

# THE INNOVATION IN THE CONTINUITY: THE LIST OF EXISTING PERIODICALS IN HEALTH LIBRARIES AND DOCUMENTATION SERVICES IN PORTUGAL



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## INTRODUCTION

The "Associação Portuguesa de Documentação e Informação de Saúde" (APDIS) arose from a network of libraries and documentation & information centres that work in Portugal with health institutions. Association main purpose is to increment healthcare investigation, training and development towards better healthcare delivery, by helping to provide healthcare information and improve information exchange both at national and international levels.

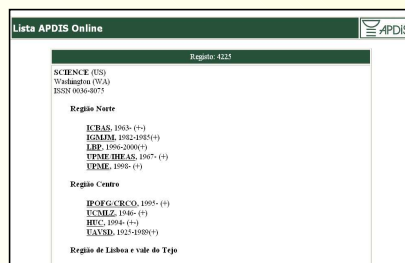
The **List of Existing Periodicals in Health Libraries and Documentation Services in Portugal** is one of the first professional tools edited by the Association and results from a strong cooperation between health institutions. This effort led by all APDIS members is already on its sixth edition so far.



Last 2004 edition lists periodical titles of 223 health libraries. The **List** is available both in paper and electronic form, which allows both publication title consultation and inter-library loan orders, by using an incorporated module. The electronic form also allows requests' management, therefore simplifying administrative work.



In 2002, APDIS also launched **The List of Existing Periodicals in Health Libraries and Documentation Services in Portugal in electronic form (LAO)**. Accessible to subscribers, it aims to be an answer to the challenge of providing better access to scientific publishing through information technology. Due to the effort of APDIS, today this tool helps health librarians perform a more efficient service regarding access to research articles.



Between 2002-2005 were registered 33.001 inter-library loans and subscribed services increased almost 100%.

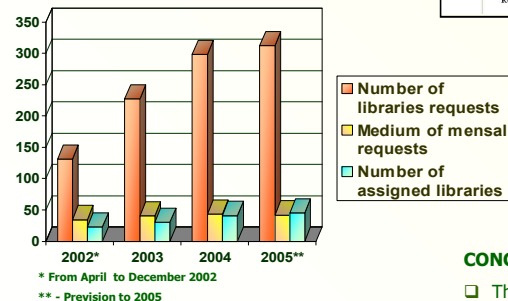
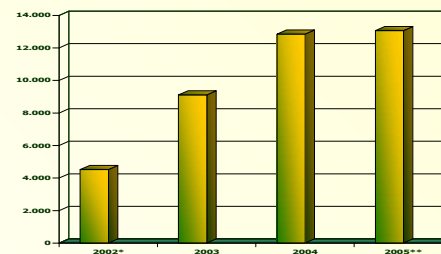


Figure 2 – Number of requests 2002-2005



\* From April to December 2002  
\*\* - Prevision to 2005

Figure 1 – Number of registered inter-library loans 2002-2005

## CONCLUSIONS

- The *List of existing periodicals in Health Libraries and Documentation Services in Portugal* in electronic form (LAO), is an important and essential tool for inter-library loan.
- The value and the impact of this professional tool has increased with all the improvements that has been made since the electronic form appearance.
- In order to expand this professional tool, APDIS is considering to negotiate partnerships with influent partners in Portugal.