Feedback as a commitment

Alejandro Treviño-Becerra
Academia Nacional de Medicina, Gaceta Médica de México, Ciudad de México, Mexico

Over the last 22 months, the National Academy of Medicine has managed to overcome some obstacles to improve Gaceta Médica de México publication and periodicity.

As of this year, Dr. Martha Eugenia Rodríguez Pérez joined as associate co-editor; this is the first time that a female academician assumes this responsibility. Doctors Miguel Cruz López and Francisco Espinosa Larrañaga continue as co-editors, with the latter now also being executive editor.

The advances of the journal in this last period are the following:
– As of the second half of 2017, it has its own website, which can be consulted at www.gaceta Medicademexico.com and that will allow greater national and international visibility, as well as knowing the number of recurrent users, new users and the countries it is consulted from through a system of statistics, which at this moment shows 56.45 % of national and 43.55 % of international users (the five countries with the largest number of visitors are the United States, Brazil, Spain, France and Colombia).
– From 2018 number 4 on, all published articles have the DOI international assignment, which allows electronic access to the documents.
– Each number is published during the corresponding bimester.
– The print run is 2000 copies and the extension of each issue ranges between 120 and 144 pages.
– Annually, two supplements are published: the first one around a current topic, and it is generally sponsored by institutions other than the National Academy of Medicine; the second one gathers academicians’ admission works and is published during the fourth quarter of the year.
– There is an online version in Spanish of each number available since the following month of the printed version appearance.
– The contents of each issue are translated into English and can be consulted online, with time of appearance within four months after the publication of the printed version.
– In the Gaceta last three issues, the works presented by academicians in sessions, gathered in symposia, have been published again.
– The number of reviewers, both National Academy of Medicine members and external, was increased.
– The waiting-time for the review of articles has been reduced.
– There is a sustained upward trend in the impact factor: it has increased from 0.19 in 2013 to 0.34 in 2017, which is the latest data published in the Journal Citation Index 2018. The most important is that it has an international recognition rating.
– A “pre-filter” system was established to reject works that do not comply with the instructions for authors, that are incomplete or of poor quality, with the purpose to optimize the work of reviewers and for authors to receive an answer as soon as possible.

We are trying to improve distribution, with greater opportunity and to a higher number of readers, and work is therefore being done to establish agreements.

Last year, at the beginning of activities, the group of Gaceta Médica de México editors submitted a survey to academicians, which was answered by one third of them. The results were published in number 3 of volume 153 and served as a basis for carrying out various actions, such as reorganization of the journal’s sections:
– Editorial (by invitation)
– Original articles

Correspondence:
Alejandro Treviño-Becerra
E-mail: editor.gmm@anmm.org.mx

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Gaceta Médica de México is an excellent and attractive means for disseminating the work that is carried out in the area of medicine, and thus we invite the readers to submit mainly original works and review articles. With your favorable response we will have works of interest that contribute to elevate the “tormented” impact factor, which we all want to be higher than the current one. Editorial quality is our responsibility, but the content is a commitment shared by academicians and authors.

In June this year a letter was sent to the editorial board members and to the reviewers in order to know if they have backlog of articles under review; one third part responded and endorsed its collaboration with this journal.

- Symposia
- Review articles
- Brief communications
- Letters to the editor
- Informative section about the life of the Academy