



## EDITORIAL

## Hypertension and Vascular Risk: A New step forward

## Hipertensión y Riesgo Vascular: Una nueva etapa



P. Armario<sup>a,\*</sup>, E. Vinyoles<sup>b</sup>, J.M. Galceran<sup>c</sup>, T. Gijon-Conde<sup>d</sup>, C. Arranz<sup>e</sup>, E. Rodilla<sup>f</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Área de Enfermedades Cardiovasculares. Hospital de Sant Joan Despí Moisès Broggi. Sant Joan Despí, Barcelona, España

<sup>b</sup> Centro de Salud La Mina. Universidad de Barcelona, Barcelona, España

<sup>c</sup> Servicio de Nefrología. Fundación ALTHAIA. Manresa, Barcelona, España

<sup>d</sup> Centro de Salud Universitario Cerro del Aire. Majadahonda, Madrid, España

<sup>e</sup> Facultad de Farmacia y Bioquímica. Universidad de Buenos Aires. IQUIMEFA-CONICET, Buenos Aires, Argentina

<sup>f</sup> Unidad de Hipertensión y Riesgo Vascular. Servicio de Medicina Interna. Hospital Universitario de Sagunto. Puerto de Sagunto, Valencia, España

*Hipertensión y Riesgo Vascular* (Hypertension and Vascular Risk) is the official journal of the *Sociedad Española de Hipertensión-Liga Española para la Lucha contra la Hipertensión Arterial* (SEH-LELHA) (Spanish Society of Hypertension-Spanish League against Hypertension) and the *Sociedad Argentina de Hipertensión Arterial* (SAHA) (Argentine Society of Hypertension), and the Latin American Society of Hypertension (LASH). The journal provides a forum for scientists, specialists and health professionals working in the field of hypertension and vascular risk. Due to the multidisciplinary nature of this area, and the variety of biological mechanisms that underlie hypertension, the journal covers different disciplines related to the specialty, which makes it a publication of great interest to all professionals involved in this disease.

Having achieved the goal of indexing in 2015, the challenge for the Editorial Committee has been to improve the citation of published articles, towards achieving an impact factor.

In 2019 there was a change in the methodology to calculate the CiteScore (CS) index: the calculation methodology was modified, adding one more year to it (i.e., a period of 4 years, in total, is calculated including only original articles,

reviews, papers, book chapters and articles on data in the quotient. In 2018, the CS (with the previous methodology) was .22 (15th and 16th percentiles of the areas of Cardiology and Medicine respectively), with the new formula it is now .4 (16th and 18th percentiles), the CS for 2019 is .6, with 19th and 22nd percentiles; and the current CS is .9. The number of manuscripts received and evaluated in 2020 was 43 (in 2019 it was 40). The rejection rate remains at around 30%.

I believe as Editor-in-Chief, in line with the rest of the editorial Board and the current SEH-LELHA Board of Directors, that four important actions are required for the next step towards the impact factor:

First, encourage SEH-LELHA, SAHA, and LASH members, as well as regular reviewers and collaborators of the journal to cite articles published in our journal when they are authors of original or invited articles in other indexed national and international journals. Some reviews are widely consulted, especially consensus papers, and it is our aim to encourage them to be more frequently cited.

Second, to facilitate greater international dissemination and citation, the current SEH-LELHA Board, SAHA, the Editorial Board and Elsevier have reached an agreement to publish all reviews, editorials and Consensus documents in English, the latter in open access. The language (English or Spanish) would be respected for accepted originals.

Third, request reviews or mini reviews from prestigious international centres, especially from centres where col-

\* Corresponding author.

E-mail address: [parmario@csi.cat](mailto:parmario@csi.cat) (P. Armario).

laborators from our country are on extended stays, and who could sign these reviews jointly with other seniors or researchers from that group.

Finally, the Committee of Experts will devote their enthusiasm and dedication to improving the current metrics:

- CiteScore of .9
- The time to first decision, i.e., it currently takes an average of 3.8 weeks for an article to go from submission of the manuscript to first decision on the article.
- The review time or average number of weeks it takes for an article to pass through the editorial review process is 8.3 weeks.

To improve the journal response rate, we intend to conduct periodic renewal of the Expert Committee, as other international first quartile journals are doing, to incorporate young clinicians and researchers, but with excellent preparation and a proficient level of acceptance, and rapid response and quality in manuscript reviews. We will use this opportunity to make a change to the design of the journal.

The Editorial Committee would like to thank the reviewers for their excellent collaboration, and the readers for their confidence in the journal, all of which are essential factors in progressing towards our goal: achieving an impact factor.