

Critical Care and Resuscitation and its 2015 impact factor

Rinaldo Bellomo

Most readers of *Critical Care and Resuscitation (CCR)* are unlikely to know about the way the impact factor (IF) of a medical journal is calculated, or its meaning. They are more likely to be concerned about the quality of the articles in *CCR* and their relevance to clinical practice. Readers will also be interested in how articles reflect and advance the standing and academic life of intensive care specialists in Australia and New Zealand, the value of their College of Intensive Care Medicine (CICM) and the profile of their Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society. However, the overall standing of *CCR* in the world of critical care journals, as measured by its IF, does matter. It matters because it reflects the interest that *CCR* articles generate worldwide, the reputation of the Australian and New Zealand intensive care community, and the ability of *CCR* to attract increasingly high-quality manuscripts from Australia and internationally.

It is therefore worthy of notice that the 2015 IF of *CCR* has increased to 3.32. This is almost twice as high as its opening IF 4 years ago. It places *CCR* ahead of many other medical journals that are better resourced and have a longer international standing and history, such as *PLOS One*. It also places *CCR* ahead of journals with a longer presence in the field of critical care and the support of international societies, such as *Journal of Critical Care* and *Shock*. We are now number eight in the world for critical care journals, firmly the number one critical care journal in Australasia, and the number one critical care journal outside the United States and Europe. Moreover, the number of submissions to *CCR* has grown markedly, now easily exceeding 250 per year, with many submissions coming from countries as diverse as the US, Korea, Turkey and China. Our acceptance rate has, correspondingly, decreased to about 20%.

As the Editor-in-Chief of *CCR*, I am proud of these achievements, although I am aware that, for a journal with a limited number of articles published each year, the IF may oscillate downwards (or upwards, we hope) next year. Our achievements owe a great deal to the wonderful foresight of Lindsay Worthley, who founded the Journal, and to the inspiring work of Vernon van Heerden, who took it to PubMed listing. Our success is also very much a reflection of the support of our readership and investigators who have submitted outstanding manuscripts over many years and, more recently, the associate editors who have joined the *CCR* team (Andrew Bersten, Warwick Butt and Paul Young) to lighten the burden for the Editor-in-Chief.

Finally, our outstanding IF owes much to the support of the CICM Board and staff, particularly Heather Dick Pere, who provides great editorial assistance; and to the publishers at AMPCo, specifically Olivia Wroth, who does an amazing job at preparing the manuscripts for publication. As a hard-working group, we hope to continue to serve the readership and the College well into the future and to continue to increase the international profile of *CCR*.

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