

# Editorial 1

---

## Importance of the Quality Articles in Increasing the Impact Factor

The performance of a scientific journal can be judged with its impact factor (IF). Impact factor was devised by Eugene Garfield, in 1972.<sup>1</sup> It is defined as the number of citations in a given calendar year to articles published in a journal over the two preceding years, divided by the total number of citable articles published by the journal in the same period.<sup>2</sup> Citations are the papers and book chapters listed in the references at the end of a scientific paper.<sup>3</sup> The numerator of IF includes total number of citations to that journal irrespective of original research articles, case reports, reviews, editorials, letters to the editor, or commentaries, whereas the denominator includes only citable articles which includes only original research and reviews published in that journal. This is the reason why many high IF journal publishes only original papers and reviews and if case reports are exceptional then only they publish it so that the denominator for calculating IF remains small.<sup>4,5</sup> A detail description of the determination of citable items (the denominator of the journal impact factor calculation) was given by the Journal of the American Medical Association, which describes how the Impact Factor of the journal is affected by citable and non-citable items.<sup>6</sup>



The Journal Impact Factor is a proprietary metric, published annually by the scientific business of Thomson Reuters via Journal Citation Reports (JCR). JCR provides a number of metrics and quantitative tools for ranking, evaluating, and categorizing and comparing journals. The best way to improve a journal's impact factor is by publishing high quality articles.<sup>1</sup> Today many researchers are evaluated by their quality publications and numbers of citations received to their publications. More exposure of the research article and reaching of it to the widest possible audience is the key to increase citations of the article. Any errors, misprints and inconsistencies in citations can lead to decrease in IF.<sup>3</sup>

In the past many scientific publications take active steps to increase and publicize their impact factors. These steps can sometimes include the use of dubious means, such as selective publication of highly cited types of articles, self-citations or coercion of authors to cite the journal.<sup>2</sup> International Journal of Prosthodontics & Restorative Dentistry (IJOPRD) discourage such measures to increase citation and impact factor of the journal.

We are thankful to our authors for submitting high quality articles to the journal and for their contributions in improving the quality of journal. IJOPRD has good online system and efficient referees, with the help of which, currently the evaluation time of the article is reduced to minimum. IJOPRD appeals to its authors to follow the author guidelines properly while submitting the manuscript for quick review of their articles. Authors are requested to submit high quality original articles and review articles for more citations of their articles and to take the journal to higher standards.

### References:

1. Garfield E. How can impact factors be improved? *Br Med J* 1996 Aug;313(7054):411-413.
2. Tort AB, Targino ZH, Amaral OB. Rising publication delays inflate journal impact factors. *PLoS one* 2012;7(12):e53374.
3. Scully C, Lodge H. Impact factors and their significance; overrated or misused? *Br Dent J* 2005;198(7):391-393.
4. Liu XL. Structural characteristics of impact factors of the ten top international journals. *Acta Editologica* 2014;26:296-300.
5. Basheer A. Journal impact factor: Does it really have an impact? *J Curr Res Sci Med* 2016;2(2):63-64.
6. McVeigh ME, Mann SJ. The journal impact factor denominator: defining citable (counted) items. *JAMA* 2009 Sep;302(10):1107-1109.

**Sunil Kumar Mishra**

Managing Editor

International Journal of Prosthodontics and Restorative Dentistry  
Reader, Department of Maxillofacial Prosthodontics and Implantology  
Peoples College of Dental Sciences & Research Centre,  
Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, India  
e-mail: sunilmsr200@yahoo.co.in