



Appraisal of Submitted Manuscripts to “Iranian Journal of Public Health” During 2012-2015

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In parallel with previous years, in this issue we are going to present a critical appraisal on submitted article to Iranian Journal of Public Health in 2015 and report a short report on the destination of these articles in terms of rejection, acceptance, publication etc. In addition, this editorial will compare the trend of whole publication process during 2012-2015.

The total number of manuscripts received during 2015 was 1964 from 57 countries. Obviously, Iran, the homeland of the Journal, has acquired the first rank of the list in accordance with previous years, followed by China and Turkey (Table I). Figure 1 presents total number of articles published during 2012-15 in the context of the frequency of submission, rejection and acceptance rate.

Out of total submission of 1964 articles during 2015, 1445 articles were rejected after initial in-house evaluation or later peer review.

As previous years, some cases of plagiarism were detected and were treated according to the policy of the journal. Normally, authors of minor cases of plagiarism are given a chance to amend their manuscripts precisely but major cases are rejected. Unfortunately, the dilemma of plagiarism still occurs in a portion of submitted articles mostly sent from non-English native countries.

The Journal follows a policy of in-house evaluation followed by double blind peer review system.

As for foreigner authors we try to exert an open peer review system. The reasons for rejecting a manuscript during in-house evaluation are various but the most important cases are out of scope cases, poor outcome, local studies, clinical contents etc. Figure 2, demonstrates the total number of articles published during 2012-2015 in terms of the percent of acceptance and rejection rate. It is worth mentioning that some manuscripts submitted during 2015, are still in the process of peer review so we have no idea of their destination. This may cause some problems in reporting exact data. However, the rejection rate in 2015 was 73.5%.

A critical point is that due to high rate of receiving articles from different countries, up to now nearly 181 articles are in the queue of lay outting and we have no choice but to delay the date of publication.

The types of articles published during 2012-2015 are shown in Fig. 3. Accordingly, Original Articles have the highest rate of publication during the last three years. An increasing trend of published articles is obvious during 2012-15.

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”, which of course the merit of both formats remains the same.

Table 1: Frequency of manuscripts received by Iran J Public Health during 2015 in terms of the frequency of submission, rejection and acceptance rate

| No | Country | Submission | Rejected | Accepted |
|----|---------------|------------|----------|----------|
| 1 | Algeria | 6 | 2 | 3 |
| 2 | Arabia | 18 | 16 | 2 |
| 3 | Argentina | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 4 | Australia | 5 | 4 | 0 |
| 5 | Bangladesh | 12 | 11 | 1 |
| 6 | Brazil | 6 | 2 | 2 |
| 7 | Bulgaria | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 8 | Cameroon | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 9 | Chile - Spain | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 10 | China | 268 | 196 | 43 |
| 11 | Cyprus | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 12 | Czech Re | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 13 | Egypt | 12 | 7 | 2 |
| 14 | Ethiopia | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| 15 | France China | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 16 | Georgia | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 17 | Greece | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 18 | India | 93 | 85 | 7 |
| 19 | Indonesia | 15 | 11 | 2 |
| 20 | Iran | 988 | 716 | 171 |
| 21 | Iran- USA | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 22 | Iraq | 9 | 9 | 0 |
| 23 | Italy | 5 | 3 | 1 |
| 24 | Japan | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| 25 | Jordan | 11 | 7 | 2 |
| 26 | Kazakhstan | 9 | 6 | 2 |
| 27 | Korea | 51 | 22 | 22 |
| 28 | Korea-USA | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 29 | Libya | 1 | 1 | 0 |

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|--------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| 30 | Macedonia | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 31 | Malaysia | 48 | 39 | 7 |
| 32 | Malaysia-Australia | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 33 | Mexico | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| 34 | Mongolia | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 35 | Morocco | 8 | 7 | 0 |
| 36 | Namibia | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 37 | Nepal | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| 38 | Nigeria | 23 | 20 | 2 |
| 39 | Oman | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 40 | Pakistan | 101 | 85 | 12 |
| 41 | Philippine | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| 42 | Poland | 28 | 19 | 8 |
| 43 | Romania | 28 | 9 | 16 |
| 44 | Serbia and Montenegro | 17 | 10 | 5 |
| 45 | Slovenia | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| 46 | South Africa | 9 | 8 | 1 |
| 47 | Spain | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 48 | Sudan | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| 49 | Syria | 7 | 6 | 1 |
| 50 | Taiwan | 12 | 9 | 2 |
| 51 | Thailand | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| 52 | Tunisia | 11 | 4 | 4 |
| 53 | Turkey | 110 | 93 | 11 |
| 54 | UK | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| 55 | Ukraine | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| 56 | United States | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 57 | Yemen | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Total | | 1964 | 1445 | 338 |

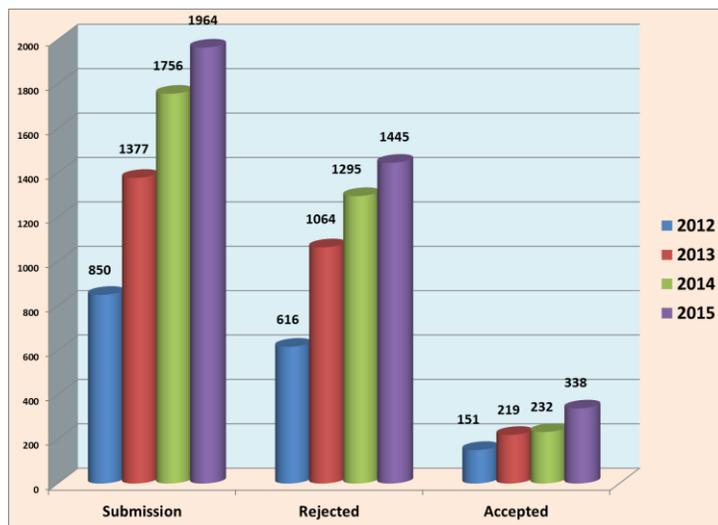


Fig. 1: Total number of articles published during 2012-15 in the context of the frequency of submission, rejection and acceptance rate

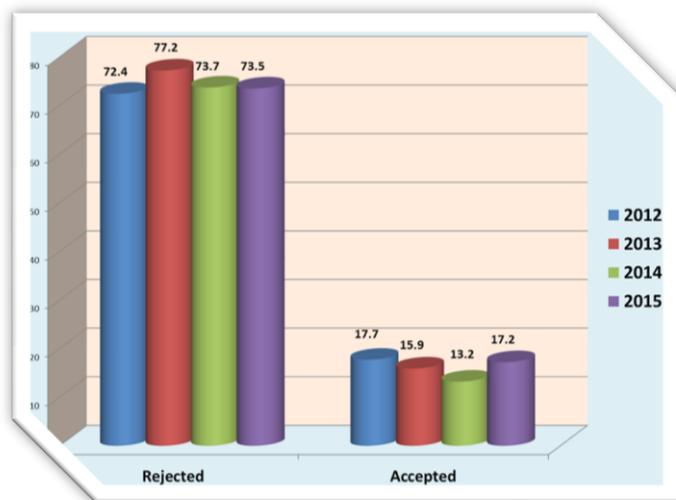


Fig. 2: Total number of articles published during 2012-15 in terms of the percent of acceptance and rejection rate

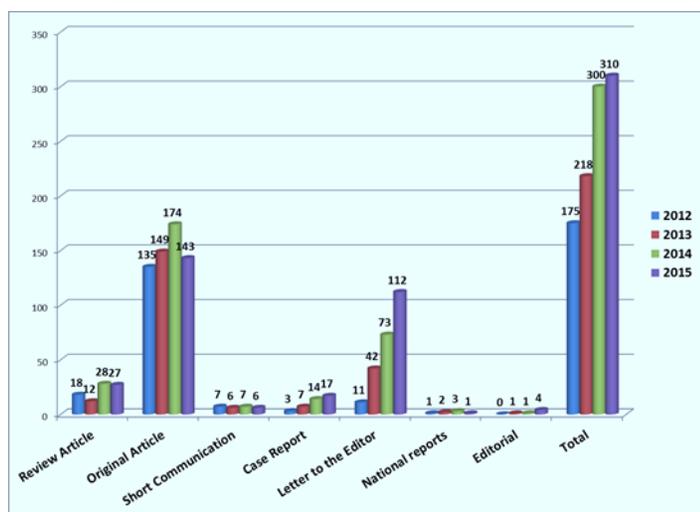


Fig. 3: Total number of articles published during 2012-15 based on the type of published papers