

This is the second fully electronic version of the official Journal for International Association for Ambulatory Surgery (IAAS).

Naturally we still have room for improvements in the technical set-up of the Journal – please feel free to contact the webmaster of the IAAS website if you have proposals for improvements or if you have complaints.

I will also suggest that you visit the website – [www.iaas-med.com](http://www.iaas-med.com) - in order to learn more about our Association. There are many initiatives taken by the IAAS and the most recent where we together with the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies have made a Policy Brief concerning ambulatory surgery can be admitted through the web site.

The latest international congress in Amsterdam April this year was a great success. You may read the abstract as an addendum to this Journal. The next congresses in Brisbane 2009 and Copenhagen 2011 have their own websites also available through the website so you have the possibility to keep updated.

In this edition we like to elucidate the history of the IAAS and therefore the first 11 years are described in the first two documents. We also like to stress the conditions for admitting and acceptance of papers for the Journal and have included the instructions for authors. These instructions will also be available at the Internet site of the Journal.

We in the IAAS believe that ambulatory surgery has come to stay – in fact it is the most important contribution to the organisation of surgery in modern time, and in many countries more than 50 % of all surgery is done in an ambulatory setting.

Therefore we find the activities of IAAS important: The congresses, the membership, the initiatives, and last but not least the Ambulatory Surgery Journal. Contributions to the Journal are therefore more than welcome in order to keep this Journal as the most important source for knowledge about ambulatory surgery.

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President, IAAS