

# The highest impact factor of *Kardiologia Polska*

Anetta Undas

Institute of Cardiology, Jagiellonian University Medical College, Kraków, Poland

The 2018 Journal Citation Reports has just been released and I am happy to announce that *Kardiologia Polska* (*Kardiol Pol*, *Polish Heart Journal*) has achieved its highest impact factor of 1.674. Along with our average initial peer-review time of about 25 days and a rigorous peer-review process, the official journal of the Polish Cardiac Society has proved its reputation as home for the highest-quality research in established and emerging areas of clinical cardiology performed by Polish investigators.

An impact factor, a bibliometric indicator, is calculated annually for journals that are indexed in the Web of Science by Clarivate Analytics (formerly Thomson Reuters). It reflects the frequency of citations of papers published in a particular journal. The impact factor of a journal in 2018 is the number of citations received in 2018 divided by the sum of the so-called citable items (mainly original and review papers) published in that journal during the previous 2 years, that is, 2017 and 2016. The 2-year impact factor is widely used to rank the relative scientific importance and recognition of a journal within its field.

An impact factor can be affected by the subject field, number of authors, content type, and size of the journal. Typically, an increase in the number of published papers in a given year, prolonged time required to publish articles, and lack of the publication of popular review articles can negatively influence the impact factor of a journal. We struggle every day to improve our journal's standing, keeping in mind the above factors. Our newest impact factor is the best measure of the journal's performance after 1.5 years since the takeover by the new editorial team.

We would like to thank the editors, authors, and reviewers, who have all contributed to increasing the journal's standards of excellence. I greatly appreciate those who shared with us their interesting and relevant findings, which attracted the attention of peers and were most cited in 2018.

Our goal is to significantly improve the status and ranking of *Kardiol Pol* in comparison with competing journals. Now I am sure that, with strong support of Polish scientists and our friends from around the world, the 2021 impact factor exceeding 2.5 is a quite realistic aim for *Kardiol Pol*.

## ARTICLE INFORMATION

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST** None declared.

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## Correspondence to:

Prof. Anetta Undas, MD,  
PhD, Institute of Cardiology,  
Jagiellonian University Medical  
College, Kraków, Poland,  
ul. Prądnicka 80, 31-202 Kraków,  
Poland, phone: +48 12 614 30 04,  
email: [mmundas@cyfkr.edu.pl](mailto:mmundas@cyfkr.edu.pl)

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