

### **Self-Audit of the Journal to Improve Quality**

Self-audit of the medical journal to improve the standard and quality of the manuscripts accepted for publication is very important. It not only helps in future planning but also provides an opportunity to review the progress achieved thus far. We began this process last year. In 2007, though we received a total of 269 manuscripts (compared with only 110 in 2006 and 129 in 2005), only 87 manuscripts were published after the peer-review process.

We are extremely pleased to note the steady increase in the number of manuscript submissions received both from Turkey and from abroad. The total number of manuscripts received from other countries in 2007 was 50 in comparison to 24 in 2004, 27 in 2005 and 28 in 2006.

We plan to increase the number of articles published in each issue in order to accommodate the excessive increase in submitted and accepted manuscripts. The primary target now is the establishment of an Online Submission System, which it is hoped can be implemented this year.

Though the Turkish Journal of Medical Sciences has been accepted into the Science Citation Index Expanded since 2007, it is not yet available on the journal list due to some developments at Thomson Scientific. However, according to a recent communication from the Section Editor, Turk J Med Sci is to be included on the list as soon as possible in 2008, which will include the issues starting from 2007.

Our target now is to increase the impact factor of our journal, which is possible only by ensuring the submission and publication of papers of high scientific quality. This will not be possible without your support.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank all the authors, reviewers, Editorial Board members, journal staff and of course the readers. Without you all, we would have been unable to achieve this tremendous success in the past year.

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