



Thomson Reuters

ISI (Information Sciences Institute)

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Kowsar Editorial Meeting,
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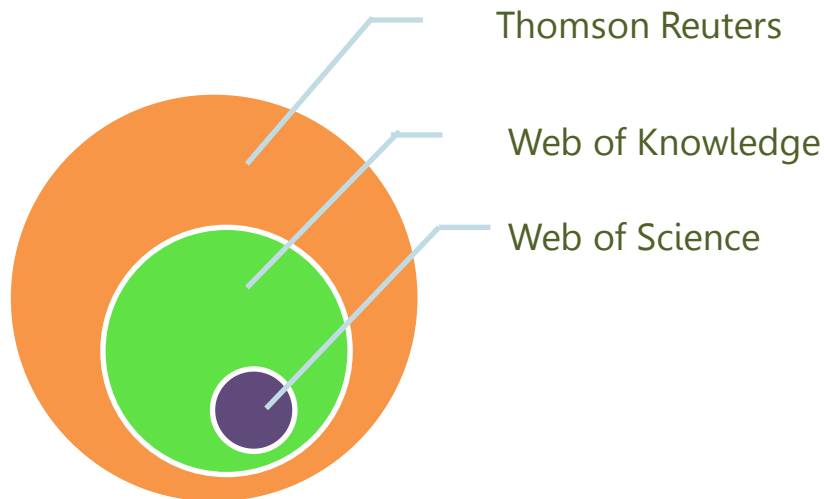
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Thomson Reuters:

- A comprehensive research platform which coverage the world's most important and influential data



Web of Knowledge:

Different types of content for searching
journal articles, patents, websites,
conference proceedings, open access
material

Web of Science:

- Offers access to journal articles in the sciences, social sciences and arts and humanities
- Web of Science® can be found within Web of Knowledge
- Today Web of Science covers over 12,000 top international and regional journals

Web of Science:

An Analysis on 7,621 journals in 2008 :

- 1) 50% of all citations generated by this collection came from only 300 of the journals
- 2) These 300 top journals produced 30% of all articles published by the total collection

So ISI Web of Science decided:

- 1) Update journal coverage by identifying and evaluating promising new journals
- 2) Deleting journals that have become less useful

How to apply?

- 1) Complete the online journal submission form
- 2) Send a notification email after online publishing an issue

How to apply?

- *Print Journals:*

1. Complete the Online journal Submission Form
2. Send the current issue of the journal along with a cover letter
3. Post each subsequent issue as soon as each is published

NOTES

- Please do not send back issues
- Please provide following information in the cover letter:
 - Full Journal Title
 - ISSN
 - Publisher's Name and Address
 - Editor's Name and Address
 - Brief statement on the unique features of the journal and how it is distinguished from other journals in the field

The Evaluation Process

- Each year, the Thomson Reuters editorial staff reviews over 2,000 journal titles for inclusion in *Web of Science*.
- Around 10-12% of the journals evaluated are accepted for coverage.
- Journals now covered are monitored to ensure that they are maintaining high standards

Evaluation Factors

- Basic publishing standards
 - Timeliness (primary and fundamental importance)
 - International Editorial Conventions
 - Full Text English
 - Peer Review
- Editorial content
- International diversity of authors, editors, and editorial advisory board members
- The citation data (new journals → citation record of the authors and editorial board members)
 - Self-citation rates are also taken into consideration

Regional Journals

- Thomson Reuters is also interested in excellent regional journals and is able to include a relatively small proportion of these each year.

Criteria for Regional Journals

- Specificity of its content is more important
- Less emphasis on extensive international diversity
- Different citation analyses → citation impact is usually modest
- Other selection criteria are the same

All regional journals must:

- Published on time
- Have English-language bibliographic information (title, abstract, keywords)
- Be peer reviewed
- Roman alphabet references

Electronic Journals

The format of electronic journals is extremely important:

- Journal Title
- Year of publication
- Volume and/or Issue Number (if applicable)
- Article Title Page Number or Article Number
- Authors names and addresses
- Article identifiers such as DOIs
- A complete table of contents for each issue (including the page/article number for each article)

Our Bad Experience

Dear Azam,

Thank you for your and for following up with me regarding the evaluation statuses of Kowsar's journals. I'm sorry I didn't get back to you sooner.

I have requested from our editors an update on the majority of the titles in the list attached to your message. I'll send you more information on those titles as it's made available to me.

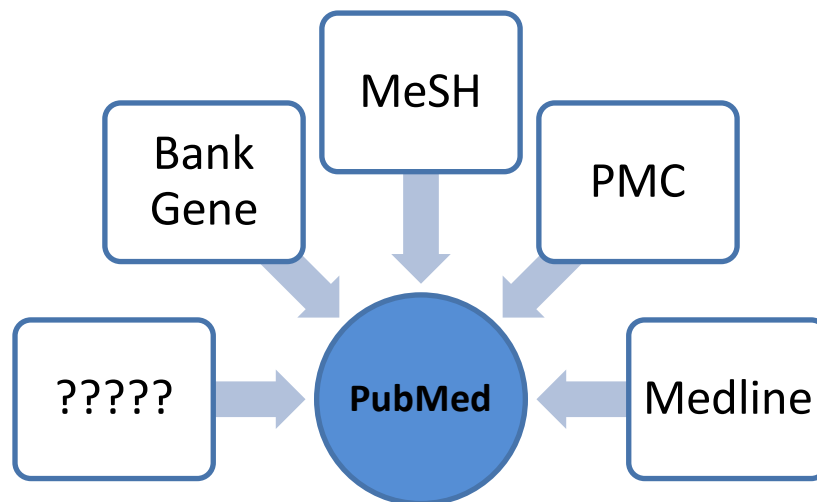
I do have information on two of the journals from the list you sent me:

- [REDACTED]
 - Status: Rejected
 - Decision date: 01/17/2013
 - Eligible for evaluation again: 12/01/2015 ←
 - Notes: Rejected for low citation counts and a lack of international diversity among the journal's authors.
- [REDACTED]
 - Status: Rejected
 - Decision date: 07/18/2013
 - Eligible for evaluation again: 07/10/2016 ←
 - Notes: Rejected for low citation counts and a lack of international diversity among the journal's authors.

MEDLINE

The relationship between PubMed and Medline

PubMed is a search engine that shows a variety of data that are indexed in different databases of NLM (National Library of Medicine)



What is Medline?

The largest component of PubMed, and a freely accessible online database of biomedical journal citations and abstracts created by the U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM®).

Approximately 5,400 published have been selected and are currently indexed for MEDLINE

Application Process print journals

- 1) Complete "MEDLINE Review Application Form" at <http://wwwcf.nlm.nih.gov/lstrc/lstrcform/med/index.html>
- 2) Send a copy of each issue to the Medline Office
 - ❖ Required quantity to enter review waiting list:
 - Three or more times a year → four print issues
 - Twice a year → three print issues
 - Once a year → two print issues

Note: Only published issues are accepted (i.e., not "proofs", unbound issues, or photocopies)

Application Process

electronic journals

- 1) At least 20 articles have been published and made available online.
- 2) Complete "MEDLINE Review Application Form" at <http://wwwcf.nlm.nih.gov/lstrc/lstrcform/med/index.html>
- 3) Provide NLM with XML-tagged data of its bibliographic citations
- 4) Provide robust current access to all of its content

Important

- Quality, originality, and importance of the scientific content are primary consideration

How often does LSTRC meet?

- Three times a year: fall, winter and late spring

How many titles are examined?

About 190 titles, including new titles and re-reviews, are examined at each meeting.

Only 20% - 25% of the titles reviewed are selected for indexing

If the journal is not selected, what can be done?

- Rating scores : from 0 to 5
- For acceptance: ≥ 3.75
- Apply for re-examined:
 - A minimum of two years following the first review date
 - A minimum of three years following the second or subsequent review date

If a journal title is selected, when will indexing begin?

- Provide the journal's citation and abstract data as [XML-tagged data](#) to NLM
- Acceptable XML-tagged citation and abstract data must be received within six months following the date of inclusion in MEDLINE
- NLM acquires a subscription or license to the journal.
- Most journals are indexed from the online version; NLM will subscribe to and use the paper version for indexing if an electronic version is not available.

Our bad experience

1. Quality	Poor 0	Fair 1	Moderate 2	Good 3	Excellent 4	Outstanding 5	N/A
Scientific Merit (validity, currency of information & references, originality, contribution to field)							
Review Articles				X			
Clinical Research				X			
Basic Research			X				
Other (Case Reports, Editorials, etc.)			X				
Authors/Institutions				X			
Editorial Work (credibility of contents)							
Editorial Board Quality			X				
External Peer Review			X				
Production Quality (layout, printing, readability, usability, graphics; number and location of advertisements)							
Print Quality							
Online Quality				X			

Our bad experience

2. Importance	None 0	Little 1	Moderate 2	High 3	Very High 4	Essential 5	N/A
Researchers			X				
Clinicians in the Field				X			
Clinicians not in the Field			X				
Educators			X				
Administrators				X			
Allied Health Professionals			X				
Students			X				
Policy Makers				X			

3. Ethics Policies/Statements							
	Policy Exists			Policy is Adequate		Policy Consistently Followed	
	N/A	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Conflict of Interest		X		X		X	
Human/Animal Rights		X		X			X
Informed Consent		X		X			X
	None	Little	Moderate	High	Very High	Essential	N/A
Ethics Policies			X				

A bad experience

4. Other Factors

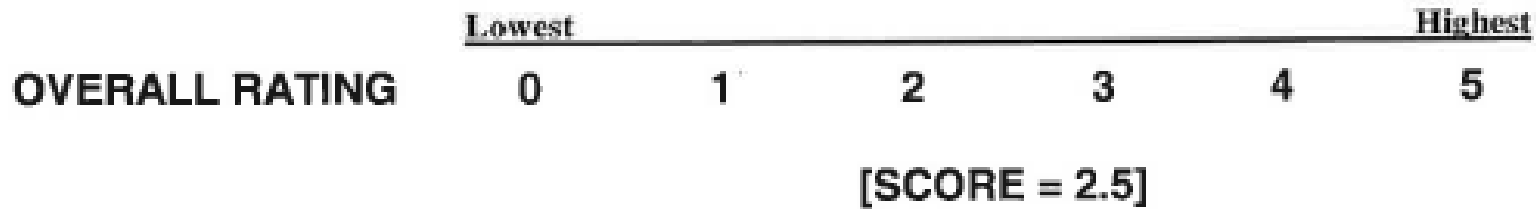
- Significant perspectives on local conditions or indigenous diseases
- Critically synthesizes and organizes knowledge in this field
- Significant new techniques
- Emerging Field

Journal Strengths: Editorial board members are listed with their affiliations. Author affiliations are listed on the first page of each article. All of the articles include received/accepted dates on the first page of the PDF-version of the articles. (The received/accepted dates range from one week to five months.) Funding statements appear at the end of the articles in the Funding/Support section. Some articles contain human/animal & ethical statements in the Methods section of the article. All the articles contain conflict-of-interest statements in the Financial Disclosure section at the end of each article. The HTML- and PDF-versions of the full-text articles are accessible and readable. The journal presents interesting articles dealing with local problems in the field.

Area(s) for Improvement: Widen the editorial board and carefully enforce the ethical policies. Many articles with human and animal subjects do not indicate institutional committee approval and informed consent, and this needs to be corrected. Attract more original research. Provide the rate of unsolicited and accepted manuscripts in the MEDLINE Application.

Overall Comments: This is a niche journal which is informative to all fields related to the high-risk behaviors and addiction. It is published in Iran.

A bad experience



Our bad experience

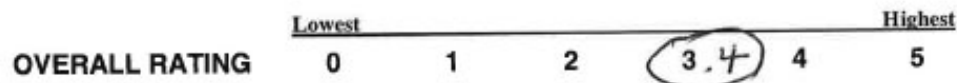
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Journal Strengths: This journal publishes work on an interesting breadth of relevant topics. Publishes original research with strong methods and helpful narrative reviews of important topics. It is published entirely in English and provides structured abstracts. The editorial board has reasonable international representations with locations listed. Authors show some geographical diversity. There are clear journal policies requiring authors to address sources of financial support, Conflict-of-Interest, Informed Consent, and Protection of Human and Animal Rights. Relevant ethics statements appear in each published article for which they are relevant. Attractive, full-function web-based journal. Navigation is intuitive. Good web production and graphics. Provides content in both HTML and PDF formats. Provides hot links to cited references. Peer review is conducted with standard procedures with multiple outside reviewers, including a methodologist. A very strong feature is that each article has a formulated summary statement on implications of the findings for practice, education or policy.

Area(s) for Improvement: The journal publishes narrative review articles, but few are formal systematic reviews with formal evaluation of strength of evidence. More authors from outside the county would add content and breadth. It is not possible to assess its selectivity, since no figures were provided in the MEDLINE Application on rates of commissioning and acceptance of articles. This field is already served by many strong journals world-wide and it is not clear how much added value this journal brings to the MEDLINE-indexed journal literature.

Overall Comments: This journal is published in print and online versions.



Our bad experience

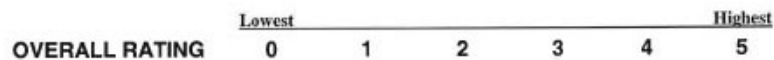
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Journal Strengths: Publishes original research reports, some with modest numbers of subjects and limited designs, but which often address important health problems and adds local information on local health problems and practices. Reports and reviews current research. Interesting breadth of relevant topics. Helpful reviews of important topics. Provides structured abstracts. Adds a footnote to each article summarizing implications for practice, policy, research or education. Clear journal policies requiring authors to address sources of financial support, conflict-of-Interest, informed consent, and protection of human and animal rights. However, it is important to publish statements in each article, when relevant. Attractive, full function web-based journal. Provides content in HTML and PDF formats. Provides reference links.

Area(s) for Improvement: Journal would be strengthened by publishing more original research with larger studies of stronger design and greater impact. Ethics statements and disclosures should appear in each published article for which they are relevant, particularly when working with vulnerable patients/subjects such as adolescents. Add statement on informed consent to each report of research involving human subjects. Some tables and figures could be improved in format and clarity. Review articles could be more systematic, following internationally-accepted guidelines for reporting. More authors and editors from outside the country would add content and breadth. The high acceptance rate suggests that the journal could be more selective in choosing what submitted material to publish.

Overall Comments: This free-access journal publishes a wide variety of basic, clinical and public health research on problems in child health. Some of the studies are small in scope and limited in design, but they are reported in a standard organized way. The editorial board and authors are almost exclusively from Iran. The high acceptance rate and rapid submission-publication time suggest low standards. The journal definitely publishes original research that provides significant perspectives on local conditions and indigenous diseases in Iran. It makes a contribution to practice and public health in its region.



[SCORE = 2.4]



Our bad experience

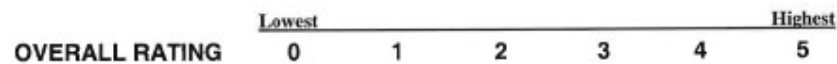
4. Other Factors

- Significant perspectives on local conditions or indigenous diseases
- Critically synthesizes and organizes knowledge in this field
- Significant new techniques
- Emerging Field

Journal Strengths: This is the official publication of the Mediterranean & Middle Eastern Endoscopic Surgery Association. There are 3 reviewers per manuscript. The journal has a satisfactory conflict-of-interest statement, and the articles have a section for disclosures.

Area(s) for Improvement: The journal did not provide information about the percentage of articles that are commissioned or the acceptance rate. The editorial board could be expanded to include international minimally invasive surgical experts. Including such individuals may facilitate better peer review and comparison to state-of-the-art work in this field. There are some typographical errors in the articles. There are also non-functional links on the online version. The methods for most studies and reviews are not described well, missing basic information such as a period of time during which subjects were enrolled in a study or the databases searched for a review. The documents and links cited in the MEDLINE Application provide sample informed consent forms from WHO. Similarly, the links and documents for the human/animal rights directed us to the NIH site on these topics. However, the journal needs to specify its own policies for these issues. Statements about informed consent or protection of human subjects were not found. Not all of the online papers are available in PDF format, and some of the "free" HTML-links do not link to the full article. The navigation is cumbersome and does not allow the user to go back or navigate from a content outline at most sites.

Overall Comments: The journal is relatively new, and some of the ethical policies are inadequate or nonexistent. The electronic version needs much improvement. There is a moderate-sized editorial board; most members are Iranian, but there are a few representatives from other countries.



[SCORE = 2.3]

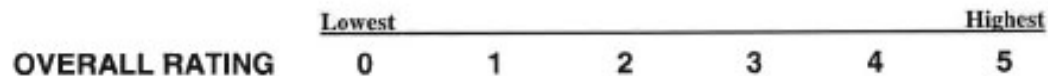


Our bad experience

4. Other Factors

- Significant perspectives on local conditions or indigenous diseases
- Critically synthesizes and organizes knowledge in this field
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- Emerging Field

Overall Comments: [REDACTED] is an electronic-only (open-access) clinical journal of the Nephrology and Urology Research Center of the Baqiyatallah University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran. The journal is aimed at practicing nephrologists and urologists. The original research studies from Iran provide a perspective on local approaches to common nephrological/urological diseases, but sample sizes tend to be small and many papers are case series. The scientific quality of the articles is variable—generally, moderate-to-good. The reviews are mostly narrative and without methods. The editorial board is primarily from the Middle East, UK, Europe, North America, and Australia. Authorship is diverse and international in scope, but a large proportion of authors are from Iran. Authors are listed with affiliation and geographic location. Most, but not all, of the articles included acknowledgement statements regarding conflict-of-interest statements, when appropriate. Some, but not all, articles displayed human ethical statements; others, despite being studies using human subjects, did not include approved protocols from an institutional review board or similar committee. Funding sources included mostly international-granting agencies, governments, and universities. It would have been useful to have the rates of acceptance and uncommissioned work provided on the MEDLINE Application. The scientific quality of the articles needs to be improved.



[SCORE = 2.7]

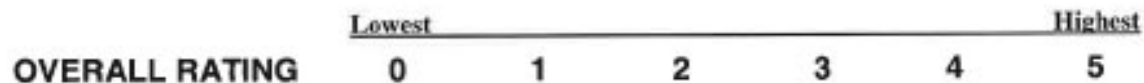
Our bad experience

4. Other Factors

- Significant perspectives on local conditions or indigenous diseases
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- Significant new techniques
- Emerging Field

Journal Strengths: This is an open-access journal with content available in PDF/HTML formats. Aim is to publish high-impact papers within a short time frame. The journal has good guidance and explicit requirements for sponsorship, role of authors, funding support, republishing, and plagiarism. Authors are expected to provide detailed information about any relevant financial interests or financial conflicts within the past 5 years and for the foreseeable future. The journal value is in being a repository for regional trauma studies.

Area(s) for Improvement: The aim of the journal is to be an international, but authors are predominantly Iranian. Affiliations of editorial board members should be listed. It would be useful to have information on the acceptance rate and % of invited reports. The journal should provide more data on outcomes of peer review process. There should be a human subjects and animal rights ethics policy and a more consistent approach to reporting human subjects approval.



[SCORE = 2.3]



**Thank you for your
attention**

Further Questions:
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