



## Vojnosanitetski pregled – New year, new challenges

*Vojnosanitetski pregled – Nova godina, novi izazovi*

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### 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. Nikolic, 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%).

**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 |

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

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

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

**Table 4 (continued)**

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