

Swiss Medical Weekly: launching into 2010

Dear Readers,

We have a good year behind us. Fortunately, the SMW is not a bank!

The number of manuscripts received has risen, and shows the growing interest in the journal on the part of the scientific community. Following a lower rejection quota in the interim, we have been able to keep these figures largely constant over the last four years (table 1). In this context, professional reviewing by a statistician in addition to the international experts has really proved its worth. This not insignificant financial outlay has paid off, and we shall continue with this arrangement.

It is not only the authors who publish with us, but also the Editorial Board who are looking towards the development of the “impact factor”. This may be increasingly coming in for criticism, but at the moment it is still “the” proof of success. In comparison with last year we have gone up to a certain extent, but an analysis of the curve shows

that over the past few years we have been stagnating (fig. 1).

It was for this reason that new rubrics were introduced last year: “Medical Intelligence” and “Current Opinion”. In the autumn we made a start on the “Medical Technology” series. The aim of these articles is, in particular, to appeal to the general scientifically-oriented readership. We are optimistic that these innovations will have a positive effect on the “impact factor”.

Finally, thanks are due to the numerous reviewers for the great and efficient work they have provided. They have made a major contribution to research in this context. The complete list of 2009 reviewers will be forthcoming in the next issue.

I wish everyone the best possible start in the New Year!

*André P. Perruchoud,
Editor in chief Swiss Medical Weekly*

Table 1
Submissions and rejection quota Swiss Medical Weekly.

| Year | Submissions | Rejection quota |
|------|-------------|-----------------|
| 2003 | 347 | 65.5% |
| 2004 | 388 | 70.1% |
| 2005 | 406 | 68.4% |
| 2006 | 331 | 56.5% |
| 2007 | 294 | 64.4% |
| 2008 | 346 | 69.0% |
| 2009 | 407 | 71.5% |

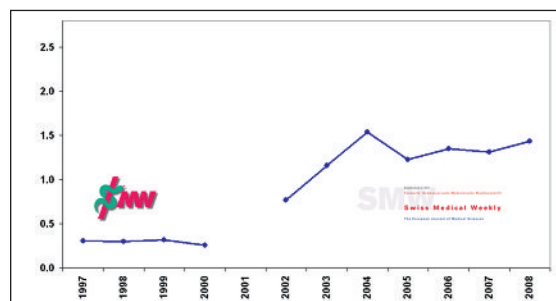


Figure 1
Impact factor.