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Thank you to our contributors and peer reviewers in 2022

With the COVID-19 pandemic slowly receding, 2022 felt like a tentative step toward normality. Nonetheless, SARS-CoV-2 continues to challenge populations and health systems globally, and questions and uncertainties remain among patients who are immunocompromised—including many with rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases. Reflecting these ongoing questions, a third of the research Articles published in *The Lancet Rheumatology* in 2022 were related to COVID-19 (a similar proportion as in 2021), as were nearly half of the Comments (including 18 research-based Comments).

As always, the rigorous work published in our journal is only possible as a result of the dedication and commitment of our peer reviewers. We are extremely grateful to the 275 individuals who delivered thoughtful, constructive, and rapid feedback on submitted manuscripts, despite often challenging circumstances and ever-increasing demands on their time.

In 2022, we continued to strive for equity and diversity in peer review and research. In the first half of the year (for which we have available data), 53% of our clinical reviewers self-reported as male, 40% as female, and 3% preferred not to say. Among statistical reviewers, 75% self-reported as male and 25% as female. In terms

of contributors to the journal, 51% of corresponding authors of accepted manuscripts self-reported as male, 47% as female, and 1% as non-binary or gender diverse. Among commissioned content (Review articles and invited Comments), 48% of corresponding authors were female. We are encouraged by these numbers and will continue to strive for gender equity and diversity among peer reviewers and contributors.

With the continued proliferation of peer-reviewed journals, reviewer burnout is a growing concern that is at the forefront of editors' minds. At *The Lancet Rheumatology*, we continue to strive to build our community of peer reviewers and, particularly, to identify new reviewers among early-career clinicians and researchers. As always, we welcome and encourage feedback and suggestions from authors, reviewers, and contributors as we endeavour to improve the depth and diversity of our reviewer pool and to achieve the highest standard of quality, accuracy, and transparency of the science we communicate.

To all of *The Lancet Rheumatology's* 2022 reviewers and contributors, a sincere and heartfelt thank you.

The Lancet Rheumatology Editors



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