

Vacancy: Editor-in-Chief, *Thorax*

BMJ is looking for the next Editor-in-Chief who will continue to shape *Thorax* as one of the world's leading respiratory journals, prioritising originality, rigour and excellence. *Thorax* publishes significant advances in scientific understanding which are likely to impact on clinical practice.

The ideal candidate will have a strong vision that advances the journal's international reputation, profile and mission to publish engaging and informed content. They will appoint and lead the editorial team, actively promoting and strengthening the journal and upholding the highest standards concerning editorial policies and professional practice. They will recognise the need to engage the journal's audiences at all levels, develop its print and online content, and extend its reach.

About *Thorax*

Thorax (thorax.bmj.com) is published by BMJ in partnership with the British Thoracic Society. With an impact factor of 10.844 (JCR 2019), it is one of the most cited and widely read journals in the field (ranked 5th in 'Respiratory Science'). It publishes cutting-edge research and review papers across the breadth of respiratory medicine and related specialties. The journal receives over 1500 submissions per year and has a mean time from submission to first editorial decision of 14 days.

About the role

The Editor-in-Chief has overall responsibility for the content and strategy of the journal, with support from their appointed editorial team and BMJ publishing staff. The successful candidate will have stature in the field of respiratory medicine, a distinguished publication record, and experience of working in a senior editorial role on an academic journal. The Editor-in-Chief is appointed by the journal's co-owners and reports into the management committee. They should expect to spend the equivalent of one day per week on journal activities.

The main responsibilities of the Editor-in-Chief include, but are not limited to:

- Providing the highest possible quality of scientific content to augment the knowledge, impact and practice of clinicians involved in the field
- Developing and maintaining an internationally relevant and coherent scientific strategy and vision for the journal
- Building and maintaining a supportive team of highly qualified international colleagues to serve as members of the editorial board and reviewers
- Encouraging submission of high quality papers
- Ensuring the integrity of the review process and providing guidance to authors, reviewers and editorial team members as appropriate
- Developing procedures for effective triage and review of scientific manuscripts to ensure timely and excellent support is maintained for authors and reviewers

- Adding value to the journal by commissioning editorials, reviews, educational material and online content
- Supervising the journal's response to appeals, complaints, suggestions from readers and ethical problems regarding published work
- Overseeing the social media strategy for the title
- Working collaboratively with the Editors of the companion journal, *BMJ Open Respiratory Research* to develop a joint content strategy and optimise article transfers

The Editor-in-Chief benefits from the following:

- Competitive annual honorarium
- Full training and support
- Professional advice and guidance on all aspects of journal publishing
- Membership of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE)
- Attendance at the annual networking Editors' Retreat hosted by BMJ in London
- Free subscription to *Thorax* and exclusive access to BMJ content, including *The BMJ* and BMJ Learning
- Interaction with the latest research from around the world
- The chance to shape the field and play a role in the development of the specialty

Applicants need not be based in the UK, and international and joint applications are welcome. An excellent standard of written English will be required.

This is an independent contractor position and the term of office is 5 years. To ensure a smooth transition it is envisaged that the new Editor-in-Chief will work alongside the current team for several months before taking up the post fully in August 2022.

How to apply

Please send a full CV and covering letter outlining your suitability for the role and your vision for the future of *Thorax*. Shortlisted candidates will be asked to provide a detailed analysis of the journal as part of the selection process. Please email your application to: Henry Spilberg, Associate Publisher, BMJ Journals (hspilberg@bmj.com), with the subject line 'Thorax Editor Recruitment'. Candidates may approach one of the current Editors-in-Chief for an informal discussion before making an application (contact details provided on request).

The deadline for applications is 17:00 BST on **31 May 2021**. Interviews will be held remotely via videoconference in June/July 2021.

About BMJ

BMJ ([bmj.com/company](https://www.bmj.com/company)) is a global healthcare knowledge provider with a vision for a healthier world. We share knowledge and expertise to improve healthcare outcomes. You may know us as the publisher of one of the world's most cited general medical journals, *The BMJ*. We also publish over 70 specialty journals, many of which are the most influential titles in their field. We also offer digital professional development courses and clinical decision support tools to help medical institutions and clinicians tackle today's most critical healthcare challenges.