

Editorial Message

Neurosciences journal is now in its 23rd year and since its establishment the journal has been improved in the contents, quality and the circulation around the world.

In 2017, we invited all the local societies related to neurosciences field to set an agreement between the journal and the society. The society should contribute to the journal scientifically and the journal will be the official journal to the society in return. We congratulate both Pan Arab Union of Neurological Societies and Saudi Association of Neurological Surgery to be the affiliated societies in our journal and we are looking forward for more contribution.

In 2018, we aim to increase the number of issues to meet the increased load of manuscripts. Our objective is to enrich the scientific Neuroscience material presented by the journal with important topic reviews and regular neuroscience quizzes to achieve high citations. We will continue to promote our new web-based manuscript submission interface; strive to reduce the time from received to acceptance and acceptance to publication to no more than 3 to 4 months each; attend regional conferences, and participate in academic activities to encourage submission of high quality articles; and commission our best reviewers to write good articles and encourage editorial board members to contribute material for a regular editorial feature on topical issues. The journal also is introducing a new look, and a new logo. We also change the layout of the journal. We also plan for a web based manuscript submission interface system.

The journal started the implementation of CARE Case Report Guideline¹ as a mandatory requirement for case report submissions.¹ Prior to submission, authors should read the CARE Checklist and write the article following the guideline's essential requirements. This hopes to raise the clinical value of case reports published.

We are also conducting a regular critical auditing to the performance of the Journal. We are very meticulous with regards to the accuracy of the editing; medical writing is different from other professional writing, an excellent scientific experiment with novel ideas may still be rejected due to poor writing. Most authors in this region have difficulty in incorporating the objective, methods and knowledge in a proper English language.

The editors observed that poor language quality is one of the factors that delays the peer review process. Occasionally, reviewers were unable to assess the paper due to poor writing. Language should not be a barrier in scientific publication especially for non-native English speakers. Subsequently, articles with language deficiencies also take significant time in the editing stage and delay the publication process. To overcome this, we strongly suggest that prior to submission, authors should have their articles edited for correct use of grammar, syntax, flow and clarity and submit only once the language has been improved. As a pre-submission requirement, strict compliance shall be observed.

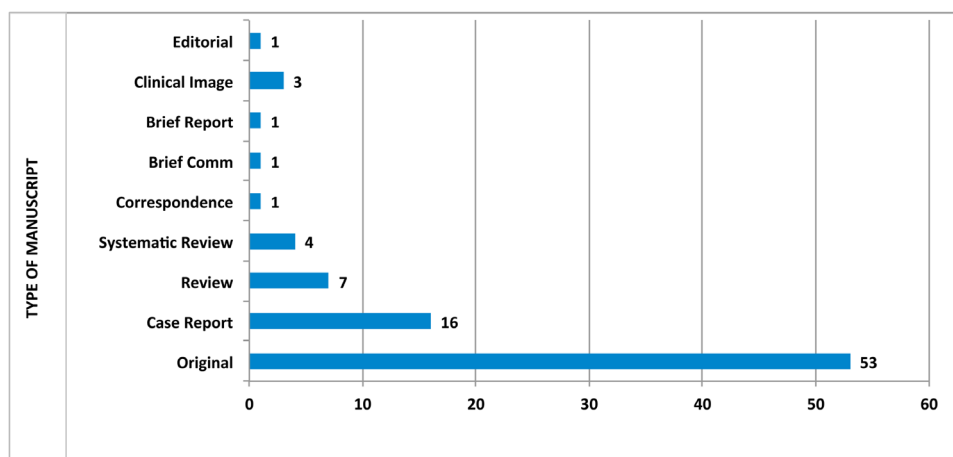


Figure 1 - Number and type of manuscripts processed for the year 2017.

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The discoverability and accessibility of scientific content to various relevant platforms is very important in today's digital age. We take this time to announce the indexing of Neurosciences Journal in Cengage. Cengage Company is a global leader with thousands of partner libraries around the world and has a large digital archive of research databases, reference books, eBooks and more. With the recent inclusion in this database, we anticipate enhanced visibility and accessibility of our articles.

In 2017, we received a total number of 159 manuscripts, with an average rejection rate of 27%. Reasons for rejection included papers out the scope of the journal, of low scientific quality, not meeting the requirements of the journal, authors failing to submit the revisions and other necessary requirements, and duplicate publication. However, over 4 issues of 2017, we published a total number of 55 articles which include: 21 originals, 1 editorial, 5 reviews, 2 systematic reviews, 12 case reports, 2 clinical notes, 6 brief communications, 2 correspondences, 1 clinical practice guidelines and 3 MCQs. The average processing time from received to acceptance was 3.35 (1-10) months, mode=2 months, 3.28 (1-8) months from acceptance to publication and 6.63 months from received to publications (3-15) months mode=6 months. Fifty-three percent of published articles were from KSA, with 7% from Turkey, 15% from China, 4% from Iraq and 4% from Jordan. The remaining 17% of published articles we received from UK, Germany, Oman, India, Iran, Nigeria, and Pakistan.

We extend our thanks to the Editorial and Advisory Board Members for their significant contributions to maintaining the standards of the journal, and we look forward to their important continued role in achieving our goals for 2018. We would like to thank the outgoing Advisory Board member (Mohamed Tariq) who had now finished his term and would like to welcome Brahim Tabarki and Joseph Lamanna to the Advisory Board. We also extend our thanks to the outgoing Editorial Board members. We are honored they have agreed to join the board, and their individual contributions will be of great value to the journal. We continue the international diversity of members that the current board offers. We hope all our readers continue to benefit from the published material, and we extend our sincerest thanks to our authors, readers, reviewers, and board members, and wish all a successful year.

References

1. CARE. Case reports guidelines. [Updated 2018; Accessed 2017 November 14]. Available from URL: <http://www.care-statement.org/>

*Waleed Khoja
Associate Editor*

*Khalid Hundallah
Associate Editor*

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Our thanks also go to the following reviewers, who have participated in the excellent review of manuscripts and books for the year 2017.

Abdulrahman Jafar Sabbagh
Afif Hentati
Ahmed Alfares
*Ahmed Ammar
Ajay Panwar
Ali Genc
Ali Kitis
Ali Omrani
Alireza Majdi
Allan Coates
Amal Bakry Abdul-Sattar
Antonio Montinaro
Atilla Ozcan Ozdemir
Avanti Dey

Bassam Bassam
Bassem Yamout
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Claudia Christina Hilt Pflieger
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Dengue Alcy Torres

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Ezequiel Uribe

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Fatma Yesim Klingberg
Federico Abreu Calderon
Fenghua Chen
Frank Witter

Hasn Karsen
Hernandez Giron Carlos
Hussein A Algahtanin

Irene Navalpotro Gomez
Jameelah Saeedi
James Balogun
Jerome Engel
Jesus Rivera-Navarro
Jihad Inshasi
Joao Pedro Marto
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Johannes Honekopp
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Mahmoud Fawzi
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Marecel Marcikic
Mashahiro Yuasa
Mathias Zink
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Michael Ivan
Mohammad Ali Sahraian
Mohammad Ehlayel
Mohammad Kabiraj
Mohammed Almakhlafi
Mohammed Jan
Mohammed Saadah
Murat Gulekin
Murat Terzi
Myoung Soo Kim

Nader Honjol
Norito Kokubun
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Patricia Rzezak

Raed AlRoughani
Raphael Schiffmann
Rashmi Shah
Ravi Kanojia
Riaz Ahmed Syed
Richard S McLachlan
Rigmor Jensen
Robert Gaiser
Roberta La Piana

Saeed Bohlega
SallyAnn Wakeford
Sami Harik
Sarah Griffiths
Shaimaa Abdelsattar Mohammad
Simona Lattanzi
Slobodan Vlajkovic
Sonja Hochmeister
Sophia Hulbert
Stephanie Mathieson
Steve Simpson
Subhi Mahmood Alghanem
Sumit Thakar

Tarek Mirdad
Tengfei Wang
Theodore Nash
Tiziana Nava
Tomasz Szmuda

Wolfgang Herrmann
Wouter Vanderplasschen

Venkatesan Nagarajan
Vykuntaraju Gowda

Xisngyun Li

Yan Yin

Yavuz Samanci

**Reviewers who reviewed 3 or more articles for the year 2017*