



Vojnosanitetski pregled – New year, new challenges

Vojnosanitetski pregled – Nova godina, novi izazovi

Dragana Vučević

University of Defence, Faculty of Medicine of the Military Medical Academy,
Center for Medical Scientific Information, Belgrade, Serbia

Introduction

After saying farewell to 2024, the Editorial Office of *Vojnosanitetski pregled* (VSP), one of the oldest professional medical journals in the region, will remember this past year for two significant events. First, the great jubilee—VSP celebrated 80 years of existence in September 2024 ([click here](#)). The second important event was the constitution of the new international and domestic Editorial Board (EB) ([click here](#)).

Moreover, the last year will be remembered for two additional significant jubilees for the Medical Services of the Serbian Army – 180 years of existence of the Military Medical Academy ([click here](#)) and 15 years of constitution of the Faculty of Medicine of the Military Medical Academy, University of Defence in Belgrade ([click here](#)).

The first half of 2024 marked three years since the election of the previous domestic VSP EB. Considering the time-limited mandate of the EB members (except for academicians and those of very specific scientific fields), the termination of the mandate of EB members selected in 2021 was the opportunity to rejuvenate the EB by selecting new members.

The following are the new EB members from the Faculty of Medicine of the Military Medical Academy, University of Defence in Belgrade: Assoc. Prof. Vesna Begović-Kuprešanin, MD, PhD (Infectious Diseases); Assist. Prof. Mihailo Bezmarević, MD, PhD (General Surgery); Prof. Snežana Cerović, MD, PhD (Pathology); Prof. Viktorija Dragojević Simić, MD, PhD (Clinical Pharmacology); Col. Assist. Prof. Branko Košević, MD, PhD (Urology); Assoc. Prof. Boško Milev, MD, PhD (General Surgery); Col. Prof. Milan Petronijević, MD, PhD (Rheumatology); Assist. Prof. Dejan Pilčević, MD, PhD (Nephrology); Assist. Prof. Nemanja Rančić, MD, PhD (Pharmacology/Radiology/Medical Statistics); Assist. Prof. Aleksandra Vukomanović, MD, PhD (Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation) (in alphabetical order). The following are the

new EB members from the Faculty of Medicine, University of Belgrade order: Assist. Prof. Suzana Bojić, MD, PhD (Anesthesiology); Assist. Prof. Igor Končar, MD, PhD (Vascular Surgery); Prof. Olivera Kontić-Vučinić, MD, PhD (Gynecology and Obstetrics); Assoc. Prof. Dragana Miljić, MD, PhD (Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism); Assoc. Prof. Dejan Orlić, MD, PhD (Cardiology) (in alphabetical order). The new member from the Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Kragujevac, is Assist. Prof. Raša Mladenović, DDM, PhD (Dentistry). The new member from the Faculty of Medicine, University of Novi Sad, is Prof. Marija Jevtić, MD, PhD (Public Health).

The EB kept some of its previous members, namely the following ones: full members of the Serbian Academy of Science and Arts – Prof. (ret.) Bela Balint, MD, PhD, FSASA (Transfusion Medicine/Hemobiology), Brigadier General (ret.) Prof. Miodrag Čolić, MD, PhD, FSASA (Immunology), Prof. (ret.) Miodrag Ostojić, MD, PhD, FSASA (Cardiology), Prof. (ret.) Đorđe Radak, MD, PhD, FSASA (Vascular Surgery) (in alphabetical order); members from the Faculty of Medicine of the Military Medical Academy, University of Defence in Belgrade – Prof. Dragana Daković, DDM, PhD (Dentistry/Oral Medicine and Periodontology), Prof. (ret.) Silva Dobrić, BPharm, PhD (Pharmacy), Col. Prof. Boban Đorđević, MD, PhD (Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery), Assoc. Prof. Željko Mijušković, MD, PhD (Dermatology), Lieut. Col. Assoc. Prof. Aleksandar Perić, MD, PhD (Otorhinolaryngology), Prof. Dušica Stamenković, MD, PhD (Anesthesiology), Assoc. Prof. Zvezdana Stojanović, MD, PhD (Neuropsychiatry), and Col. Prof. Miroslav Vukosavljević, MD, PhD (Ophthalmology) (in alphabetical order); one member from the Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Kragujevac, Prof. Vladimir Jakovljević, MD, PhD (Medical Physiology).

Additionally, the international EB of VSP welcomed new members – distinguished subject matter experts with great professional reputations in the international scientific community. It was a privilege that the following experts accepted to become international EB members of VSP: Assoc. Prof. (ret.) Mario Abinun, MD, PhD, from the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Newcastle University, UK (Pediatric Immunology); Prof. Dejan Bokonjić, MD, PhD, from the Faculty of Medicine Foča, University of East Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina (Pediatric Pulmonology); Prof. Marla Dubinsky, MD, from the Icahn School of Medicine, Mount Sinai New York, USA (Gastroenterology); Prof. David A. Geller, MD, from the University of Pittsburgh, USA (Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic Surgery); Prof. Predrag Gligorović, MD, MHA, from the Wake Forest University School of Medicine, USA (Psychiatry/Behavioral Medicine); Prof. Zoran Ivanović, MD, PhD, from the French Blood Institute *Nouvelle Aquitaine*, Bordeaux, France (Stem and Progenitor Cell Biology/Cell Therapy); Prof. Nebojša Nick Knežević, MD, PhD, from the College of Medicine, University of Illinois, Chicago, USA (Anesthesiology/Pain medicine); Assist. Prof. Boštjan Lanišnik, MD, PhD, from the University Medical Center Maribor, Slovenia (Rhinology/Otolaryngology); Prof. (ret.) Desa Lilić, MD, PhD, from the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Newcastle University, UK (Clinical Immunology); Prof. Janko Ž. Nikolich, MD, PhD, from the University of Arizona College of Medicine-Tucson, USA (Immunology/Gerontology); Prof. Mirjana D. Pavlović, MD, PhD, from the Florida Atlantic University, Florida, USA (Bioengineering); Prof. Vesna Petronić-Rosić, MD, MSc, from the University of Illinois Chicago, USA (Dermatology); Assoc. Prof. Chaitanya P. Puranik, MDS, PhD, from the School of Dental Medicine University of Colorado, USA (Pediatric Dentistry/Dental Materials); Prof. Corey A. Siegel, MD, MSc, from the Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, New Hampshire, USA (Gastroenterology); Assoc. Prof. Lina Zuccatosta, MD, from the Interventional Pulmonology Unit Antonio Cardarelli Hospital Naples, Italy (Respiratory Diseases/Interventional Pulmonology) (in alphabetical order).

We would like to thank all former EB members of VSP whose mandate has been terminated. Special thanks go to the following former members, in alphabetical order: Col. Assoc. Prof. Srđan Lazić, MD, PhD; Col. Prof. (ret.) Dragan Mikić, MD, PhD; Prof. Branka Nikolić, MD, PhD; Col. Prof. Slobodan Obradović, MD, PhD; Assoc. Prof. Biserka Vukomanović Đurđević, MD, PhD. These people spared no time in the last three years and invested great effort to elevate the journal's reputation. We truly believe that our successful collaboration will continue in the future.

Once again, we would like to thank the new members of the EB for their willingness to accept this responsible duty and make the maximum contribution to the further improvement of the journal. We wish all the members of the EB a lot of success in their editorial work, and we hope that in the next three years, we will achieve, if not all, most of the set goals.

According to the previous practice, the first issue of the journal's new volume will present an overview of the work of

its Editorial Office and EB in the past year, emphasizing the main characteristics of the received and published articles.

Last year, a total of 292 manuscripts were received. The number of received manuscripts was higher for 66 manuscripts compared to the previous year when that number was 226 and got closer to the number of manuscripts received in 2020 and 2021, 280 and 278, respectively. The submitted articles covered various topics related to clinical and experimental medicine, dentistry, and pharmacy. As usual, the largest number was from the category Original Articles (207 or 70.9%) and Case Reports (46 or 15.8%) (Table 1).

Table 1
Categories and the number of manuscripts submitted to the *Vojnosanitetski Pregled* in 2024

Category	Manuscripts
	n (%)
Original Articles	207 (70.9)
Case Reports	46 (15.8)
Current Topics	10 (3.4)
General Review	8 (2.7)
History of Medicine	6 (2.1)
Letter to the Editor	5 (1.7)
Editorial	4 (1.4)
Meta-analysis	4 (1.4)
Short Communications	1 (0.3)
Book Review	1 (0.3)
Total	292 (100)

The analysis of the institutions where the authors of submitted papers work showed that 88.8% of authors came from so-called civilian health and academic institutions, of which about 46.5% were from abroad, and 11.2% were from the University of Defence in Belgrade.

We are especially proud of foreign authors for submitting their manuscripts from 16 countries, not only from our region but also from all around the world: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, China, Croatia, India, Iran, Italia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey, and the United States of America (in alphabetical order). Thank you for your trust. A particularly pleasing fact is that the percentage of papers submitted by (co)authors from abroad increased in 2024 (47.7%) compared to 2023 (32.1%), indicating an increased interest in our journal in the international scientific community. It is expected that the number of papers published by foreign authors will increase in the next period, thus further affecting the international recognition of the VSP.

We declined 49.1% of manuscripts in the pre-review phase, and 50.8% entered the review stage.

Among reviewed manuscripts, until December 30, 2024, we accepted 48.6% for publication (after correction) and rejected 20.5%. The remaining 30.8% are still in the process of peer review. The total number of articles that were in the process of receiving DOI numbers in 2024 (including the ones submitted for consideration before 2024) was 92. They will be published in printed form in future issues.

In 2024, we published 102 articles, including 2 book reviews (Table 2). The number of published manuscripts was lower than in the previous years. Part of the reason for that was the decision of the EB to reduce the number of published papers *per* volume since the influx of papers during 2022 and 2023 was smaller, 264 and 222, respectively, compared to previous years. Simultaneously, the percentage of rejected papers in the pre-review stage in 2024 increased by 5% compared to 2023. As in previous years, the majority of the published articles were classified as Original Articles (68 or 66.7%) and Case Reports (15 or 14.7%). After analyzing the authors' affiliations from the published articles, it could be seen that the largest number of authors were from the so-called civilian institutions, domestic and foreign (81.4%), of which about 22.4% were from abroad, followed by authors from the University of Defence in Belgrade (18.6%).

Once more, we would like to thank most sincerely all the authors who chose VSP to present their results, especially the foreign authors. We hope that with your assistance and support, we will be able to increase the VSP's impact in the scientific and academic community.

According to the Center for Evaluation in Education and Science database, the average time from submission to first decision in 2024 was 47 days, and from submission to online ahead-of-print publication was 175 days which was approximate to the value of the same parameters of the editorial review process in 2023, 51 and 209 days, respectively.

According to the EBSCO database, the number of downloads of the VSP articles published in 2024 was 4,903. The number of downloads was 1,264 times higher compared to the previous year. In total, 10 articles published in 2024 were downloaded more than 100 times (Table 3), and 77 articles were downloaded more than 20 times. The highest

Table 2

**Categories and the number of articles published
in the *Vojnosanitetski Pregled* in 2024**

Category	Articles
	n (%)
Original Articles	68 (66.7)
Case Reports	15 (14.7)
Editorial	4 (3.9)
History of Medicine / History of Dentistry	4 (3.9)
Letter to the Editor	3 (2.9)
General Review	2 (2)
Current Topic	2 (2)
Book Review	2 (2)
Short Communications	1 (1)
Preliminary Report	1 (1)
Total	102 (100)

Table 3

The articles downloaded more than 100 times arranged according to their number of downloads (N)

Article title (DOI)	Corresponding author	N
Association between eating habits and low physical activity in adolescents (https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP230131058D)	Dragan Djurdjević	396
Assessment of depression in patients with open-angle glaucoma (https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP230831008C)	Aleksandra Cvetković	197
Job satisfaction of healthcare professionals in palliative care departments and factors affecting job satisfaction during the COVID-19 pandemic (https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP230831060S)	Olivera Milovanović	161
Hyperoxia therapy for prevention of postoperative nausea and vomiting after breast cancer surgery (https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP230522059M)	Nora Mihalek	131
Does hospital medical staff maintain hospital disaster resilience? (https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP230727067G)	Mariya Georgieva Georgieva	123
Sex differences in the prognostic value of computed tomography pulmonary angiography parameters for intrahospital acute pulmonary embolism-related death (https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP240109023B)	Slobodan Obradović	121
Sociodemographic factors related to internet addiction among adolescents in Serbia (https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP240307037P)	Teodora Safiye	117
Hospital professional staff awareness of hospital plans for the provision of teams for medical support in case of disasters (https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP231229015G)	Mariya Georgieva Georgieva	112
Translation, transcultural adaptation, and validation of the Serbian version of the University of Washington Quality of Life (UW-QoL) Questionnaire – a pilot study (https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP231020002S)	Dragana Stanišić	109
Thymic hyperplasia as a rare etiology of pure red cell aplasia (https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP230803045A)	Isidora Arsenović	102

number of downloads of an article was 396, and the title of that article is *Association between eating habits and low physical activity in adolescents* (DOI: <https://doi.org/10.2298/VSP230131058D>). In total, 2,489 universities, colleges, libraries, and other institutions worldwide accessed the papers published in VSP in 2024 more than 69,970 times. In the first two places were Pukyong National University (South Korea) with 9,631 downloads and Stanford University (USA) with 6,894 downloads. That encourages us to continue our editorial policy in 2025. We hope that, in the future, we will be able to continue publishing educational and important papers for all our readers.

The VSP impact factor for 2023, published in July 2024, did not change compared to the previous year (2022), and it was 0.2. Therefore, one of our key goals should be to restrict the selection of papers and publish only those that will attract the scientific community's attention and have the potential to be cited for the quality and topic they cover. To accomplish this goal, we require great involvement of all members of the EB of VSP. In addition, it is necessary to select reviewers who are not only subject matter experts but are also willing to invest their time and knowledge in enhancing the journal's quality.

During 2024, we were very fortunate to receive the support of 229 reviewers (Table 4). We are using this opportunity to express our gratitude to all of them. Our special thanks go to Professors Gordana Dedić, Ljubica

Đukanović, Slobodan Janković, Smiljana Kostić, Milan Lepić, Saša Milenković, Nataša Petronijević, and Marina Svetel (in alphabetical order) who reviewed more than two manuscripts during 2024.

The equally big challenge we have been facing for many years is how to motivate domestic authors to publish the best results of their scientific work in VSP and not in "stronger" scientific journals. To overcome this challenge, we expect support from the VSP Publishing Advisory Board, whose members are always willing to listen to the key issues in the Editorial Office activities and offer support in critical times. Their understanding and willingness to help were and will remain outstanding support for the journal.

Furthermore, this is the opportunity to thank all the associates of the VSP Editorial Office, especially those who contributed maximally to publishing all 12 journal issue numbers planned for 2024 on time.

Looking ahead, we encourage all our authors and readers to suggest the changes they consider relevant to help us strengthen our position among the most valued journals from the biomedical science field.

As we begin this new year, let us all have a renewed sense of purpose for our work. We hope 2025 brings us highly cited publications and, of course, excellent health and good relationships with our family and friends. We wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year and warmly welcome submissions of excellent new articles in 2024.

Table 4

Reviewers of the *Vojnosanitetski pregled* in 2024

Adžić Tatjana	Ćupurdija Vojislav	Gebauer-Bukurov Ksenija	Končar Igor
Ajduk Marko		Georgievski Brkić Biljana	Kostić Dejan
Amidžić Jelena	Dacić Sanja	Glišić Miodrag	Kostić Milena
Andrić Filipović Snežana	Damjanov Dimitrije	Grubović Rastvorčeva Rada	Kostić Smiljana
Antić Ana	Darkwah Oppong Marvin	Gullo Giuseppe	Kovačević Aleksandra
Arsenović-Ranin Nevena	Davidović Lazar		Kravljaja Milica
Atanasković Lavinika	Dedić Gordana	Ilić Jugoslav	Krivošejev Vladimir
	Delić Dragan	Ilić Živojinović Jelena	Krstovski Nada
Babić Aleksandra	Denda Dalibor	Ivetić Dražen	
Bajkin Branislav	Dimić Janjić Sanja		Laušević Mirjana
Bančević Vladimir	Dinčić Evica	Jačević Vesna	Lazarević Gordana
Basta Nikolić Marijana	Doknić Mirjana	Janković Slobodan	Lepić Milan
Baščarević Zoran	Dragičević Danijela	Janković Srdja	Lepić Toplica
Begović Kuprešanin Vesna	Dragović Tamara	Jelić Svetlana	Lučić Miloš A.
Bezmarević Mihailo	Dukanac Vesna	Jocić Miodrag	Lučić Silvija
Bila Jelena		Jovanović Dejan	Lukić Ljiljana
Biočanin Vladimir	Džopalić Tanja	Jovanović Dragan	
Božić Bojana		Jovanović Dragana	Manojlović Nebojša
Božić Marija	Djokić Dragoljub	Jovanović Vesna	Marčetić Mirjana
Božić Milena	Djordjević Boban	Jović Marko	Marić Dragana
Brajušković Goran	Djordjević Dragan	Jović Rajko	Marić Gorica
Brašanac Dimitrije	Djordjević Miroslav	Jović Zoran	Marić Nadja
Brdareski Zorica	Djukanović Ljubica	Jovičić Bojan	Marić Nebojša
Brkić Zlata	Djurić Milanko	Jovičić Jelena	Marjanović Ivan
Burić Nikola			Marković Evgenija
	El Rahal Amir	Karan Radmila	Marković Vladana
Cerovac Nataša	Elez Marija	Kesić Ljiljana	Matić Milan
Cikota Bojana		Kezić Aleksandra	Matijašević Jovan
	Filipović Branko	Kiković Saša	Matijević Stevo
Čvorović Ljiljana	Folić Miljan	Knežević Vladimir	Mihailović-Stanojević
		Kocić Gordana	Nevena
Ćeranić Miljan	Gajić Branislava	Kojović Vladimir	Mijatović Jovanović Vesna

Table 4 (continued)

Mijušković Željko	Odalović Marina	Ristanović Elizabeta	Tadić Ivana
Milenković Branislava		Ristić Dragana	Tarabar Dino
Milenković Marina	Padjen Višnja	Ristić Petar	Tepšić Ostojić Vesna
Milenković Saša	Pajić Matić Ivana	Roganović Jelena	Testarelli Luca
Miličić Vesna	Pasin Ōzge	Roš Tatjana	Tiplica George-Sorin
Milić-Lemić Aleksandra	Pavlović Milorad	Rotim Krešimir	Todorović Balint Milena
Miljević Čedo	Pavlović Nebojša		Todorović Ljubomir
Milojević Milan	Pejčić Ana	Safiye Teodora	Todorović Veljko
Miloradović Vladimir	Pekmezović Tatjana	Samardžić Predojević	Todorović Zoran
Milosavljević Marko	Perić Aneta	Jelica	Trifunović Zoran
Milošević Ivana	Pešić Anita	Savić Slobodan	Trivunić Dajko Sandra
Milošević Vuk	Pešut Dragica	Sekulić Igor	
Milovanović Andjela	Petronijević Milan	Semnic Marija	Unić Dragana
Milovanović Dragan	Petronijević Miloš	Sinobad Vladimir	Urošević Ivana
Milovanović Srdjan	Petronijević Nataša	Sladojević Miloš	
Mirković Ljiljana	Petrović Sladjana	Smiljanić Kosara	Vanmarcke Cedric
Mišović Miroslav	Pilčević Dejan	Srzentić Snežana	Vasović Dolika
Mitevska Irena	Polovina Snežana	Stanetić Mirko	Veličkov Aleksandra
Mitić Branka	Popadić Svetlana	Stankov Karmen	Vlahović Zoran
Mitković Milan	Popović Dušan	Stanković Nebojša	Vojinović Radiša
Mladenović Raša	Popović Jelena	Stanojević Ivan	Vorgučin Ivana
Mojsilović Slavko	Popović Milica	Stepić Nenad	Vučković Ljiljana
Munitlak Staša		Stević Marija	Vujašković Mirjana
	Radjen Slavica	Stojičić Milan	Vujčić Isidora
Nejković Lazar	Radević Svetlana	Stojković Branislava	Vukmirović Saša
Nešković Vojislava	Radoičić Dragan	Stojković Mirjana	Vukomanović Aleksandra
Nikolić Jakoba Nataša	Radunović Aleksandar	Svetel Marina	Vuković Natalija
Nikolić Jelena	Rahelić Dario		
Nožić Darko	Rančić Nemanja	Šarac Sanja	Živanović Željko
	Rasulić Lukas	Šuljagić Vesna	Živković Slavoljub
Obradović Rada	Ratković Dragana	Šurbatović Maja	
Obradović Slobodan	Resan Mirko	Šušnjević Sonja	Zubelić Aleksa