

EDITORIAL

Dear authors, readers and reviewers,

BIOMEDICAL PAPERS (BP) had a good year in 2008. The bibliometric portal SCImago Journal and Country Rank (<http://www.scimagojr.com/>) based on a collection of 13,000 periodicals in the database SCOPUS, includes updated information on cited journals for the period 2002–2007. The growing share of cited papers for authors who have published in BP is encouraging. This shows that the journal meets the major aim of disseminating research results. According to the key indicator (SJR) BP was placed 8th out of 91 Czech scientific journals in 2007. The journal (Volume 147) has been indexed in MEDLINE/PubMed (<http://www.pubmed.com>) with direct access to the full text since 2003. The database SCOPUS (<http://www.scopus.com>) monitors a parameter called “Trend Line” (TL). A Trend Line provides the number of citations received in that year, regardless of the publication date of the cited document, divided by the total number of documents published in that year. For the years 2003 to 2007, the TL for BP was as follows: 0.50 – 0.44 – 0.70 – 2.37 – 6.50. Volume 152 (2008) has also been accepted for tracking by Thomson Reuters (ISI Web of Science, <http://isiknowledge.com>) under the title BIOMEDICAL PAPERS–OLOMOUC and will be allocated an Impact Factor in 2011. By the way the unofficial IF has been for last year 0.4117. This is also very encouraging.

We will make continual efforts to further enhance the quality of BP. From 2009, BIOMEDICAL PAPERS will be issued 4 times a year instead of twice with improvements in the editorial work using professional software. We will inform you as soon as the system is in place. All manuscripts submitted to BP will first be screened by a member of the Editorial Board or another appropriate expert for publishing suitability in principle. Referees will be asked to provide clear comments on the originality of the research and to judge whether the data adequately support the conclusions. If they do not, or in the case

that conceptual, methodological repetition or plagiarism of previous research are recognized, the manuscript will be rejected.

A few words should be said about *Keywords*. Immediately following the abstract, most journals require the authors to select around three to ten keywords or short phrases that capture the main topics of the article. These help indexers to cross-index the article and are usually published with the abstract. An apposite choice of the keywords will help the paper to be located easily during a literature search, particularly an online search. The most important concepts should be selected, and these should be expressed in words which match the retrieval words of readers. Typically, keywords reflect the area of interest, the modality and procedure used. The selected keywords should be checked against established indexing systems or databases e.g. MEDLINE/PubMed. Ideally, terms from the Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) list should be used. If suitable MeSH terms are not yet available for new terms, current terms may be used. MeSH is the US National Library of Medicine (NLM)’s controlled vocabulary thesaurus, and is used by NLM for indexing articles from 4,800 of the world’s leading biomedical journals for the MEDLINE/PubMed database. MeSH descriptors are arranged in both an alphabetical and a hierarchical structure, with more specific headings found at more narrow levels of the multilevel hierarchy.

BIOMEDICAL PAPERS has been for many years a forum not only for research teams of the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry and University Hospital in Olomouc. It is open in general to biomedical-oriented original scientific work, reviews and mini-reviews from around the world. The Editorial Board believes that the position of the journal in the world market of scientific information will be maintained for authors and readers of popular scientific media in the coming years.

Jitka Ulrichova and Vilim Simanek (Editors)

