

EDITORIAL

Visible Progress

Dear readers:

Five years ago, in January 2005, *Transplant International* was re-launched, with the switch to a new publisher, the initiation of an online submission system and the establishment of a two-tiered editorial team including freshly appointed Associate Editors. Since then several parameters indicative of a journal's quality have improved:

- Submissions have nearly tripled (currently approx. 700/year)
- As a consequence, the rejection rate has risen to a level allowing a stricter selection of high quality manuscripts (current acceptance rate: 30%)
- Decision and production times have declined sharply (current: approx. 23 days to first decision; 39 days from acceptance to online publication)
- The impact factor has improved markedly (current IF: 3.115) (Figure 1)

Thus, it seems fair to say that *Transplant International* has established itself as a high quality Europe-based international journal in the field of transplantation.

We want to thank everyone in the community – authors, readers, reviewers and Associate Editors – who have contributed to the success of *Transplant International*. We heartily welcome Josep Grinyó as our newest Associate Editor, who will further strengthen our Editorial Team.

While we are happy about reaching the goal of a noticeably improved journal, we are aware that the newly gained position as a high quality journal is not permanent but needs to be continually re-claimed. Therefore, we are committed to continuing our efforts with unabated intensity to maintain and if possible increase the quality of *Transplant International*.

For this ongoing endeavor we ask for your support: by reading, citing and submitting to *Transplant International*.

Ferdinand Mühlbacher
Editor-in-Chief

Thomas Wekerle
Co-Editor-in-Chief

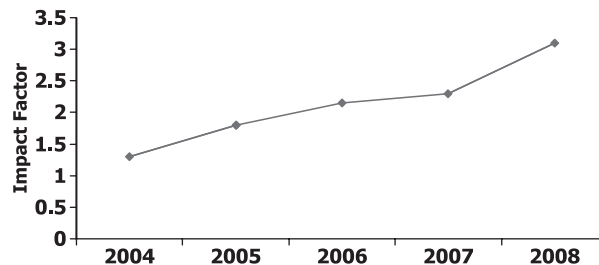


Figure 1 Yearly Impact Factor of *Transplant International* since its relaunch in January 2005. Source: ISI Web of Knowledge, 2008 JCR Science Edition.