

*Editorial*

# Introducing a New Journal in Immunology and Allergy

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Immunology—as well as its sisters fields of Clinical immunology and Allergy—has been a powerful innovative discipline solidly based in the development of vaccines during the 20th century and the discovery of structure and function of antibodies, followed by the understanding of the cellular basis of immunity. The clinical aspects were recognized as deviations of the immune system functioning, with specialized (IgE) immune responses mounted against harmless antigens (allergy) or against self structures or organs (following the seminal work of Sir Macfarlane Burnet on self/non self discrimination), with the discovery of LE cell phenomenon and rheumatoid factor as an autoantibody. The recognition of inborn defects of immunity shaping our way to manifest infectious disease symptoms, sometimes leading to lethal consequences, occurred along with the findings implicating the immune system in anti-tumor defences. The field of allergy was reconciled with mainstream immunology when specific cytokines and T lymphocyte subsets (T2) were found to be the leading forces driving IgE production and eosinophil development—the effectors of allergic reactions, while molecular insights into the nature of allergens were improving our understanding of crossreactivity and the mechanism of several allergic manifestations (e.g., the alpha-Gal syndrome). As for autoimmunity, many more disease entities were recognized as having an autoimmune pathogenesis, from type 1 diabetes to several neurological syndromes. The field of organ (and then cell) transplantation developed with the availability of more selective immunosuppressive drugs, whereas tumor immunology made a giant leap forward with the identification of regulatory T cells and their mechanisms of control, paving the way to immune checkpoint inhibitors.

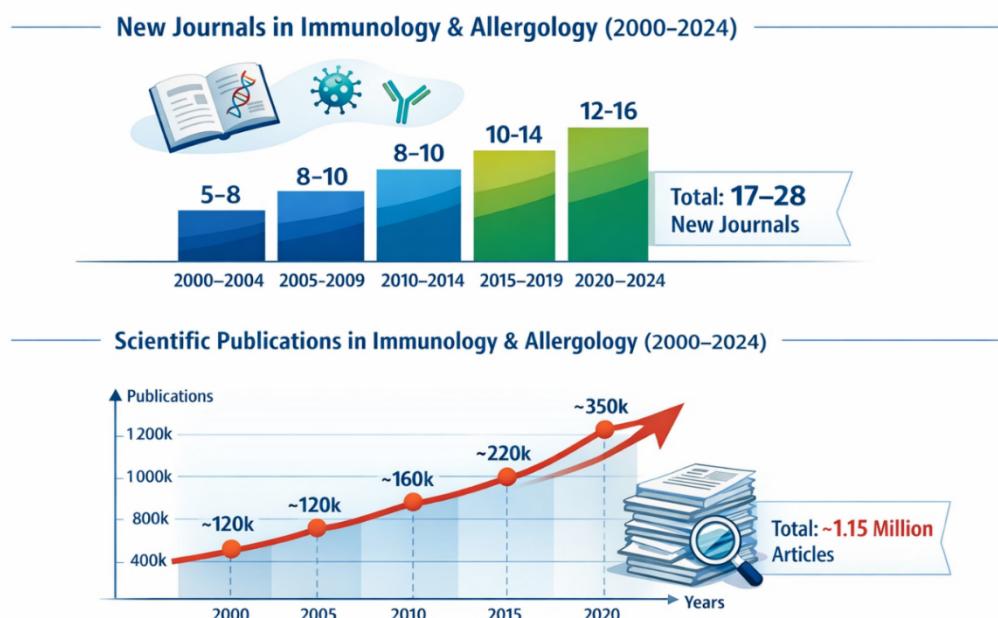
The remarkable successes of immunology—as applied to many medical fields—have been recognized with several Nobel laureates, 7 in the past ten years (in 2018, 2023 and 2025), and generally in nine instances in the past quarter century the prize was awarded for discoveries with relevance to the field of immunology. These peaks in scientific advances were accompanied by a tremendous increase in the number of publications under the subject headings of immunology or allergy, exceeding 1 million articles with constant growth from 2000 to 2025 (see Figure 1). The scientific output requested the expansion of the publishing area, so also the number of new journals focusing on immunology and/or allergy increased rapidly, as illustrated in Figure 1.

The reason for a new journal in immunology and allergy is then simple: the growing number of studies in areas related to immunology and allergy, both in fundamental, translational, and clinical immunology and allergy needs a new high-quality space for reports of technological advances, therapeutic and diagnostic breakthroughs as well as for reviews and point of views. Dissemination of new findings is vital to emerging scientists, but there is a need also for a more reasoned examination of the implications of the research, with interdisciplinary approaches linking allergy and immunology to microbiology, infectious diseases, oncology, neurology, rheumatology, pneumology and dermatology. Therefore studies integrating computational, systems, and structural immunology are welcome, as well as the use of AI assisted methods for discovery, diagnosis and therapy. The *Journal of Immunological and Allergy Studies* aims to foster the dialogue between basic scientists, clinicians, and public health researchers. The journal will also highlight global health perspectives in immunology and allergy. I sincerely wish a good start to this Journal which is providing a forum for the intersection of *in vitro* and *in vivo* studies, both in humans and in experimental models. Its rigorous standards will ensure the quality of the publications, and the many areas covered will provide communication among scientists with different backgrounds, leading to fertile new ideas and studies.



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**Figure 1.** Expansion of immunology and allergology research from 2000 to 2024.

The upper panel shows the estimated number of new peer-reviewed journals in the fields of immunology and allergology introduced in consecutive five-years periods since 2000, highlighting a substantial increase after 2010. The lower panel illustrates the cumulative growth of scientific publications in these disciplines, with a pronounced acceleration over the last decade, exceeding approximately 1.15 million articles overall.

Estimates are based on bibliometric analyses of major scientific databases, including PubMed and Web of Science.

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## Conflicts of Interest

The author declares no conflict of interest. Given the role as Editor-in-Chief, Roberto Paganelli had no involvement in the peer review of this paper and had no access to information regarding its peer-review process. Full responsibility for the editorial process of this paper was delegated to another editor of the journal.

## Use of AI and AI-Assisted Technologies

During the preparation of this work, the author used Chat GPT5 to prepare the Figure and the caption. After using this service, the author reviewed and edited the content as needed and takes full responsibility for the content of the published article.”