Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases (ARD) is the leading journal in the field with an impact factor of 10.377 (2015 JCR). It is an international peer reviewed journal committed to promoting the highest standards of scientific exchange and education. It covers all aspects of rheumatology which includes the full spectrum of musculoskeletal conditions, arthritic diseases and connective tissue disorders. Further information can be found at ard.bmj.com.

EULAR and BMJ now seek to appoint a new editor in chief ahead of the retirement of the current editor, in April 2017.

This individual should have stature in the field of rheumatology, a distinguished publication record, and editorial experience. The successful candidate will recognise the need to engage the journal’s audiences at all levels and develop its clinical content and global reach. They will establish a vision for the role that continues the momentum created by the current editorial team, advances the journal’s international reputation and profile, and provides engaging and informed content.

The Editor in Chief reports directly to the management committee of the journal consisting of EULAR and BMJ representatives. They will have final responsibility for the editorial content and strategy of ARD, with support from their appointed editorial team, and both organisations. Editorial training and technical support will be provided, together with strategic guidance. An annual stipend is provided as well as experienced editorial office support. The Editor in Chief should expect to spend approximately 15-20 hours per week for journal related activities.

The main responsibilities of the Editor-in-Chief include, but are not limited to:
1. Provide the highest possible quality of scientific content that augments the knowledge, impact and practice of clinicians involved in the field
2. Develop and maintain an internationally relevant and coherent scientific strategy and vision for the journal
3. Build a supportive team of highly qualified international colleagues to serve as members of the editorial board and reviewers
4. Maintain and ensure the integrity of the review process and publishing ethics providing guidance to authors and reviewers as appropriate
5. Encourage submissions of high-quality papers
6. Develop procedures for effective triage and review of scientific manuscripts to ensure timely and excellent support is maintained for authors and reviewers
7. Add value to the journal by commissioning editorials, reviews and related content and any features that serve the interests of the rheumatology community.
8. To supervise the journal’s response to appeals, complaints, suggestions from readers and ethical problems regarding published work (e.g., possible duplicate publication, scientific fraud etc)

Applications for the position should include:
1. Letter of application outlining the candidate’s editorial experiences and policy, vision for the future development, and strengths, weakness, opportunities and threats for the journal (a basic analysis of the journal and its competitors)
2. CV addressing publication, editorial, and administrative experience

Applications (or requests for further information) should be sent to: Ms Christiane Notarmarco, Publisher, BMJ, cnotarmarco@bmj.com.

Closing date for applications is 30 April 2016. Interviews will be held in May or June 2016 in Zurich, Switzerland. It is envisaged that the successful candidate will work alongside the current editor for a period, and officially take up the post of Editor in Chief in April 2017. The term of office will be 5 years.