

EDITORIAL

Human Reproduction 1997: highest impact factors in reproductive medicine and soon to be published on the Web

Our journal starts the year in excellent shape. Its continued standard of excellence is now reflected in its leading impact factor in the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI) lists for all journals devoted to reproductive medicine. Figures published a month ago in two classifications, 'Reproductive Systems' and 'Obstetrics and Gynaecology', which analyse data for 1993 and 1994, produce the values given in Table I for selected leading journals. When ISI's section on Reproductive Systems is considered by itself, the values for its leading journals are as shown in Table II.

All calculations for all journals use the same formula, and the classification of journals by ISI is based on their perceived grouping. In other words, all impact factors are comparable. The high impact factor for *Human Reproduction* is wonderful news. To be first in reproductive medicine, and a close second in reproductive science reflects the high standard that the journal has attained. Its success depends so much on its Editors, referees and authors, and on the unstinting support of ESHRE and its Executive Committee and on Oxford University Press. We thank all of them and look forward to their continued support.

Human Reproduction achieves this quality while publishing >50 papers each month. It would not have been possible to publish so many without the savings in space introduced during 1995 by reducing print size for Material and Methods and for References. The pressure on space is still immense and has been met partly by these design changes. Four free Supplements, the Journal of the British Fertility Society, two Abstract Books and four Excerpts were also issued this year. These activities will continue in 1997, and one issue of the journal will be a special issue devoted to the contribution of modern molecular biology and genetics to the understanding of developmental biology in mammals. The joint publication of the *Journal of the British Fertility Society* will continue with the full cooperation of both parties. It will continue to be published biannually and may be given a new name. Three or more Supplements will be published and issued free of charge.

There will be new developments in 1997. The entire journal will soon be published on Web, offering the choice of printed copy or electronic online versions following in the footsteps of the Oxford University Press journals *Nucleic Acid Research* and *EMBO Journal*. Details of prices and methods of payment will be published later this year.

Our move to a new office at Moor Barns Farmhouse led to some problems in re-establishing our work there. We are now very happily settled, and the Editorial Office is easily accessible from Cambridge. We welcome visits from our colleagues for coffee and a chat!

Finally, but by no means least, we thank our colleagues

here in this Office and in Oxford for all they have done to help in publishing *Human Reproduction* and its companion journals. We give especial thanks to Caroline Blackwell, Fiona Bennett and Beverley Hilton, and our deepest thanks to Tracy Brand, Kathie Fullarton, Margaret Gill, Karen Heavens and Lucy Leighton. Their efforts at coping with moving the Office and with endless power failures while maintaining an incredibly high output have been superb.

Table I. Impact factors of selected journals devoted to reproductive medicine, 1993 and 1994. Data taken from 'Reproductive Systems and 'Obstetrics and Gynecology'

Human Reproduction	2.913
Fertility and Sterility	2.788
American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology	2.477
Obstetrics and Gynecology	2.202
Placenta	1.979
British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology	1.955
American Journal of Reproductive Immunology	1.707
Surgery in Gynecology and Obstetrics	1.587
International Journal of Gynecological Pathology	1.500
Gynecological Oncology	1.374
Hypertension and Pregnancy	1.357
Prenatal Diagnosis	1.355
Journal of Reproductive Immunology	1.323
Contraception	1.291
All others	<1.2

Table II. Impact factors of journals in ISI's section on Reproductive Systems, 1993 and 1994

Biology of Reproduction	3.123
Human Reproduction	2.913
Molecular Reproduction and Development	2.229
Placenta	1.979
Journal of Reproduction and Fertility	1.840
American Journal of Reproductive Immunology	1.707
Journal of Reproductive Immunology	1.323
Sex. Plant Reproduction	1.293
All others	<1.2

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