Journal Impact Factors

Clarivate’s Journal Citation Reports has been calculating and publishing journal impact factors (JIFs) every year since its first publication in 1976. The report for 2021 was just released, and it includes some notable updates with the latest release, including the introduction of a new metric for those journals that are included in Web of Science but that haven’t met the stringent criteria required to receive an impact factor. This new “field-normalized” metric, named Journal Citation Indicator (JCI), “provides a single journal level metric that can be compared and interpreted across disciplines to get an indication of a journal’s performance”¹.

Designed to complement the journal impact factor, the journal citation indicator is calculated for all journals indexed in the Web of Science Core Collection, including journals in the Arts & Humanities Citation Index (AHCI) and the Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI), which don’t receive a Journal Impact Factor. The inclusion of these journals nearly doubles the total number of journals that can be evaluated, from 12,171 journals in 2020 to 20,942 journals in 2021 – a 70% increase in content.

Although journal impact factors and the new journal citation indicators are used as an indication of research influence and significance, as with all metrics, these measurements must be considered carefully and in context.

Resource Spotlight: iThenticate

Join us in this upcoming online class to learn how to use iThenticate software to check the originality of your work. You'll also learn how to interpret reports for a less challenging publishing process. We will give an overview of this resource on Wednesday, September 14 from 10:00 - 10:30 AM.

View and sign up for more upcoming library classes.

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New Self-Paced Course: Writing Persuasive R01 Proposals

The Research Medical Library has launched a new self-paced course on Writing Persuasive R01 Proposals. This three-part course, taught by scientific editors with decades of experience, explains how to write the research plan for an R01. The course is available in the Study platform and is open to all MD Anderson employees.

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