

3.085

ÒSCAR MIRÓ

Editor, EMERGENCIAS, Spain.

Three point zero eight five. They say a picture is worth a thousand words, but in this case it's a number. As announced from these pages a few months ago¹, EMERGENCIAS was included in Thomson Reuters Web of Science at the end of 2010, specifically in their Science Citation Index-Expanded and Journal Citation Reports (JCR). This meant that by mid-2011 our journal would be assigned its first impact factor, corresponding to the year 2010. And that has just come about. It is a number that certainly deserves a host of considerations which are difficult to summarize in this editorial. I will try to outline the most important ones.

Three point zero eight five endorses the quality of the work published in the pages of EMERGENCIAS, reflecting the growth in quality and quantity of research carried out by Spanish emergency physicians²⁻⁷. The EMERGE project was born with the aim of giving these researchers the best possible means to disseminate their work⁸, and the impact factor of EMERGENCIAS heralds the achievement of that goal. Faith in the project by the Editorial Board and the unconditional support of the Spanish Society of Emergency Medicine (SEMES) have undoubtedly played a central role in this achievement. The road has been long and exacting, which makes the prize all the more significant and rewarding.

Three point zero eight five means that, in terms of impact factors, EMERGENCIAS is now the third most important journal of the specialty of Emergency Medicine (EM) in the world (Table 1)⁹. In this edition, JCR includes 23 journals in this specialty, 4 more than last year because, together with EMERGENCIAS, the Canadian Journal of Emergency Medicine, the Scandinavian Journal of Trauma, Resuscitation and Emergency Medicine, and the Hong Kong Journal of Emergency Medicine have been incorporated this year. Clearly, this

is good news because it implies increasing opportunities for emergency physicians who undertake research to publish their work, and in many cases because it avoids having to resort to journals of other specialties in order to communicate results in unique aspects of EM. There is another facet that is worth highlighting: three point zero eight five situates our journal in the top quartile of the specialty, which makes it a leading journal in EM. Moreover, it is the only EM journal to be published in Spanish: the other 22 are published in English (18). German (3) and Turkish (1). This gives it a unique status as a vehicle of communication for the Spanish-speaking scientific community of emergency physicians.

Three point zero eight five also situates EMERGENCIAS prominently among the 73 journals in-

Table 1. Journals included in the specialty of emergency medicine by Journal Citation Reports 2010, in order according to impact factor

Order	Title of journal	Impact factor	Language
1	Resuscitation	4.177	English
2	Ann Emerg Med	4.142	English
3	EMERGENCIAS	3.085	Spanish
4	Injury	2.269	English
5	Acad Emerg Med	2.197	English
6	Scand J Trauma Resus Emerg Med	2.176	English
7	Am J Emerg Med	1.994	English
8	Prehosp Emerg Care	1.889	English
9	J Emerg Med	1.552	English
10	Can J Emerg Med	1.515	English
11	Emerg Med Clin N Am	1.294	English
12	Emerg Med J	1.269	English
13	Emerg Med Austral	1.089	English
14	Eur J Emerg Med	0.901	English
15	Pediatr Emerg Care	0.803	English
16	Unfallchirurg	0.675	German
17	J Emerg Nurs	0.429	English
18	Notfall Rettungsmed	0.400	German
19	Eur J Trauma Emerg Surg	0.257	English
20	Ulus Travma Cerrahi Derg Acyl	0.211	Turkish
21	Signa Vitae	0.200	English
22	Hong Kong J Emerg Med	0.167	English
23	German Notarzt	0.154	German

CORRESPONDENCE: Ò. Miró. Àrea d'Urgències. Hospital Clínic. Villarroel, 170. 08036 Barcelona, Spain. E-mail: omiro@clinic.ub.es

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cluded in JCR that are published in Spain. In particular, it ranks second in terms of impact factor, first in terms of publication exclusively in Spanish and it is one of only three journals published in Spain that occupies the first quartile of the specialty, along with AIDS Reviews and Revista Matemática Iberoamericana (Table 2)¹⁰. Incredible but true. Perhaps now the old complex we emergency physicians have had with respect to our Spanish colleagues of other specialties will begin to disappear. In Spain there is already a significant number of us engaged in scientific research and this helps provide better care every day for our patients.

Three point zero eight five means an even greater challenge for the Editorial Committee of EMERGENCIAS to maintain the level of excellence achieved by the Journal. We now propose to continue with even more energy what we began with the project EMERGE. If this milestone has required 5 years to achieve, a similar period will likely be required to secure the journal's position. But this is not possible if the most prominent Spanish research teams working in EM do not submit their work to our journal. Among these teams are some SEMES research groups who have consolidated positions of leadership in Spanish investigation. The challenge for them is now twofold: maintain the quality of EMERGENCIAS by submitting their best work while competing for the limited space that the journal offers researchers of other specialties with an interest in EM. Undoubtedly, this new situation is complicated, because the journal will be seen in a new light by all research teams, not just those of emergency physicians, but healthy competition can only increase the research capacity of these teams.

Three point zero eight five implies that SEMES now has a tool for disseminating scientific work at the same level as the best Spanish medical societies. Since its foundation SEMES has committed itself to promoting a field of medical science that was undeveloped in Spain, and this effort includes the journal EMERGENCIAS. The various Boards of SEMES have clearly taken the right steps for EM to grow and establish itself scientifically, as it is today¹¹⁻¹³. SEMES now has yet another argument to present to the Ministry of Health, Social Policy and Equality, regarding its promise to create the specialty of EM. Honorable Minister, EM as a specialty has demonstrated its capacity to create its own scientific corpus of knowledge and provide scientific answers to the challenges of daily clinical practice. It has sought and found answers, sometimes by lone investigators, sometimes by teams

Table 2. Journals published in Spain and indexed by Journal Citation Reports 2010, in order according to impact factor

Order	Title of the journal	Impact factor	Language	Quartile
1	AIDS Rev	4.786	I	1 st /1 st *
2	EMERGENCIAS	3.085	E	1st
3	Int J Dev Biol	2.856	I	2 nd
4	Drug News Perspect	2.598	I	2 nd
5	Histol Histopathol	2.502	I	2 nd /3 rd *
6	Rev Esp Cardiol	2.157	E	2 nd
7	Enferm Infec Micr Cl	1.656	E	3 rd /4 th *
8	Int Microbiol	1.635	I	3 rd /3 rd *
9	Med Intensiva	1.496	M	4 th
10	J Invest Allerg Clin	1.489	I	3 rd /4 th *
11	Geol Acta	1.474	I	2 nd
12	Med Clin-Barcelona	1.413	M	2 nd
13	J Physiol Biochem	1.357	M	4 th /4 th
14	An Psicol-Spain	1.338	E	3 rd
15	Clin Transl Oncol	1.254	I	4 th
16	Rev Neurologia	1.218	I	4 th
17	Rev Esp Enferm Dig	1.130	E	3 rd
18	Adicciones	1.127	E	4 th
19	Gac Sanit	1.114	E	3 rd
20	Sci Mar	1.079	M	3 rd
21	Rev Iberoam Micol	1.074	M	3 rd
22	Med Oral Patol Oral	1.071	I	3 rd
23	Drug Today	1.038	I	4 th
24	Method Find Exp Clin	1.037	I	4 th
25	Test	1.036	I	2 nd
26	Nutr Hosp	0.926	E	4 th
27	Cienc Tec Alimentar	0.900	I	3 rd
28	J Iber Geol	0.889	E	3 rd
29	Rev Mat Iberoam	0.859	M	1 st
30	Allergol Immunopath	0.779	M	3 rd /4 th *
31	Rev Esp Med Nucl	0.770	E	4 th
32	Rev Clin Esp	0.762	E	3 rd
33	Top	0.756	I	3 rd
34	Grasas Aceites	0.748	M	3 rd /3 rd *
35	Nefrologia	0.738	M	4 th
36	Rev Mat Complut	0.696	I	2 nd /3 rd *
37	Actas Esp Psiquiatri	0.695	E	4 th /4 th *
38	Publ Mat	0.674	M	2 nd
39	Rev Esp Quim	0.667	E	4 th /4 th *
40	World Rabbit Sci	0.660	I	3 rd
41	Ardeola	0.649	I	3 rd
42	Mater Construcc	0.646	E	2 nd /3 rd *
42	Span J Agric Res	0.646	M	2 nd
44	Aten Prim	0.619	E	3 rd /4 th *
45	Neurologia	0.589	E	4 th
46	An Pediatr	0.570	M	4 th
47	Invest Agrar-Sist R	0.561	E	3 rd
48	Collect Math	0.474	I	3 rd /4 th *
49	Racsam Rev R Acad A	0.400	I	4 th
50	Rev Int Med Cienc Ac	0.380	E	4 th
51	Neurocirugia	0.366	E	4 th /4 th *
52	Drug Future	0.324	I	4 th
53	Actas Urol Esp	0.274	E	4 th
54	Enferm Emerg	0.256	E	4 th
55	An Sist Sanit Navar	0.252	E	4 th
56	Rev Metal Madrid	0.250	E	4 th
56	Sort-Stat Oper Res T	0.250	I	4 th /4 th
58	Afinidad	0.233	M	4 th
59	Estud Geol-Madrid	0.231	E	4 th
60	Bol Soc Esp Ceram V	0.204	M	4 th
61	Rev Iberoam Autom In	0.195	E	4 th /4 th
62	Rev Int Metod Numer	0.150	E	4 th /4 th *
63	Dyna-Bilbao	0.137	E	4 th
64	Shilap-Rev Lepidopt	0.133	M	4 th
65	Rev Esp Nutr Comunit	0.122	E	4 th
66	Itea-Inf Tec Econ Ag	0.119	E	4 th
67	Thalassas	0.067	I	4 th /4 th *
68	Inf Constr	0.059	E	4 th
69	Ginecol Obstet Clin	0.054	E	4 th
70	Aten Farm	0.034	M	4 th
71	Dynamis	0.032	E	4 th
72	Clin Vet Pequeños An	0.022	E	4 th
73	Forest Syst	-	M	-

*The journal is included in two different categories and is therefore assigned two quartiles. E: English S: Spanish M: multilingual.

of emergency physicians, and sometimes in collaboration with other medical specialists.

Three point zero eight five will be of little worth if EM fails to become a specialty. If we do not have residents to train right from the start of their postgraduate specialization, if EM is not an option for physicians to select and turn into a whole career, if we do not have a chance to sit at the same table as other specialists where the fundamentals of health care, training and research in Spain are discussed, another generation of Spanish emergency physicians will be lost. As one generation has already been lost during the past 20 years of struggle, now retired or retiring without seeing this desire fulfilled, which is really a necessity.

Three point zero eight five is, meanwhile, a reason to celebrate for all of us who believe in this dream, and to see that the distance left to travel now is negligible.

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