

Appendix VIII - Publications Committee Report by John England

It is a privilege to be able to represent the publications that are supported by the WFN. Our flagship journal is the **Journal of the Neurological Sciences**. I am the Editor-in-Chief. Nicole Pitman is my Managing Editor. This is my executive summary. We will go over some of this in detail, but I just wanted to mention a few things. Submissions increased in 2019 by 6% and in 2020 we're on a banner year for projection of publications and submissions. As of this morning we are up to 2422 submissions. I suspect that by the end of the year we will have at least about 3000. There has been a steep increase this year and I think part of it may be due to COVID-19. Perhaps people are sitting around doing writing or writing about COVID also. In 2019 we had a few more acceptances and the 2020 projection is about 500-600. Rejection rate remains pretty stable between 80-83%. We have fast editorial processing times to final decision in 12.5 weeks. In 2018 it was 11.9 weeks. In 2020 it's been about 13 weeks. This is one of the fastest publication and processing times for any major journal. Our e-publication speed is about 2.6 weeks for articles in the paginated version and in 2020 we expect it to be around 2.2 weeks. We have a really excellent result with the journals latest impact factor and cite score. The impact factor in 2019 increased to 3.115 which is a 17.5% increase compared to 2018 and the cite score which is the number of citations per peer reviewed paper that is published in the journal is 4.9 which is up 11% compared to 2018. We have had as I've said a lot of submissions. We are probably gonna have about an 80-83% rejection rate. As time has gone on, we have actually had to reject more and more papers because we are getting more and more submissions.

We have done several special content or special issues. One that was edited by Daniel Truong on Tardive Dyskinesia in 2017 has been well cited. We published the abstracts from the World Congress in 2019. We had a new special issue that has come out in 3 parts this past year on addiction medicine and psychiatry edited by Dr Mark Gold, a renowned psychiatrist. This is getting many, many citations. We have 3 special issues in process: Neurorheumatology, being edited by Axel Siva and Tracey Cho, which is moving along quite well. One on tropical neurology focusing on infectious diseases edited by Drs' Meshram, Medina, Shakir and myself. We are well along to getting this one completed and we have just decided to start one on Neurorehabilitation, edited by Dr Owolabi and Dr Bhidayasiri.

We get a lot of submissions from Asia and many of the published articles come from Asia, also Europe, North and Central America. These are the 3 biggest. So we get

publications mainly from Asia, Europe, North and Central America, but there are many other countries represented around the world.

Speed. We are pretty fast as I said. From submission to first decision which happens at the desk between me and my managing editor. That's about 3-4 days. And then submission to final decision averages anywhere from about 5.5–5.7 weeks and then the actual publication and the final editorial outcome is averaging 12-13 weeks.

Citation impact. As I've said we had a nice year last year. We have increased the citation score, called the cite score, from 4.4 in 2018 to 4.9 which is an 11% increase and you can see that since 2015 we have had a gradual increase in the cite score. So far this year the cite score is about 4, but the year is not complete and I expect that is going to be at least 4.9 and I am hopeful that it will be over 5 by the end of the year.

The impact factor has steadily increased too, and for the first time in history we have actually been able to break the impact factor over 3. Special issues have the highest citations. This goes along with what most editors of major journals know. That the highest citations go with guidelines, reviews and editorials.

Usage. Again the usage is highest for the special issues, but we have high numbers of usage and downloads for all the regular articles also. Top 5 countries. Australia is very high in usage. Japan, United Kingdom and United States factor highly and then the rest of the world.

Now although the Journal of the Neurological Sciences is the flagship journal for the WFN, we have a companion journal **eNeurologicalSci** or **ENS**. Up to 2019 the editor-in-chief was Bruce Obviagele and there has been submission growth under his tenure of about 3.7% percent, with fast editorial procession times and a fast publication speed. There were special items in the initial growth of the ENS which were basically representative of things happening in Africa and particularly South Africa. As of this year, we have a new Editor-in-Chief for ENS. The Publications Committee unanimously selected Dr Walter Struhal to be the Editor-in-Chief to replace Bruce Obviagele, who resigned because he had many other duties, and Walter assumed his new post in March of 2020. We have been able now to actually have ENS indexed in PubMed, mbase, Google Scholar and Scopeus. There are some fast times for publication for articles in ENS thanks to Dr Obviagele and now Dr Struhal, and we have actually been able to start getting some good citations. In 2019 we have a cite score that has risen above 1 to 1.42 and that is good for a very beginning journal. This journal is designed for young neurologists. There are a lot of case reports and I know that Dr Struhal wants to actually be able to publish articles with both video and audio. He's working with Elsevier to talk about doing some podcasts sponsored by Elsevier for ENS and

then we actually send some articles from JNS that are good articles, but maybe not good enough to be published in the JNS, for review in ENS.

The last publication we wanted to talk about is **World Neurology**. Which I'm sure all of you know is the official newsletter of the WFN. It has been edited for several years by Steven Lewis, who gave a presentation earlier. His co-editor is Walter Struhal, who has been very instrumental in publicizing many of the activities of the WFN by social media. This publication happens every 2 months. It's of course news of interest to neurologists around the world and there are many standing things, with WFN updates, conference reports and standing columns. And as Steven Lewis always says, he invites your submissions for relevant materials, and we have seen some of that in the past presentations. It's free to all and of course it is accessed freely online and free to all members of the WFN.

So I will end my report there and I will be happy offline to take any questions about the JNS. You can direct other questions ENS to Dr Struhal and of course WN to Dr Lewis. Thank you very much. It has been a privilege to do this.