

79th Anniversary of the Argentine Society of Cardiology

79 Aniversario de la Sociedad Argentina de Cardiología

The Argentine Society of Cardiology celebrates 79 years of existence. Just as people tend to take stock of their lives and projects, institutions are also evaluated based on those goals accomplished and on what remains to be done.

And in this history about the birth of the Argentine Society of Cardiology, the Argentine Journal of Cardiology has a foundational role.

The Argentine Journal of Cardiology (RAC) was born in 1934. Until then, prominent cardiologists of Argentina published in different journals since there was no specialized publication that would bring them together.

The creation of the Journal allowed, among other achievements, the collection of information and statistics and demonstrated the strong impact of cardiovascular disease morbidity and mortality in Argentina. As a result, the cardiac assistance dispensaries in the Municipality of Buenos Aires were created in 1934. These dispensaries were the foundation of the municipal cardiology services, which was finally achieved in 1949.

In mid-1935, a group of doctors including some members of the Journal created an "honor commission". That commission intended to publicly invite all those interested to enter a society of cardiology. Finally, the Argentine Society of Cardiology was formally established on April 9, 1937.

This exercise of presenting needs, their discussion and search for consensus has been one of the driving forces behind new projects over the years. The Society, with its 79 years, still has the same spirit of seeking consensual solutions as in its original design.

But the existence of a Statute and Regulation for its internal management defines our actions and has so far been the framework for all institutional operations. The standardization of rules, processes and procedures is a tool that has been created by those who have preceded us in the conduction of this institution and upon which much remains to be done yet.

The complexity of the world we live in, as well as the abundance of scientific knowledge we have today, forces us to organize ourselves in pursuit of maximizing results while minimizing the use of resources. And so, the coordinated and efficient participation of all those involved is essential.

In the age of technology and telecommunications, we cannot stay behind. Reality requires us to keep

updated with the context and leads us to implement more modern methods of continuous updating and new ways of working.

In this regard, the Society has invested a lot of energy to make an indoor design, which is beginning to be reflected "outdoors". Our members will be able to participate in SAC activities wherever they are. And for that, the use of new technologies has been our latest ally.

The accomplishment of a new academic project, which involves the integration of all SAC formative areas towards standardization of services and the possibility of carrying out a process of continuous improvement, is a big step towards achieving educational services of great quality.

The incorporation of all our courses in the web, including PROSAC, will enable continuous and constant updating, with material available 24 hours a day worldwide, and with the guarantee of the Argentine Society of Cardiology.

The next step is to offer our services to anyone who can benefit, even beyond our borders. And that expansion is possible with the new Internet-based tools available today. Our presence in the web and in the media and the ability of "remote" interaction using Webex, Skype, Moodle, Facebook, Twitter, among others, becomes something as essential as the creation of that first *Argentine Journal of Cardiology*.

WikiCardio is a clear example of how a project originated in our Society and "uploaded" in the web can be a success and available to everyone. Since its launch in December 2015, the Society has received praise from the press and other institutions for the originality of the site, its usefulness and unlimited scope and unrestricted content; thus, WikiCardio has become a successful model to follow.

Here are some examples, among many other projects, of the road undertaken today by our society that at the age of 79 years is younger and more alive than ever.

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