



## Exploration of the Processes of “Iranian Journal of Public Health” during 2017-2020

*Dariush D FARHUD*

(Received 12 Jan 2021; accepted 25 Jan 2021)

*Editor-in-Chief*

As usual to every year, here a report is presented to demonstrate the output of **Iran J Public Health**, for the year 2020. Besides, this editorial will compare the trend of the whole publication process during 2017-2020.

The total number of manuscripts received during 2020 was 3160 from 66 countries. Of course, only the country of corresponding author was considered, so altogether much more countries we had in the panel. Again, Iran had the highest rate of submission, followed by China and Turkey (Table 1). Figure 1 presents total number of articles published during 2017-20 in the context of the frequency of submission, rejection and acceptance rate.

Out of total submission of 3160 articles during 2020, 2741 articles were rejected after initial in-house evaluation in addition to subsequent peer review. Therefore the acceptance rate for this year was 8.9%.

This year, we screened all submitted papers using iThenticate plagiarism checker software to check them in terms of probable plagiarism. We tried mostly to ask the authors to correct their articles for minor plagiarism. Overall, we are bound to Committee of Publication Ethics (COPE), so we observe its rules on how to monitor the cases detected as plagiarism. Fortunately, altogether, less than 10 articles were rejected due to major plagiarism.

In relation to Covid-19 pandemic, the journal has tried to play its role on the expanding the

knowledge as for the prevention and control of the disease, so not only we published a supplementary on this disease, but also for every issue we have published some articles out of turn and we will continue it until the eradication of the disease. The Journal continued its policy as for exact peer review rules including in-house evaluation followed by double blind peer review system. Figure 2, demonstrates the total number of articles published during 2017-2020 in terms of the percentage of acceptance and rejection rate. It is worth mentioning that some manuscripts submitted during 2020, are still in the process of peer review so we have no idea of their destination. However, the rejection rate in 2020 was 86.7%. Besides, the rate of in-house rejection was 53.4% followed by 33.2% as rejection after peer review.

The types of articles published during 2017-20 are shown in Fig. 3. Accordingly, Original Articles had the highest rate of publication during the last four years.

Due to high flow of submitted manuscripts, in many cases, the authors were requested to change the format of “Original Article” to “Letter to the Editor”.

The Impact Factor (IF) announced by Clarivate Analytics (ISI) for the year 2019 was 1.291 and five year IF as 1.495. According to <http://www.scimagojr.com/>, the H index of the journal was 31 until 2019, moreover the rank of the journal was Q3 (Fig. 4). Besides, SCOPUS has reported SJR as 0.32 for the year 2019.



**Table 1:** Frequency of manuscripts received by Iran J Public Health during 2020 in terms of the frequency of submission, rejection and acceptance rate

	Country	Submis- sion	Rejected	Accepted
1	Afghanistan	1	1	0
2	Albania	4	3	1
3	Algeria	3	3	0
4	Australia	3	2	1
5	Austria	1	1	0
6	Azerbaijan	1	1	0
7	Bangladesh	15	15	0
8	Bosnia	3	3	0
9	Brazil	25	20	2
10	Bulgaria	4	3	1
11	Cameron	1	0	0
12	Canada	7	5	2
13	Czech	2	2	0
14	Chile	4	3	0
15	China	600	464	105
16	Colombia	9	4	5
17	Croatia	2	2	0
18	Ecuador	1	1	0
19	Egypt	16	16	0
20	Ethiopia	8	8	0
21	France	3	3	0
22	Georgia	1	0	0
23	Germany	1	1	0
24	Ghana	2	2	0
25	Greece	4	3	1
26	Hungary	1	0	0
27	India	65	62	2
28	Indonesia	161	157	2
29	Iran	1599	1415	112
30	Iraq	15	15	0
31	Italy	5	4	1
32	Jamaica	1	1	0
33	Japan	4	0	4

34	Jordan	10	8	0
35	Kazakhstan	12	10	1
36	Korea	44	19	18
37	Latvia	1	1	0
38	Malaysia	38	36	0
39	Mexico	5	4	1
40	Montenegro	12	6	6
41	Morocco	13	13	0
42	Namibia	1	1	0
43	Nepal	2	2	0
44	Nigeria	13	13	0
45	Pakistan	61	61	0
46	Palestinian	5	5	0
47	Philippines	3	3	0
48	Poland	7	7	0
49	Romania	15	15	0
50	Russia	4	4	0
51	Saudi Arabia	21	21	0
52	Serbia	24	21	2
53	Slovenia	1	1	0
54	South Africa	4	4	0
55	Spain	6	5	0
56	Sweden	2	2	0
57	Syria	1	1	0
58	Thailand	13	12	0
59	Tunisia	7	6	1
60	Turkey	252	231	12
61	UK	1	1	0
62	Ukraine	4	4	0
63	United States	2	0	2
65	Venezuela	2	2	0
66	Vietnam	2	2	0
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>3160</b>	<b>2741</b>	<b>282</b>

**Note:** Some manuscripts submitted during 2020, are still in the process of peer review so we have no idea of their destination.

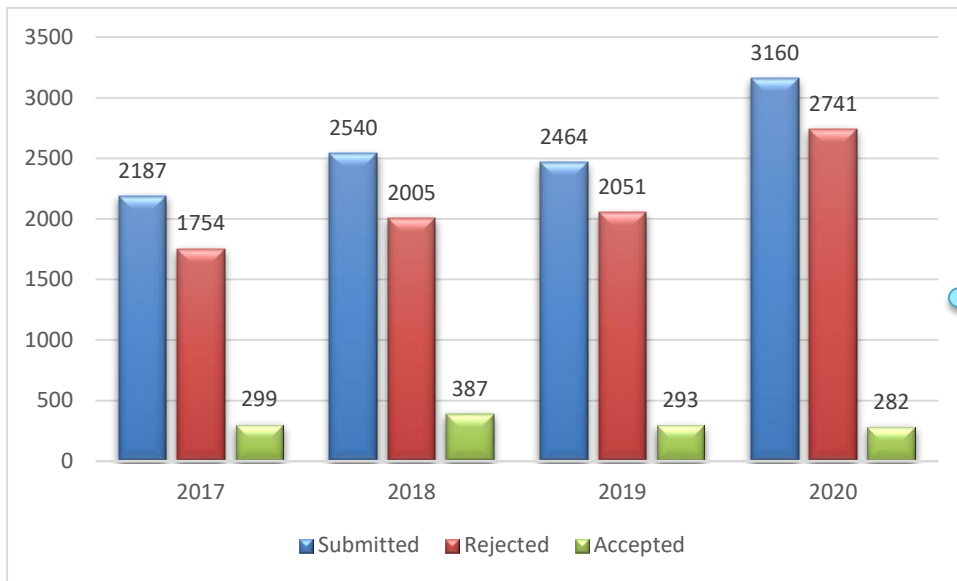


Fig. 1: Total number of articles submitted during 2017-20 in the context of the frequency of submission, rejection and acceptance rate.

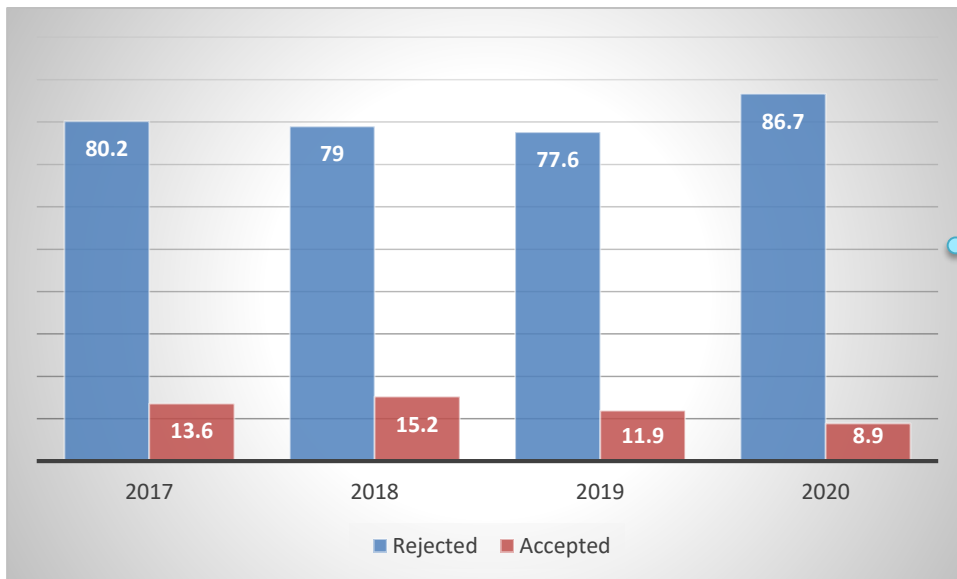


Fig. 2: The percentage of acceptance and rejection rate during 2017-20.

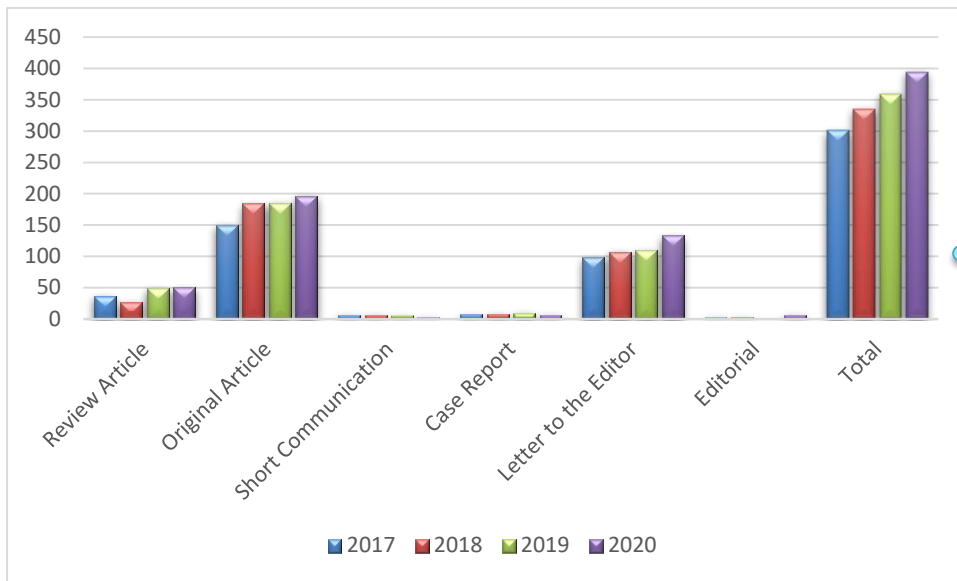


Fig. 3: Total number of articles during 2017-20 based on the type of published papers.



Fig. 4: Key Indicators announced by Scimagojr.com for the year 2019.