

The highest Impact Factor of *Kardiologia Polska* announced in June 2021: we did it!

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On June 30, 2021, new Impact Factor (IF) values have been announced by Clarivate Analytics. As expected, the 2020 IF for *Kardiologia Polska* (*Kardiol Pol*, *Polish Heart Journal*) has exceeded not only 2.0, but also 3.0. Its exact value is **3.108**. This is a recognition of the quality of the research published in our journal. The IF shows a previously underestimated potential of Polish cardiology, both the academic and non-academic settings, a growing number of cardiologists dealing with patients suffering from a wide spectrum of cardiac disorders and exploring novel pathophysiological mechanisms underlying cardiovascular diseases. I would like to thank you all — our authors, reviewers, and editorial board members — for your invalua-

ble contribution to the journal's success. The major contributors to the 2020 IF among all original and review articles published in *Kardiol Pol*, including 4 high-quality invited reviews from international experts, have been listed in **Table 1**. The scientists who most frequently cited the articles from *Kardiol Pol* in 2020 have also been provided in **Table 2**. Our top reviewers from 2020 whose insightful and timely reviews are essential in our editorial efforts and will contribute to the IF to be announced in 2022 and 2023 are listed in **Table 3**. Their work is greatly appreciated and deserves our recognition.

A journal's IF, a basic measure of the quality of journals, is determined by dividing all citations to this journal within the particular year

Table 1. Ten papers published in our journal in 2018 or 2019, which were most cited in 2020 and most contributed to the 2020 IF of 3.108 (derived from JCR 2021 published on June 30, 2021)

Title	Authors	Reference	Citation count
Oxidative stress and cardiovascular disease: new insights	Pignatelli P, Menichelli D, Pastori D, et al.	Volume: 76, Issue: 4, Pages: 713–722; Published: 2018	19
Hematological indices as predictors of atrial fibrillation following isolated coronary artery bypass grafting, valvular surgery, or combined procedures: a systematic review with meta-analysis	Weymann A, Ali-Hasan-Al-Saegh S, Popov A-F, et al.	Volume: 76, Issue: 1, Pages: 107–118, Published: 2018	13
Catheter ablation of atrial fibrillation: current status, techniques, outcomes, and challenges	Hindricks G, Shalmo AS, Lenarczyk R, et al.	Volume: 76, Issue: 12, Pages: 1680–1686; Published: 2018	13
Differences in knowledge among patients with atrial fibrillation receiving non-vitamin K antagonist oral anticoagulants and vitamin K antagonists	Konieczynska M, Sobieraj E, Bryk A, et al.	Volume: 76, Issue: 7, Pages: 1089–1096; Published: 2018	12
Safety and efficacy of ETC-1002 in hypercholesterolemic patients: a meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials	Wang X, Luo S, Gan X, et al.	Volume: 77 Issue: 2 Pages: 207–216; Published: 2019	11
How can we reverse bleeding in patients on direct oral anti-coagulants?	Crowther M, Cuker A	Volume: 77, Issue: 1, Pages: 3–11; Published: 2019	10
Fungal endocarditis: what do we know in 2019?	Ammannaya GKK, Sripad N	Volume: 77, Issue 7–8, Pages 670–673; Published: 2019	10
The usefulness of C-reactive protein for the prediction of post-infarct left ventricular systolic dysfunction and heart failure	Świątkiewicz I, Taub PR	Volume: 76, Issue 5, Pages 821–829; Published: 2018	9
Baseline and postoperative levels of C-reactive protein and interleukins as inflammatory predictors of atrial fibrillation following cardiac surgery: a systematic review and meta-analysis	Weymann A, Sedaghat M, Baker WL, et al.	Volume: 76, Issue 2, Pages 440–451; Published: 2018	9
Primary safety and effectiveness feasibility study after surgical aortic valve replacement with a new generation bioprosthesis: one-year outcomes	Bartuś K, Litwinowicz R, Kuśmierczyk M, et al.	Volume: 76, Issue 3, Pages 618–624, Published: 2018	7

Table 2. Ten top citing authors

Authors	Number of citing papers	Number of citing papers from <i>Kardiol Pol</i>	Number of citing papers from other journals
Undas Anetta	21	3	18
Lesiak Maciej	15	11	4
Opolski Grzegorz	12	5	7
Gąsior Mariusz	12	7	5
Podolec Piotr	11	4	7
Wojakowski Wojciech	11	7	4
Kapelak Bogusław	10	2	8
Grygier Marek	10	5	5
Kopeć Grzegorz	10	3	7
Grabowski Marcin	10	5	5

Table 3. Twelve top reviewers of 2020

Reviewer	Number of completed reviews
Farkowski Michał	15
Dziewierz Artur	14
Perek Bartłomiej	14
Grygier Marek	13
Kourtis Konstantinos	12
Blicharz Jarosław	11
Iwańczyk Sylwia	11
Wojakowski Wojciech	11
Araszkiewicz Aleksander	10
Świerżyńska Ewa	10
Matusik Paweł	10
Dąbrowski Rafał	10

(2020 in this case) by the number of citable articles encompassing original articles and reviews published in this journal during the two precedent years (in 2018 and 2019 in this case, the years in which most articles were published based on the decision of the current Editors). Indeed, the current IF of 3.108 proves how well our team has selected and disseminated the content of *Kardiol Pol*. Since the latest IF markedly influences an author's choice of where to publish their manuscripts, we hope that more and more good papers will be submitted and finally published in *Kardiol Pol*. To maintain our standing and ensure further growth, we promise to the cardiology community in Poland that the articles in the years to come will be as good as they possibly can be. Excellence, innovative hypotheses, and

sound methodology are the keys to successful submissions to *Kardiol Pol*. This is the source of success. We firmly believe that we are achieving our aims beyond the current IF and our present strategy guarantees that the journal's reputation and prestige we have increased are solid.

Our next goal is that the 2021 IF of *Kardiol Pol* will surpass the current value. We can achieve more, and we will do so. We hope that the joint efforts of authors, reviewers, and editors, supported by the publisher's expertise and experience, will lead to the continued growth of our journal and the promotion of high-quality research in the field of cardiology.

Article information

Conflict of interest: None declared.

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Comment: Several opinion leaders from the Polish Cardiac Society have supported my team in our hard work to enhance the standing of *Kardiologia Polska*. I do appreciate stimulating remarks and trust in my ability to lead the editorial team to achieve the Impact Factor higher than 2.5 within 3 years, presented by Prof. Piotr Pruszczyk during a session sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim at the Spring Conference of the Polish Cardiac Society in May 2018. As a proof, a funny slide from this event is presented above (with permission)