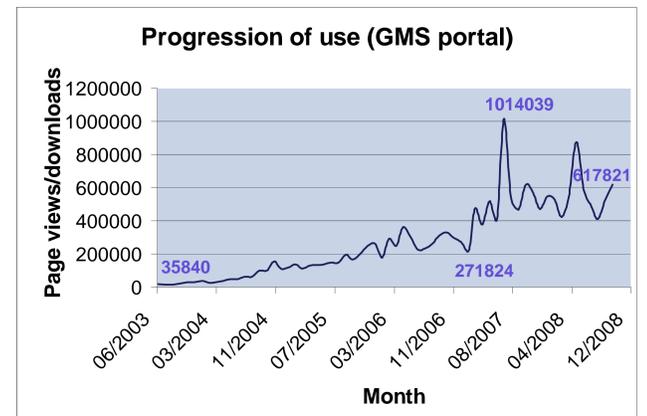


What is it?

German Medical Science (GMS) is an open access portal for publishing journal articles, meeting proceedings and reports in biomedicine. It makes medical papers of high quality freely available and provides the opportunity for scientists of all medical disciplines to publish the results of their research online.

GMS publications are licensed by creative commons 3.0 by-nc-nd, peer reviewed, preserved long-term and highly visible. GMS is indexed for MEDPILOT, Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), Google Scholar as well as professional databases. "GMS German Medical Science – an Interdisciplinary Journal" has lately been accepted for MEDLINE.

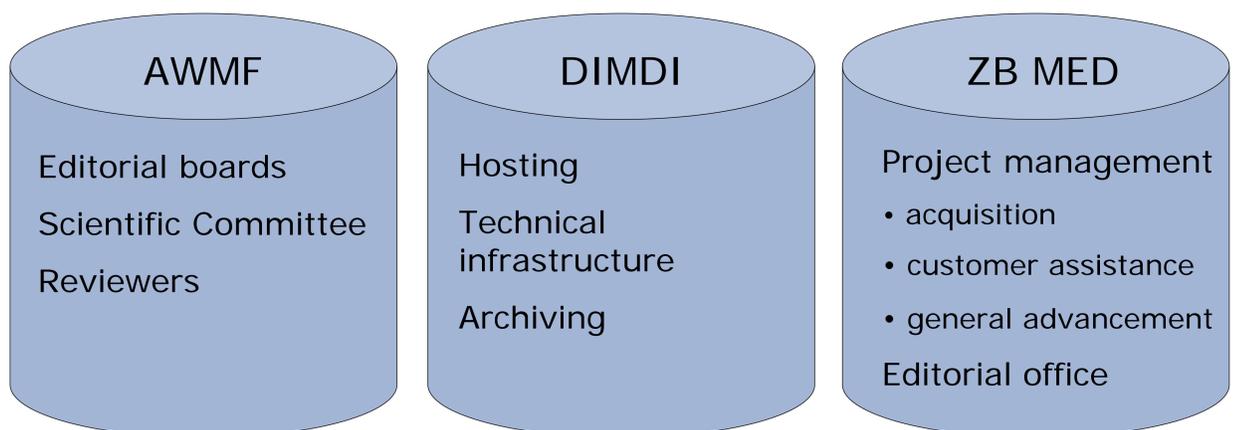
Up to now, German Medical Science is the home of 13 journals with more than 1,600 articles and over 60 scientific meetings with over 20,000 abstracts that are accessed about 500,000 times per month.



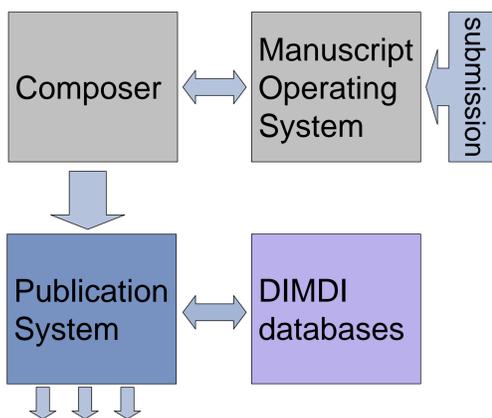
Who's behind it?

GMS is a cooperation of the Association of the Scientific Medical Societies in Germany (AWMF), the German Institute of Medical Documentation and Information (DIMDI) and the German National Library of Medicine (ZB MED).

The assignment of tasks shown reflects each partner's expertise.



How does it work?



GMS operates a modular system for

- review and manuscript management (Manuscript Operating System)
- copy editing (Composer) and
- online publication (Publication System and databases).

The modules were built up from scratch and can be reused.

GMS fully uses the possibilities of online media (e.g. by multimedia-attachments), but it also features a professionally typeset PDF. Print can be arranged if required.

Editors can choose from different service levels for editorial work. For example they can decide whether the editorial office should take over copy editing (entering and structuring the article, recording the metadata and editing the figures and tables) or only place the needed software at their disposal. Furthermore, GMS offers tracking of peer review and proofreading. Using GMS' web-based submit-tool for conference submissions is also on offer.

How is it financed?

From 2002 to 2006 GMS was publicly funded:

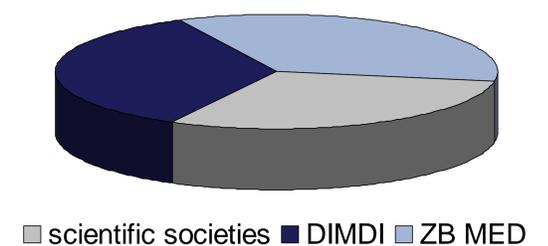
In 2002/3 the German Research Foundation (DFG) and in 2004 the German Federal Ministry of Health (BMG) promoted the development and establishment of a prototype.

In 2005/6 the DFG again supported GMS in designing a business plan to ensure sustainability.

In the course of that, a limited company, the gms gmbH was established in 2005. Since 2007, the scientific societies pay publication fees. By now, the editing scientific societies pay 30% of full cost accounting. Individual refinancing by advertising, author contributions or donations is possible.

In order to promote alternative ways of publishing ZB MED and DIMDI bear 70% of the costs.

Cost distribution



Where does it go?

GMS will shortly allocate the persistent identifiers DOI and URN for better citability. Bilingual full texts will soon be possible as an integrated publication.

A relaunch of the website including options to comment about articles and to place banner advertisements is in progress.

A main objective is to enhance the visibility of GMS by integrating its publications in further databases and repositories (e.g. MEDLINE, PubMed Central). GMS aims at meeting demands of the "DINI Certificate Document and Publication Services" and the "SPARC Europe Seal for Open Access Journals".

For further consolidation, an increased cost recovery is aspired. The cooperation with the scientific societies, which has been a successful model, will be extended.