
Potentially inappropriate medication prescribing among elderly patients with cardiovascular diseases (DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP200623118S">https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP200623118S</a> )	Goran Stojanović	103
Influence of the health status and other relevant factors on the quality of life of elderly people (DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP210217033V">https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP210217033V</a> )	Zoran Vesić	101

**Table 4****Reviewers of the *Vojnosanitetski preglad* in 2022**

Adžić Tatjana	Brdareski Zorica	Dragović Tamara	Ivanović Mirjana
Ajduk Marko	Brkić Jovanović Nina	Dukanac Vesna	Ivetic Dražen
Aleksić Aleksandra	Bronza Boro	Dundjerović Duško	Jakovljević Aleksandar
Alimović Sonja	Budić Ivana	Djenić Nemanja	Jakšić Vesna
Arena Alessandro	Bulajić Nina	Djordjević Boban	Janković Radmila
Arsenijević Tatjana	Cerović Snezana	Djurić Milanko	Janković Slobodan
Ayyappan Unnithan Ajaya Kumar	Chin Eric Michael	Djurić Mirna	Janković Srdja
Bajčetić Milica	Christoffersson Gustaf	Djurić Petar	Jekić Biljana
Baletić Nenad	Conti Francesca	Fejsa Levakov Aleksandra	Jeličić Marko
Baljošević Ivan	Cvetanović Ana	Flis Vojko	Jin Lei
Bančević Vladimir	Cvetković Gordana	Gazibara Tatjana	Jovanović Ida
Baščarević Zoran	Cvijić Marta	Georgiou Michalis	Jovanović Ksenija
Bašić Dragoslav	Čanadanović Vladimir	Gershkevitch Eduard	Jovanović Milan
Begović Kuprešanin Vesna	Čutović Tatjana	Glišić Branislav	Jović Rajko
Bennink Roelof	Ćupurdija Vojislav	Glišić Branislava	Jović Zoran
Berisavac Ivana	Daković Dragana	Grigorenko Elena	Kabiri El Hassane
Bezmarević Mihailo	Damnjanović Tatjana	Hakan Tayfun	Kačar Aleksandra
Bilinović Rajačić Ana	Davidović Lazar	Heffer Marija	Kalezić Nevena
Biočanin Vladimir	Dedić Gordana	Henman Martin	Kirmaci Mehlika Bilgi
Bojić Suzana	Delić Dragan	Husada Dominicus	Knežević-Ušaj Slavica
Boričić Katarina	Diklić Miloš	Ignjatović Mile	Konstantinović Ljubica
Borovčanin Milica	Dimitrijević Milovan	Ignjatović Ristić Dragana	Konstantinović Vitomir
Božić Marija	Dinčić Evica	Ilić Jugoslav	Koraćević Goran
Božić Milena	Dobrić Silva	Iuliano Rodolfo	Kosnik Mitja
Božić Nedeljko Biljana	Dodig Slavica		Kostić Milena
Bradić Jovana			Košević Branko
Branković Magić Mirjana			Kovač Bojan

Table 4 (continued)

Kovačević Božidar Kozomara Ružica Krašić Dragan Krašić Dragana Kravljanac Ružica Kukolj Tamara	Milosavljević Marko Milošević Ivana Milovanović Srdjan Milovanović Tamara Mirković Ljiljana Mitić Aleksandar Mladenović Irena Mladenović Katarina Mladenović Raša	Rasulić Lukas Resan Mirko Ristanović Elizabeta Ristić Andjelka Ristić Arsen Ristić Gorica Ristić Ljubiša Ristić Vladimir Roganović Branka Roganović Jelena Runjić Tina	Stojanov Dragan Stojanović Zvezdana Stojković Milica
Lazarević Simović Snežana Lazić Srdjan Leković Zoran Ležaić Višnja Lu Haibo Lujčić Nenad	Nadrljanski Mirjan Nastasović Tijana Nedeljković Predrag Nedok Aleksandar Nikolić Branka Nikolić Jelena Ninković Milica Ninković Srdjan Nouri Omar	Saad Helmi Ben Sanković Babić Snežana Savić Slobodan Savović Slobodan Sekulić Vuk Sheth Jayesh Simić Ogrizović Sanja Simić Radoje Simić Sanja Simović Aleksandra Sindjić Sanja Sohal Karpal Singh Soklič Košak Tanja Soldatović Ivan Sopta Jelena Spasojević Dimitrijeva Brankica Spremović Radjenović Svetlana Srećković Svetlana Stamenković Dragoslav Stanković Nebojša Stanojević Ivan Starčević Srdjan Stasević Karličić Ivana Stepanović Aleksandar Stijak Lazar Stojadinović Milica Stojanac Igor	Šarac Sanja Škuletić Vesna Šuljagić Vesna Šurbatović Maja
Ljubić Aleksandar Ljujić Biljana	Obradović Slobodan		Tadić Vanja Tambuzzi Stefano Tarabar Dino Tepšić Ostojić Vesna Tiwari Kavindra Nath Todorović Ljubomir Tomić Aleksandar Tomić Sergej Tomović Marina Tulić Goran
Madsen Hanne Magić Zvonko Maglić Rastko Mandić Gajić Gordana Manojlović Nebojša Marković Dubravka Marković Evgenija Marković Vladana Martić Vesna Martinec Renata Mendeš Tihana Mesaroš Šarlota Mihajlović Goran Mijušković Mirjana Mijušković Željko Mikić Dragan Milan Zoka Milenković Branislava Milenković Marija Milenković Marina Milenković Saša Mileusnić Dušan Mileusnić Stevan Milić Lemić Aleksandra Miljević Čedo	Palibrk Ivan Papavramidis Theodosios Paunić Zoran Pavlović Jasna Pekmezović Tatjana Pešić Anita Petronijević Milan Petrović Milovan Plešinac Karapandžić Vesna Popadić Svetlana Popović Milica Popovska Jovičić Biljana		Unić Stojanović Dragana
	Rabrenović Violeta Radević Svetlana Radoičić Dragan Raja Jasmin Ramić Bojana Rančić Nemanja Rančić Zoran		Vezmar Kovačević Sandra Vučetić Dušan Vujkovac Bojan Vukoja Marija Vukomanović Aleksandra Vulović Maja
			Yalcinsoy Murat Yildiz Mustaf
			Zafar Sobia Zeljčić Katarina Zheng Jian Zlatanović Dragan
			Živaljević Vladan Živanović Dragoljub Živanović Željko Živković Slavoljub