



## Editorial

# Journal Impact Factor for the *Indian Journal of Plastic Surgery*

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Indian J Plast Surg 2023;56:293–294.

We are delighted to inform you that the *Indian Journal of Plastic Surgery (IJPS)* has received its first Journal Impact Factor (JIF) of 0.8 for 2022, awarded by Clarivate Analytics' Journal Citation Reports in July this year.<sup>1</sup> It is a significant milestone and accomplishment for any academic or scientific journal. As the official publication of the Association of Plastic Surgeons of India for over five decades, the *IJPS* has contributed immensely to the field of plastic surgery and marked its presence globally.<sup>2</sup> The recognition was highly anticipated and well deserved.

The JIF, the most valued journal metric, marks a journal's influence and visibility within the scientific community and its peers. "Journal metrics" refer to various quantitative measures used to assess a scientific journal's quality, impact, and influence. These metrics provide insights into how often articles from a journal are cited, how widely the journal is read, and its overall standing within the academic community. The JIF is the best-known quality indicator, and it is calculated by dividing the number of citations a journal's articles receive in a given year by the total number of citable articles published by the journal in the previous 2 years.<sup>3</sup> For example, an impact factor for 2022 is based on the citations received in 2022 for the articles published in 2020 and 2021. There are indeed flaws and disadvantages, such as the issue of self-citations. Nevertheless, it is widely acknowledged that journals with higher impact factors hold more significant sway in the academic world.

Similarly, CiteScore is another metric provided by Elsevier, and it is based on the citations received by a journal's articles over 4 years.<sup>4</sup> It includes citations from broader sources, such as conference papers, editorials, and reviews. The Scopus CiteScore is updated monthly; it is available 12 times a year for all Scopus-indexed publications. An inaugural JIF of 0.8 for the *IJPS* is a decent start for a surgical journal; complementing this, the Scopus CiteScore of the *IJPS* for the year 2022 has advanced to 1.4 from the previous 0.8. It is again a testament to the quality and relevance of the research being published and reflects the high potential for improving our scores in subsequent years.

Our publication has increased its frequency to six issues per year, resulting in a significantly faster article turnaround time and an overall quicker publication. We have published three theme-based special issues on Lower Limb Reconstruction, Hair Restoration,<sup>5</sup> and Gender Incongruence,<sup>6</sup> attracting much attention and citations. The journal's visibility has expanded to a broader audience thanks to its enhanced digital presence across all social media platforms. We encourage authors to cite previously published articles in the *IJPS* within their own work, highlighting the journal's relevance and impact.<sup>7</sup> I also urge our readers to utilize various channels, such as social media platforms, conferences, and academic forums, to increase awareness about the journal and its publications.

This feat reflects the sustained, collective efforts and dedication of the journal's editorial team and the invaluable contributions of authors, reviewers, and publishers. A strong foundation laid by my predecessors has marked the success trajectory of the journal to accomplish this milestone. Our editorial team is committed to upholding the standards for scientific papers and publishing highly impactful articles on a wide array of topics from authors worldwide. We are exploring all options to foster engagement with international societies and forge collaboration for mutual interactions as partner societies. Our publishing model remains unchanged—it is a diamond access model with open access and absolutely no article fees for publications. We hope to draw in a diverse group of writers from the worldwide plastic surgery community.

Securing the first impact factor begins a new phase for the *IJPS*. Sustaining and improving upon this achievement over the long term requires dedication and strategic efforts from all stakeholders. The *IJPS*, a highly esteemed scientific journal, is ready to assert its leadership and expand its influence in the global plastic surgery community. I cannot express enough gratitude to all of you for being an integral part of this transformative journey. Your unwavering support and contributions have been indispensable, and I count on your continued commitment.

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**DOI** <https://doi.org/10.1055/s-0043-1774384>.  
**ISSN** 0970-0358.

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Thieme Medical and Scientific Publishers Pvt. Ltd., A-12, 2nd Floor, Sector 2, Noida-201301 UP, India

**Conflict of Interest**

None declared.

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