1. Detailed Paremetrical analysis

Following groups of parameters are being evaluated:

– Scientific quality 580 base points (58.0%)

– Editorial quality 200 base points (20.0%)

– International availability 135 base points (13.5%)

– Frequency-Regularity-Stability 50 base points (5.0%)

– Technical quality 35 base points (3.5%)

Total 1000 base points (100.0%)

Stage 2. Negative score analysis

Negative score is given for:

a. irregular or late issuance [late up to one publishing period (-30), joint issues (-50), late more than one

publishing period (-60)];

b. non-ethical advertisement placement [within article (-60), directly before/after article (-40).

Stage 3. Experts peer-review

Experts peer-review of evaluated journals change the total score by ±60 points (12%):

a. Scientific significance of the published material [±20],

b. Up-to-date content [±20],

c. Educational value [±20].

How do we calculate Index Copernicus Value (ICV)

First, Base Points (BP) are converted into 10 points Total Basic Score (TBS), then:

A) For journals indexed in Thomson Scientific Index Copernicus Value (ICV) is being calculated based on

the following formula:

9+[(TBS)×(IF)] (where IF = impact factor value).

This formula ensure that the journals indexed at Thomson Scientific have minimum ICV=9 points.

B) For the rest of journals which are NOT indexed in Thomson Scientific TBS=ICV

I. Scientific Quality

The following parameters have been evaluated:

1. International indexation. Three levels of indexation has been defined:

a. Basic level – indexation in international bibliographic databases EXCEPT Index Medicus/MEDLINE and

Current Contents.

b. MEDLINE level (indexation at Index Medicus/MEDLINE). The score can be lowered if a journal does not

deliver or is late with delivering XML files according to Medline requirements.

c. Indexation at Philadelphia Institute of Scientific Information’s Master Journal List (based on impact

factor). IF is used in the calculation algorhythm of Index Copernicus Value (ICV) – see above.

2. Annual percent of original research papers

Original research paper is that, which presents results of empiric investigation (clinical or laboratory), which

is divided into the following sections: background, material and methods, results, discussion, conclusions,

references. The percentage of this original works published in a journal reflects its character (scientific or

educational) and indicates the potential interest of researchers in publishing there.

3. Number of papers published annually from centers outside the journal’s country of origin

Indirectly indicates a degree of journal’s acceptance on international market. The more international

publications – the higher the score.

4. Number of all papers published on annual basis

Reflects potential authorship and acceptance for the journal. Only papers published in regular issues are

being considered. Papers published in special issues or supplements are not being counted as they are

considered not to undergo the regular peer-review process. It is also being assessed if the papers published

INTERNATIONAL Journal Master List

IndexCopernicus™ Evaluation Methodology 2009in a journal come from a source associated with publisher or editorial board only, what lowers the IC score.

5. International Editorial Board adds to the score, for it creates a chance for further journal’s development.

II. Editorial quality

1. Cover page [all the following items should appear clearly: journal’s title, ISSN, frequency, volume/issue/

part number, month/year].

2. The uniform composition of presented manuscripts compatible to journal’s instructions for authors,

forms the leading element of editorial quality. The following parameters are being evaluated:

a. Summary should count 200–250 words and have structural form, i.e. reflect structure of an article

(background, material and methods, results, conclusion). Non-structural summaries counting less

than 200 words lower the score.

b. Key words should not repeat the title of manuscript. The most desirable is to use key words from the

MeSH catalogue.

c. Uniform presentation of original manuscripts. Research works should be divided to background,

material and methods, results, discussion, conclusions, references.

d. References should be presented in consecutive order (as they are cited in the text). First six authors

should be presented. Journal title abbreviations should be in Medline standard. Arab numbers in

bracket or in upper index should mark citations in the text. Each citation item should be placed in a

separate paragraph.

Alphabetical order, “en block” presentation or incorrect abbreviation of journals title lowers the score.

3. Information for authors should be included into each journal’s issue, and should contain:

 General rules of manuscripts evaluation process, disclosing conflicts of interest between referee-author,

referee-research sponsor, author-research sponsor, patient’s privacy rights and ethical issues in animal

and clinical research (Editorial Policy).

4. Detailed editorial and technical information regarding manuscript preparation (Instruction for Authors)

5. Editorial information should include list of Editorial Board members, editorial correspondence address,

name and address of a publisher, ISSN and frequency of issuance (monthly, quarterly)

6. Advertisements should be placed on editorial pages (at the beginning and/or at the end of a journal).

Advertisement within scientific content, i.e. before, inside and directly after an article is undesirable and

lower the IC score.

III. International availability

International availability is important for proper development of a scientific journal. Two factors are taken

into consideration:

1. Language of publication. English is preferable, since this is the universal language of science. Journals

published in other languages should have full size (200–250 words) structural summaries in English and

bilingual article title as well as table/figure subtitles.

2. Internet availability. Internet becomes an important medium for scientific publication and exchange

of professional information. It is due to its global availability and speed and low cost of publication,

comparing to printed journals. Internet availability enhances a chance to broaden journal’s circulation

and speeds up its development. The access to editorial information, table of contents, summaries and

full text articles and search tools are evaluated. The preferred language of a Website is English.

IV. Frequency-Regularity-Market stability

This group of parameters is to assess the editor’s publishing/managing efficiency. We evaluate:

1. Regularity of issuance, which is an important factor for journal’s stability and one of the key evaluation

parameter at other international indexing databases such as Medline and Current Contents. Journals of

an irregular issuance, late, or those, which issue joint issues, receive a lower score.

2. We add score to journals depending on their continuous presence on the market.

V. Technical quality

Technical quality discloses the ability for proper presentation of the scientific content. The quality of preprint process, especially desk top publishing (DTP), ability to print in color, and the quality of paper (acidfree is preferred) are evaluated. The A4 format of a journal is preferred.

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