Editor’s Note on Recent Journal Impact Factor of Cancer Research and Treatment

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Clarivate recently released information on the 2022-2023’ journals’ performance [1]. Among several parameters, Journal Impact Factor (JIF), rank by JIF, and rank by Journal Citation Indicator (JCI) could serve our understanding how the journal’s performance is to be evaluated. Cancer Research and Treatment (CRT)’s JIF dropped from 4.6 to 4.1 this year, and, however, the rank by JIF was maintained in the second quartile (from 89/241, Q2, 63.3% to 91/322, Q2, 71.9%), and the rank by JCI was improved from the second quartile to the first quartile (from 83/318, Q2, 74.06% to 69/322, Q1, 78.73%), respectively (Fig. 1). Appropriate interpretation of these parameters needs understanding of a few recent changes in Clarivate’s policy. Last year’s noticeable change was limiting the article exposure duration of 3 years in calculating the number of citations. This change was to eliminate the advantages by longer exposure duration and higher chance for citation by the online journals. According to this change, CRT’s JIF dropped from 5.036 to 4.6 to 4.1 recently, and the average JIF of all oncology journals dropped from 7.896 to 7.4 to 6.4 during the past 2 years, respectively. Another important change made this year is inclusion of 80 Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI) journals to the journal list for the first time, and this partly explains the average JIF fall of all oncology journals from 7.4 to 6.4. Based on these understanding recent changes of CRT’s performance, simple drop of JIF seems not to be disappointed, but seems relieving and even promising sign for CRT’s future growth. All editors of CRT have focused and will continue to focus on providing informative, educative, and influential articles to the readers by selecting the “readable and citable manuscripts.”

Fig. 1. Recent parameters that Cancer Research and Treatment achieved based on Clarivate report. JCI, Journal Citation Indicator; JIF, Journal Impact Factor.

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Conflicts of Interest
Conflict of interest relevant to this article was not reported.

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