



## Further publication enhancements discussed during the current Editorial Board meeting of the Polish Journal of Neurology and Neurosurgery (Neurologia i Neurochirurgia Polska)

Zbigniew K. Wszolek<sup>1</sup>, Łukasz Stolarczyk<sup>2</sup>, Jarosław Sławek<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Co-Editor-in-Chief, Department of Neurology, Mayo Clinic Florida, Jacksonville, Florida, United States

<sup>2</sup>Journal Administrator, Via Medica™, Gdansk, Poland

<sup>3</sup>Co-Editor-in-Chief, Department of Neurology and Psychiatry, Medical University of Gdansk, Gdansk, Poland

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The Editorial Board meeting of the *Polish Journal of Neurology and Neurosurgery* (PJNNS), also known as *Neurologia i Neurochirurgia Polska*, convened via Zoom on 23 June, 2020. The editors of the PJNNS and the journal's publishing administrators presented to the Editorial Board members the current journal status, publication metrics, and plans for future publication enhancements. The Editorial Board members expressed their gratitude to the officers of the PJNNS for their accomplishments and systematic execution of the publication plans that had been presented during the previous Editorial Board meeting held (conventionally) in Lodz, Poland last year [1].

In analysing different publication plans, the Editorial Board members enthusiastically supported the proposal to publish at least once or twice a year an issue with a 'Leading Topic' accompanied by an invited editorial. Such a 'Leading Topic' was envisioned as a compilation of three or four articles on related subjects, for example on stroke, epilepsy or dystonia. The Editorial Board members preferred such a limited single issue 'Leading Topic' approach, rather than devoting an entire issue to a particular subject.

The Editorial Board members were very pleased with the introduction of the Journal's publication strategy featuring 'Invited Editorials' and 'Invited Reviews'. They specifically commented on the increased readership of original articles brought about by the invited editorials. They recommended that the invited editorial and the selected original manuscript should be linked electronically, with paginations referring to each other.

The Editorial Board members recommended that the editors of the Journal select at least one original research article per issue as an 'Editor's Choice' manuscript. This selected research article could have either an accompanied invited editorial or an 'Editor's Comment' (a short description written by the editor of the content of the article encapsulated in two or three sentences). Both options could be utilised depending on need and the availability of an invited editorial for the planned issue. Both approaches would enhance the visibility of selected research articles. The Editorial Board members recommended that such selected research papers with accompanying invited editorials be made open access articles.

Over the course of 2019, the PJNNS significantly reduced the time required to process manuscripts at all stages, including from submission to first decision, from submission to acceptance, from submission to first online publication, and from submission to final publication (Fig. 1). The journal's current standards are extremely high and are matched by very few journals worldwide. In 2019, the average review processing time was only 19 days. This is also a very good metric. The editors of the PJNNS are determined to make every effort possible to continue this rapid flow of manuscripts through the publishing system, and perhaps even accelerate it further.

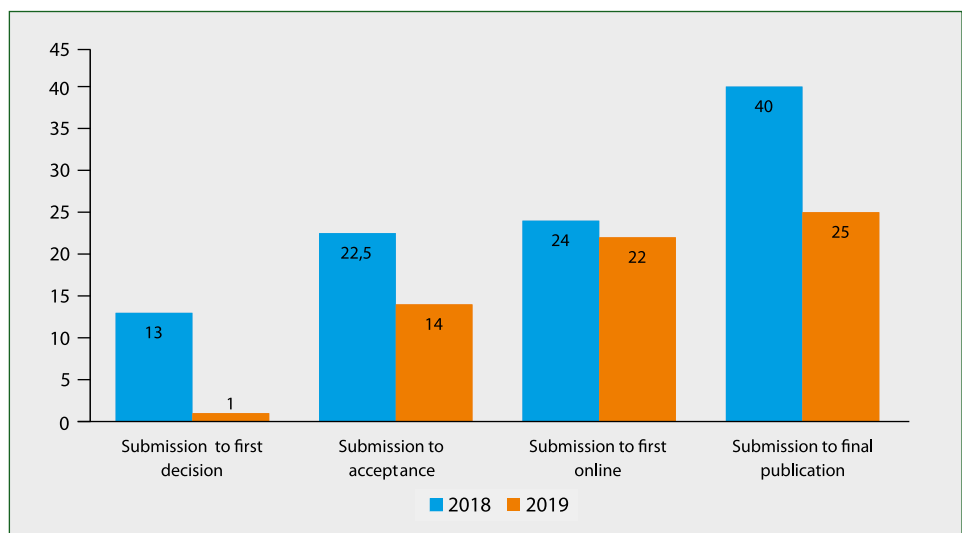
The PJNNS has excellent download metrics. The five most downloaded articles are listed in Table 1 [2–6]. The most frequently downloaded article was an invited review written by authors from the University of Rzeszow in Poland. This paper dealt with vitamin D as an immune modulator in

**Address for correspondence:** Zbigniew K. Wszolek, Department of Neurology, Mayo Clinic, 4500 San Pablo Rd, Jacksonville, FL 32224, USA, e-mail: wszolek.zbigniew@mayo.edu

**Table 1.** The top five most downloaded manuscripts published in 2019 by the *Polish Journal of Neurology and Neurosurgery* (Neurologia i Neurochirurgia Polska)\*

Authors	Title
Halina Bartosik-Psujek, Marek Psujek	Vitamin D as an immune modulator in multiple sclerosis [2]
Edyta Krajczyk, Marcin Krajczyk, Jacek Luniewski, Katarzyna Bogacz, Jan Szczegielniak	Assessment of the effects of dysphagia therapy in patients in the early post-stroke period: a randomised controlled trial [3]
Umaiorubahan Meenakshisundaram Sreenivas, P. R. Prabash, Umaiorubahan Meenakshisundaram	Eye signs for the neurologist in the Intensive Care Unit [4]
Krzysztof Selmaj, Igor Selmaj	Novel emerging treatments for NMOSD [5]
Jake H. McKay, Elliot L. Dimberg, Alfonso S. Lopez Chiriboga	A systematic review of Gamma-aminobutyric Acid Receptor Type B autoimmunity [6]

\*As of August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020



**Figure 1.** This Figure demonstrates a major improvement in processing (flow in weeks) of manuscripts submitted to the *Polish Journal of Neurology and Neurosurgery* (Neurologia i Neurochirurgia Polska). Only two years, 2018 vs 2019, are depicted

multiple sclerosis patients [2]. The second most downloaded article was a research paper submitted by authors from the Municipal Hospital in Nysa and the Opole University of Technology, both institutions located in Poland. This manuscript described a randomised controlled trial of the effects of dysphagia therapy in stroke patients [3]. The third, fourth and fifth most downloaded articles were invited reviews. The first of these was written by authors from the Institute of Neurology at Madras Medical College and Apollo Hospital, both these institutions being located in Chennai, India. This article provided an assessment of eye sign abnormalities seen in patients hospitalised with critical neurological conditions and treated in the intensive care unit [4]. The fourth most frequently downloaded manuscript was an invited review provided by Polish authors from the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, and the Centre of Neurology in Lodz, Poland. This manuscript described novel and emerging therapies for neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorders [5]. The fifth most frequently downloaded article was written by authors from the Mayo Clinic Florida in the United States and dealt with

a specific paraneoplastic condition, gamma-aminobutyric acid receptor type B autoimmunity [6].

As editors of the PJNNS, we are proud that our selection of topics for Invited Reviews has proved so successful. Equally, we hope that our research papers will appear in this select group of manuscripts more frequently in years to come.

We are very grateful to our authors for submitting their articles to the PJNNS. The editors thank the Editorial Board members for their guidance, helpful comments, and their overall support of the PJNNS. The editors intend to collaborate with Prof. Konrad Rejdak from the University of Lublin, who will chair the 24<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Polish Neurological Society due to take place in Lublin, Poland from 22–26 September, 2021, so that we can organise the next Editorial Board meeting to be held during this Congress.

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