Letter to the Editor

A bird's-eye view to Urmia Medical Journal, 2016-2019: an update

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Dear editor

Periodical assessment and monitoring of journal statistics by editor in chief and other related editorial board bring important insight to determine the quality of scientific production process and provide detail if a journal is paving the way to join the mainstream internationally recognized indexing databases such as ISI [www.webofknowledge.com], Medline [www.Pubmed.org] and Scopus[www.scopus.com] (1-3). Furthermore, at a glance, such details help authors be well-informed about the quality level of the observed and selected journal to submit their manuscript. In this regards, and to the best of our knowledge, Urmia Medical Journal (UMJ), regardless of 26 years of lifetime (publication start year 1993) has neglected to consider this important issue (4).

An extensive and comprehensive search on the home page of UMJ from 2017.01.01 to 2019.05.12 was conducted and the extracted data summarized some main metrics in Table 1.

Table1: Metrics calculated for UMJ

Items	Statistics
Duration from submission to acceptance in 2017	112 days
Duration from submission to acceptance in 2018	183 days
Duration from submission to acceptance in 2019 up to now*	167 days
Duration from acceptance to publication in 2017	95 days
Duration from acceptance to publication in 2018	108 days
Duration from acceptance to publication in 2019 up to now(2019.5.13)	Not calculated
Peer-Review time period in 2017	Approximately less that 2 months
Peer-Review time period in 2018	Approximately less that 2 months
Peer-Review time period in 2019 up to now	Approximately less that 2 months
Total manuscripts received in 2017	482 manuscripts
Total manuscripts received in 2018	386 manuscripts
Total manuscripts received in 2019 up to now	54 manuscripts

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Items	Statistics
Rejection rates(%; in 2017)	302/482=62%
Rejection rates(%; in 2018)	185/386=48%
Rejection rates(%;in 2019)	20/54=37%
Acceptance rate (%; in 2017)	180/482=38%
Acceptance rate (%; in 2018)	201/386=52%
Acceptance rate (%; in 2019)	34/54=63%
Citations to the published articles in Scopus from 1998 to 2016	239

To sum up, it is clear that providing transparent information with regard to any academic journals affects the desire of the authors for sending their manuscript and publishes their scientific articles. Thus, if editors seriously consider such a matter, take an important step in protecting the rights of authors in selecting the appropriate journal.

Keywords: Editor, Author, Statistics, Urmia Medical Journal

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