

JVS-VL is the leading journal in venous and lymphatic disorders



To lead is to serve, nothing more, nothing less...

—Andre Malraux

As 2018 comes to a close, we celebrate 6 years since the publication of the inaugural issue of the *Journal of Vascular Surgery: Venous and Lymphatic Disorders (JVS-VL)*, the official journal of the Society for Vascular Surgery and the American Venous Forum. With its most recent Impact Factor increasing from 1.143 to 1.619, *JVS-VL* stands as the leading journal devoted exclusively to venous and lymphatic disorders. In recent years, as the endovascular revolution has transformed the treatment of both acute and chronic venous disorders and venous specialists have adopted minimally invasive percutaneous procedures, *JVS-VL* has kept pace, continuously expanding in both content and format.

Thousands of manuscripts are generated monthly for publication across a varied landscape of academic resources. We know our readers' time, their patients' health, and the overall progress of our field require a tailored reading experience. That is why we have grown our flagship publication into a suite of specialized journals that use the same rigorous peer review system. Today, the *JVS-VL* is part of a collection of publications that includes the *Journal of Vascular Surgery (JVS)* and the *Journal of Vascular Surgery: Cases and Innovative Techniques (JVS-CIT)*. The *JVS* publications have become the premier international journals devoted to arterial, venous, and lymphatic diseases. To continue to grow and to meet the needs of each vascular specialist, we are actively planning the launch of the *Journal of Vascular Surgery: Vascular Science*, a fourth publication dedicated to basic and translational research in vascular disease.

JVS-VL is an international journal receiving submissions from 25 countries; 55% of the submitted manuscripts come from outside the United States, with China, Japan, Italy, and The Netherlands leading the list. To the authors, reviewers, and readers from North America and around the world, all of whom contribute to the success of our journal, we express our most sincere gratitude.

The world of scholarly medical publishing has been rapidly evolving, and the Internet revolution has challenged our journals through new social media and the ever-decreasing demand for print journals. Despite decreasing interest for print journals in university libraries worldwide, there are a growing number of subscribers to all *JVS* journals. The *Journal of Vascular Surgery: Venous and Lymphatic Disorders* has kept abreast of major changes in publication methods through innovations in digital technology and electronic publication. While we maintain a print circulation in *JVS-VL* of more than 2200, *JVS-VL* articles are also present online at our branded site, www.jvsvenous.org, and on Clinical Key, Science Direct, and a combined journal branded app from the Google Play and Apple stores.

Social media continue to dominate electronic communications. According to a recent survey,¹ in 2018, 73% of U.S. adults used YouTube and 68% used Facebook, with about three-quarters of these on a daily basis; 25% use LinkedIn and 24% use Twitter. In response to the social media impact, *JVS* Publications has developed an increasing presence on all these platforms, disseminating *JVS-VL*-related news, article highlights, and easy access to full article downloads. Each issue of *JVS-VL* is accompanied by the Editor's video summary of selected articles that are available on YouTube. These videos summarize important papers, including the Editor's Choice, that can be downloaded free of charge for 1 month. Also, summaries by the authors are inserted in the Table of Contents, and Article Highlights are provided for each paper to help readers find the articles that interest them. Subscribers can also earn free AMA PRA Category 1 Credit by reading the continuing medical education article in each issue and completing the on-line exam and evaluation.

We have grown our presence on Facebook² and Twitter.³ Thanks to efforts by our Social Media Editor, Paul DiMuzio, Creative Editor, Daniel Han, Senior Managing Editor, Jessica McEwan, and newly appointed Managing Editor, Alexandria Sese, we now have more than 13,000 followers on LinkedIn,⁴ and in 2018, we launched Visual Abstracts, easily accessed infographics to deliver key messages of scientific research that can promptly be distributed on social media.⁵

Scientific journals are ranked by numerous metrics, and Impact Factor is the most frequently used traditional measure. *JVS-VL* now ranks the highest among journals devoted solely to venous and lymphatic disorders, thanks to frequently cited, excellent manuscripts of expert authors⁶⁻¹⁰ (Table).

Whereas traditional metrics of journal quality, such as Impact Factor, still dominate, new "altmetrics" such as PlumX, which includes downloads, views, citations, tweets, and retweets, are used increasingly to measure scholarly communications. The growth in dissemination of *JVS-VL* content through these digital publications in recent years has been

Table. Top 5 cited papers published in the *JVS-VL* in 2016-2017

Document title	Authors	Volume	Issue
Recurrence of varicose veins after endovenous ablation of the great saphenous vein in randomized trials ⁵	O'Donnell TF, Balk EM, Dermody M, Tangney E, Iafrati MD	4	1
Deep venous thrombosis associated with caval extension of iliac stents ⁷	Murphy EH, Johns B, Varney E, Buck W, Jayaraj A, Raju S	5	1
New diagnostic modalities in the evaluation of lymphedema ³	O'Donnell TF, Rasmussen JC, Sevick-Muraca EM	5	2
The value of hemodynamic measurements by air plethysmography in diagnosing venous obstruction of the lower limb ⁹	Kurstjens RL, De Wolf MA, Alsadah SA, Arnoldussen CW, Strijkers RH, Toonder IM, Wittens CH	4	3
VeClose trial 12-month outcomes of cyanoacrylate closure vs radiofrequency ablation for incompetent great saphenous veins ¹⁰	Morrison N, Gibson K, Vasquez M, Weiss R, Cher D, Madsen M, Jones A	5	3

remarkable. In 2017, full-text downloads of *JVS-VL* articles at the three major websites totaled 34,133; and in 2018, the number of online monthly visits to our venous website, www.jvsvenous.org, exceeded 2500.

At the end of another successful year, we are pleased to report that the *Journal of Vascular Surgery: Venous and Lymphatic Disorders* not only remains strong but is rapidly expanding and growing. We are thankful to our readers, authors, reviewers, editors, staff, and publisher for their many contributions. We are also blessed by having the support of many sponsoring societies, led by the Society for Vascular Surgery and the American Venous Forum. Our journal would not be successful without each and every regional, national, and international society that submits their best work to the *JVS-VL* for publication.

We wish peace and joy to you and your family this holiday season and may all your dreams for the coming year be fulfilled! Have a happy New Year of 2019!

Peter Gloviczki, MD

Peter F. Lawrence, MD

Editors, *Journal of Vascular Surgery Publications*

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REVIEWERS

Scholarly peer review plays a key role in scientific publishing. It validates research and upholds the quality and validity of each article and the journal that publishes them. During 2018, 439 reviewers helped the Editors of the *JVS-VL* to make important decisions on the fate of more than 1400 manuscripts. We appreciate the expert contributions of our peer reviewers who unselfishly provide their talent, time, and effort to our journals.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ASSOCIATE AND ASSISTANT EDITORS

We would like to acknowledge our outstanding and hardworking Associate and Assistant Editors who helped us in 2018 to raise the quality of articles published in *JVS-VL*. Dr Gregory L. Moneta served as Clinical Studies Editor and made important decisions on a large number of submitted manuscripts. We thank Dr Cynthia K. Shortell for her work as Associate Editor of Venous Reviews since systematic reviews and meta-analyses are essential to ensure the impact of a journal.

We thank Dr Ruth L. Bush, Assistant Editor, for helping to transform the Abstracts section into Venous Vantage Point: Review and Commentary of Key Publications, complete with an improved design and titled commentaries.

We are also grateful for the expert contributions of our new Associate Editor for Basic Science, Dr Alan Dardik.

Dr Paul J. DiMuzio, Editor for Social Media and Press Releases, with the help of newly elected assistant editor Dr Daniel Han, increased our on-line readership through active participation in LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter and with the introduction of new features and programs, including press releases and *JVS* club. We also express our gratitude to Dr Han for facilitating the launch of *JVS-VL* Visual Abstracts.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE EDITORIAL BOARD

We had a busy Editorial Board in 2018 and we greatly appreciate their important contributions to our peer review process. In addition to review and re-review of a large number of original articles, our editorial board members frequently contributed to *JVS* journals with commentaries and editorials. Members of the Editorial Board performed an average of 15 reviews in 2018, and this accounted for 10% of all the reviews performed.

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The Editors would like to recognize all Distinguished Reviewers of the *Journal of Vascular Surgery* journals who have performed more than five reviews during 2018 and consistently performed the highest rated and timely reviews. Distinguished Reviewers contributed 71% of all reviews. We thank them for their efforts to ensure a high-quality peer review process.

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The Editors are grateful to many clinicians and scientists who performed at least one review for the journals during 2018. This group includes several new reviewers. These reviewers performed 19% of all reviews and contributed greatly to our peer review process. We would like to express our gratitude to them and look forward to working with them and with many more new reviewers in 2018.

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