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2023: A year of accomplishments for the 13 Science Citation Index Expanded- and Emerging Sources Citation Index-indexed *Baishideng* journals

Wang JL *et al.* 2023: A year of accomplishments for 13 *Baishideng* journals

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Abstract

In 2023, Baishideng Publishing Group (*Baishideng*) routinely published 47 open-access journals, including 46 English-language journals and 1 Chinese-language journal. Our successes were accomplished through the collective dedicated efforts of *Baishideng* staffs, Editorial Board Members, and Peer Reviewers. Among these 47 *Baishideng* journals, 7 are included in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) and 6 in the Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI). With the support of *Baishideng* authors, company staffs, Editorial Board Members, and Peer Reviewers, the publication work of 2023 is about to be successfully completed. This editorial summarizes the 2023 activities and accomplishments of the 13 SCIE- and ESCI-indexed *Baishideng* journals, outlines the *Baishideng* publishing policy changes and additions made this year, and highlights the unique advantages of *Baishideng* journals.

Key Words: Baishideng Publishing Group; Journal Impact Factor; Open access; Policy changes; Policy additions; Unique advantages; Anxiety disorders; Colorectal cancer; Inflammatory bowel disease; Hepatocellular carcinoma; Gut microbes; Atrial fibrillation

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Core Tip: With the support of Baishideng Publishing Group (*Baishideng*) authors, company staffs, Editorial Board Members, and Peer Reviewers, the publication work of our 47 open-access journals in 2023 is about to be successfully completed. This editorial summarizes the 2023 activities and accomplishments of the 13 *Baishideng* journals indexed in Science Citation Index Expanded and Emerging Sources Citation Index,

outlines the *Baishideng* publishing policy changes and additions made this year, and highlights the unique advantages of *Baishideng* journals.

INTRODUCTION

In 2023, Baishideng Publishing Group (*Baishideng*)³ routinely published 47 open-access journals, including 46 English-language journals and 1 Chinese-language journal. Among these, 7 are included in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE)⁶ and 6 in the Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI). With the support and dedication of all *Baishideng* staffs, Editorial Board Members, and Peer Reviewers, the publication work of these 13 journals in 2023 is about to be successfully completed.

BRIEF SUMMARY FOR THE 13 SCIE- AND ESCI-INDEXED BAISHIDENG JOURNALS IN 2023

Number of manuscripts received and published

As of December 20, 2023, the 13 SCIE- and ESCI-indexed *Baishideng* journals received a total of 5726 manuscript submissions, of which 2533 (44.2%) passed peer review and were published online (Figure 1). Among those, the *World Journal of Gastroenterology* received 1602 manuscript submissions and published 428 articles, with 827 (51.6%) having been rejected and 360 (22.5%) still under peer review.

The 2533 articles published in the collective *Baishideng* journals have already garnered a total of 1330 citations, accounted for by 681 (26.9%) of those articles. An outstanding accomplishment has been achieved by 45 (1.8%) of those articles having received more than 5 citations each and 10 (0.4%)^[1-10] having been cited more than 10 times in the current year (Table 1).

Summary of the manuscript peer reviews

As of December 20, 2023, the 13 SCIE- and ESCI-indexed *Baishideng* journals received a total of 10394 peer review reports from Editorial Board Members and Peer Reviewers,

accounting for an average of 1.82 (10394/5726) peer review reports per manuscript. Declines to conduct peer review of manuscripts numbered 36644.

Manuscript invitations

As of December 20, 2023, the 13 SCIE- and ESCI-indexed *Baishideng* journals received a total of 1859 title submissions for invited manuscripts, of which 1597 (85.9%) titles were accepted. Among the 1597 accepted invited manuscript titles, 678 manuscripts have been submitted successfully and 133 articles have been published online. For the remainder, the invited manuscripts have already been rejected or have not yet been submitted.

Journal Impact Factor™

According to the *Journal Citation Reports™* released on June 28, 2023, all of the 13 SCIE- and ESCI-indexed *Baishideng* journals received updated Journal Impact Factors™ (JIFs).

The 7 SCIE-indexed journals: (1) *World Journal of Gastroenterology*, JIF: 4.3; (2) *World Journal of Diabetes*, JIF: 4.2; (3) *World Journal of Stem Cells*, JIF: 4.1; (4) *World Journal of Psychiatry*, JIF: 3.1; (5) *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology*, JIF: 3.0; (6) *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery*, JIF: 2.0; and (7) *World Journal of Clinical Cases*, JIF: 1.1.

The 6 ESCI-indexed journals: (1) *World Journal of Clinical Oncology*, JIF: 2.8; (2) *World Journal of Radiology*, JIF: 2.5; (3) *World Journal of Hepatology*, JIF: 2.4; (4) *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy*, JIF: 2.0; (5) *World Journal of Cardiology*, JIF: 1.9; and (5) *World Journal of Orthopedics*, JIF: 1.9.

POLICY CHANGES AND POLICY ADDITIONS RELATED TO BAISHIDENG JOURNALS IN 2023

Publishing partners

In 2023, well-known institutions in China were carefully chosen for invitation to become publishing partners for *Baishideng* journals, six of which successfully completed the joint

vetting process and formally partnered with five *Baishideng* journals. These respected institutions include ² Shanghai Pancreatic Cancer Institute and Pancreatic Cancer Institute of Fudan University, and Biliary Tract Disease Institute of Fudan University partnering with *World Journal of Gastroenterology*. Each of these six new publishing partners will help *Baishideng* to better promote the development of *Baishideng* journals, while *Baishideng* will help these publishing partners to enhance their international academic cooperation and exchange activities, strengthening their academic reputations nationally and extending them worldwide.

Manuscript initial submission

Starting in August 2023, the process of initial submission was updated so that authors can conveniently make the first upload of their manuscript without restrictions on writing style, file format, or need for accompanying relevant documents. This enables authors to submit their manuscripts faster, ultimately attracting more authors to submit their manuscripts to *Baishideng* journals. The updated guidelines for authors can be found at <https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/gerinfo/204>.

Co-authors policy

To acknowledge the evolution of research towards equal contributions among broader groups of researchers, in August 2023 *Baishideng* initiated allowance of co-first authorship and co-corresponding authorship. Co-first authors and co-corresponding authors are now formally cited in a footnote for manuscripts published in *Baishideng* journals. The detailed co-authorship policy can be found at: <https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/GerInfo/310>.

Article Processing Charge policy

To better acknowledge the contributions by Editorial Board Members and Peer Reviewers, and to help authors from low- and middle-income countries, in December 2023 *Baishideng* updated its Article Processing Charge (APC) policy. If an unsolicited

4 manuscript has a corresponding author who is a member of the Editorial Board or serves as a Peer Reviewer for *Baishideng* journals, the APC will be reduced by 50% (previously 10%), and *Baishideng* will provide discounts in line with the Research4Life Programme (<https://www.research4life.org/access/eligibility/>) as follows: Group A countries will receive full waiver of the APC; and Group B countries will receive a 50% discount. For the detailed policy of APC, please visit: <https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/gerinfo/242>.

Reference Citation Analysis

5 Starting in April 2023, *Reference Citation Analysis (RCA)*, a unique artificial intelligence system for citation index evaluation of literature, sharpened its focus onto the medical sciences and life sciences literature. As of December 20, 2023, a total of 54375058 articles and 6129 quality journals encompassing 124 categories are indexed in *RCA*. Meanwhile, 4039 scholars from countries across the globe registered as *RCA* scholars, and 48981 subscribers subscribed to *RCA*. For more information about *RCA*, please visit: <https://www.referencecitationanalysis.com/>.

UNIQUE ADVANTAGES OF BAISHIDENG JOURNALS

Manuscript publication processing time

In general, for most of the manuscripts submitted to any *Baishideng* journal, the first decision/peer review procedure can be done within 28 d from the date that the journal receives the manuscript; other than this, the maximum time will not exceed 90 d. Moreover, most accepted papers can be published online within 20 d; other than this, the maximum time will not exceed 30 d.

Control of academic quality

To control the academic quality of *Baishideng* journals' manuscripts, all Editorial Board Members are invited to participate in the second decision process. In addition, all Editorial Board Members are invited to write editorials on accepted articles that are ready to be published, to expand their academic impact.

Control of language quality

To control the language quality of *Baishideng* journals' published articles, from January to November 2023, more than 760 manuscripts were edited by our language Editors, and *Baishideng* paid nearly \$40000 for this.

Fight against plagiarism

¹ To fight against plagiarism and to ensure high ethical standards for all of the published articles, *Baishideng* joined iThenticate (CrossCheck) in 2014. iThenticate is an effective tool for detecting unoriginal content, enabling our editors to preserve our journals' integrity and authors' copyright. For all accepted manuscripts, we will conduct iThenticate detection. ¹ If a significant amount of overlapping text (e.g., overlap > 5% or similarity > 50%) is found, we will immediately verify if the manuscript is associated with plagiarism. Once plagiarism is confirmed, the manuscript will be rejected immediately and all authors of the manuscript will be included in the black-list of *Baishideng* journals.

Ethical requirements

² For all manuscripts involving animal/human experiments, author(s) must submit the related formal ethics documents that were reviewed and approved by their local ethical review committee. ² The approved ethics document(s) will be released online, together with the manuscript. This is why none of the articles published in *Baishideng* journals were retracted due to academic misconduct in 2022-2023. This practice not only effectively improves the reliability of articles published in *Baishideng* journals but also helps to eliminate articles from "Fake-Paper Factories".

Authors/Editorial Board Members' evaluation and Readers' comments

After an article is published in any *Baishideng* journal, the authors are invited to evaluate their experience with the article publishing process, the Editorial Board Members are invited to further track and evaluate the scientific and linguistic quality of the article, and

the readers in the relevant field are invited to comment on the article. As of December 20, 2023, a total of 2409 authors' evaluations and 1999 Editorial Board Members' evaluations have been received by the *Baishideng* journals for the year. From September to December 2023, a total of 78 readers' comments have been received by the *Baishideng* journals.

CONCLUSION

Finally, we hope that more researchers/authors will continue to submit high-quality manuscripts to *Baishideng* journals in 2024, and all Editorial Board Members/Peer Reviewers will continue to conduct high-quality peer review for *Baishideng* journals in 2024, and support *Baishideng* to publish more high-quality articles that will make substantive contributions to the development of clinical and basic medical research.

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