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Editorial

Thank you!



In 2015, the *European Annals of Otorhinolaryngology Head Neck Diseases* entered the group of scientific biomedical journals covered by Journal Citation Reports (<https://clarivate.com/products/journal-citation-reports/>) and ranked by Impact Factor (IF), the bibliometric index created by Eugène Garfield to assess journal celebrity [1,2]. The present-day journal of the French Society of ENT (SFORL), which resulted from the 2010 merger of the *Annales d'Otolaryngologie et de Chirurgie Cervico-faciale*, *Bulletin et Mémoires de la Société Française ORL*, *Bulletin de la Société d'ORL de Lyon et de sa Région* and *Cahiers d'ORL de Chirurgie Cervico-Faciale et d'Audiophonologie*, thus joined the charmed circle that claims to represent 95% of the “science that counts” in ENT [1,2]. Meanwhile, the Annals became also the organ of the International French-language Society of ENT (SFIORL), with an IF that grew to 1318 in 2018, ranking 30th out of the 42 indexed journals in the specialty (<https://clarivate.com/blog/science-research-connect/the-2018-jcr-release-is-here/>).

Analyzing the 2018 Journal Citation Reports provides other bibliometric data beside the Impact Factor, which also are of great interest (<https://clarivate.com/blog/science-research-connect/the-2018-jcr-release-is-here/>). Several French teams figure in the list of articles with the greatest number of citations, and the number of articles published each year keeps rising. The number of citations in the international biomedical literature shows an ascending curve, from 229 in 2014 to 760 in 2018. Analyzing the affiliation addresses of the authors who published in the Annals over the same period finds 17% in the French-speaking world (apart from France itself) and 17.6% in the English-speaking world (Table 1), demonstrating the active contribution our journal makes to *La Francophonie*, as a bridge between two cultural spheres, spreading knowledge in our specialty across the globe. The fact that 66.7% of affiliations are within France (Table 1), with strong input (Table 2) not only from university hospital ENT departments but also from the National Institute of Health and Medical Research (INSERM) and the national hospital oncology network (UNICancer) shows the active involvement of health-care structures in teaching and research in the ENT field in France. It is the work of all of our editors and reviewers and the support given by our publisher Elsevier that have enabled this progression – and to them go our sincerest thanks.

Table 1

Main countries of origin of authors (a given author may have more than one address) who published in the *European Annals of Otorhinolaryngology Head Neck Diseases* between 2016 and 2018 (<https://clarivate.com/blog/science-research-connect/the-2018-jcr-release-is-here/>).

Country	Authors contributing to articlesNumber (%)
France	252 (67.2)
USA	25 (6.6)
Morocco	31 (8.2)
Canada	12 (3.2)
Turkey	12 (3.2)
Tunisia	12 (3.2)
UK	12 (3.2)
Spain	10 (2.6)
Belgium	9 (2.4)
Australia	8 (2.1)

Table 2

Main French structures (one author may be affiliated to several structures) publishing in the *European Annals of Otorhinolaryngology Head Neck Diseases* between 2016 and 2018 (<https://clarivate.com/blog/science-research-connect/the-2018-jcr-release-is-here/>).

Structures	CitationsNumber (%)
Paris university hospitals	156 (51.1)
INSERM	25 (8.1)
Aix-Marseille university hospitals	25 (8.1)
UNICancer	24 (7.8)
Montpellier university hospitals	22 (7.1)
Nancy university hospitals	20 (6.5)
Lille university hospitals	19 (6.2)
Grenoble university hospitals	14 (4.5)
Nantes university hospitals	14 (4.5)

Whatever doubts there may be about the future and the role of the IF [3], the data referred to above provide a foundation for real optimism; in 2018, the IF for the top-ranking journal in the ENT field in Journal Citation Reports, *JAMA Otolaryngology-Head Neck Surgery*, was just 3512. However, our hopes can only be fulfilled if the number of teams and authors submitting high-quality studies to the Annals continues to increase [4] and if authors do not neglect to cite the studies published in the Annals by their colleagues. The improvements in the quality of reviewing and of the statistical analyses in the articles advocated by the editorial team [5,6] should in no way be taken as an obstacle to submission, but as a guarantee of scientific rigor and of the lasting reputation of our journal and of the authors who publish in it.

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Disclosure of interest

The authors declare that they have no competing interest.

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Editor in Chief

O. Laccourreye^{a,b,*}

C. Martin^a

^a *European Annals of Otorhinolaryngology Head Neck Diseases, Elsevier ed., 92130 Issy-les-Moulineaux, France*

^b *Service d'otorhinolaryngologie, HEGP, université Paris Descartes Sorbonne Paris cité, AP-HP, 75015 Paris, France*

* Corresponding author.

E-mail address: ollivier.laccourreye@aphp.fr

(O. Laccourreye)