

Spanish Journal of Acute and Emergency Care: challenges for 2026

Revista Española de Urgencias y Emergencias: retos para 2026

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Emergency and Urgent Care Medicine (EUC) in Spain and *Rev Esp Urg Emerg* face the beginning of 2026 with new challenges. The first 82 Spanish EUC Resident Physicians (MIR) in the civilian sector (there are already 18 specialists in Emergency and Urgent Care Medicine either trained or in training within Spanish military operations)¹ will select their residency positions after the examination scheduled for January 24 and are expected to join their training units during the summer months.² This historic milestone will mark the beginning of a new era for EUC in our country: a turning point in the educational activity already being developed by hospital emergency departments and Emergency Medical Systems, adaptation of educational organization to the specialty, new roles in clinical training, necessary integration of levels of care, alignment with other specialties and residents, and, of course, improvement in research activity in EUC.^{3,4}

It is in this last area where *Rev Esp Urg Emerg* faces its first major challenge: together with the journal *EMERGENCIAS*, it must lead the dissemination of research carried out by physicians, nurses, and emergency medical technicians in EUC in Spain, ensuring that the growing scholarly output driven by MIR training is formally published, without contributing to the expanding burden of gray literature and pseudo-scientific publications that currently proliferate—often through social media platforms, not subjected to prior peer review, although exposed to immediate, massive (a factor editors must consider), and fleeting scrutiny. These two journals are not the only vehicles for scientific communication in EUC, but they are among the few published in the Spanish language.

Aware of this reality, the Board of Directors of the Spanish Society of Emergency and Urgent Care Medicine (SEMES), which in 2022 supported the creation of this second scientific journal, has decided to provide new momentum to the publication, beginning with the full

translation of all issues into English. This will increase the international visibility of the work published in *Rev Esp Urg Emerg* and help achieve the second major challenge: indexing in international repositories that use English as the primary language. In addition, the journal has introduced new author guidelines covering ethical standards, authorship (CRediT criteria), CARE criteria for clinical case reports, sex and gender perspectives, and considerations for vulnerable populations.

Moreover, the number of pages per issue has been expanded from 60 to 80, which will help consolidate the third major challenge: increasing the number of educational articles in multiple formats, including SEMES Working Group Decalogues, Educational Capsules for Residents (in collaboration with the Catholic University of Chile), EUC Techniques, Expert Opinion (Dr. Larrey's Roundtables), Clinical Management, and, finally, Innovation and New Technologies. These sections will be progressively incorporated throughout 2026, initially without fixed periodicity, similar to other international generalist journals such as *Emergency Medicine*.

A 4th challenge corresponds to the rapid emergence of generative artificial intelligence (GAI), both in clinical practice⁵ and in editorial processes. In this issue, 2 studies address this topic, conducted by the groups of Nogué-Xarau *et al.*⁶ and Carballo-Cardona *et al.*,⁷ with additional perspective provided by an editorial from Millán Soria *et al.*⁸ Similarly, various editorial boards and publishers have issued statements and guidelines on the use of GAI tools in scientific writing and peer review.^{9,10} Much remains to be done, with innovations to be introduced and a paradigm shift underway in scientific authorship and the editorial process—tasks already being addressed by Editorial SEMES.

Since September 2025, this journal has been included in a 5th bibliographic repository, SciELO Spain—Scientific Electronic Library Online, managed by the National Library of

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Health Sciences of *Instituto de Salud Carlos III* (Madrid, Spain). Thus, we continue to move forward, achieving incremental milestones aligned with the journal's development strategy established by the Editorial Committee and

endorsed by SEMES. Challenges are plentiful, motivation is strong, and—equally important—we count on the support and commitment of reviewers and the trust of authors in this editorial project that continues to consolidate.

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