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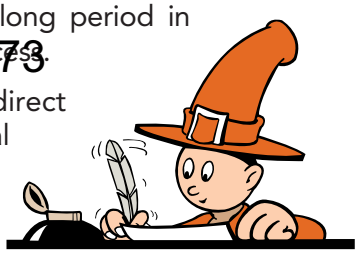
How a review in *Prescrire* is produced

***Prescrire*'s reviews are produced through a complex, collective editing process, which has been fine-tuned over the years. With a very few exceptions (which are clearly indicated) the reviews published in *Prescrire* are all written and edited entirely by *Prescrire*'s Editorial Staff.**

Almost all of *Prescrire*'s editors are doctors, pharmacists, nurses or dentists, most of whom spend a large part of their working time in active clinical practice. They have all received in-house training over a long period in *Prescrire*'s editorial production process.



The absence of any direct or indirect financial links to the pharmaceutical industry is an absolute requirement to be a member of the Prescrire team.

A collective editorial process

For each section, the choice of proposed articles is made collectively by a group of editors. The editors work with Prescrire's information search specialists to devise a literature search strategy. An exceptionally large number of persons are involved in rereading *Prescrire*'s articles. Groups of 10 to 40 reveiwers are specially put together for each text, bringing together outside specialists, *Prescrire* editors and individuals representative of *Prescrire*'s readership.

An editor is put in charge of each proposed subject, backed up by a referring editor. The choice of the word "editor" rather than "author" serves to underscore the collective nature of the way that *Prescrire*'s texts are produced. For the same reason, texts are signed collectively "*Prescrire*".

Adapting Prescrire's reviews for an international audience

Prescrire International publishes translations of selected articles from the French edition. The translation process is perfectly in line with the collective editorial procedures which have guaranteed the quality of the French edition over the years.

Budget

The cost of this production process is entirely financed by *Prescrire*'s subscribers, all of whom pay for their subscriptions (see the financial report published each year in the May issue). The cost is in keeping with what it buys: the guarantee of the most reliable information possible.

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