

## EDITORIAL

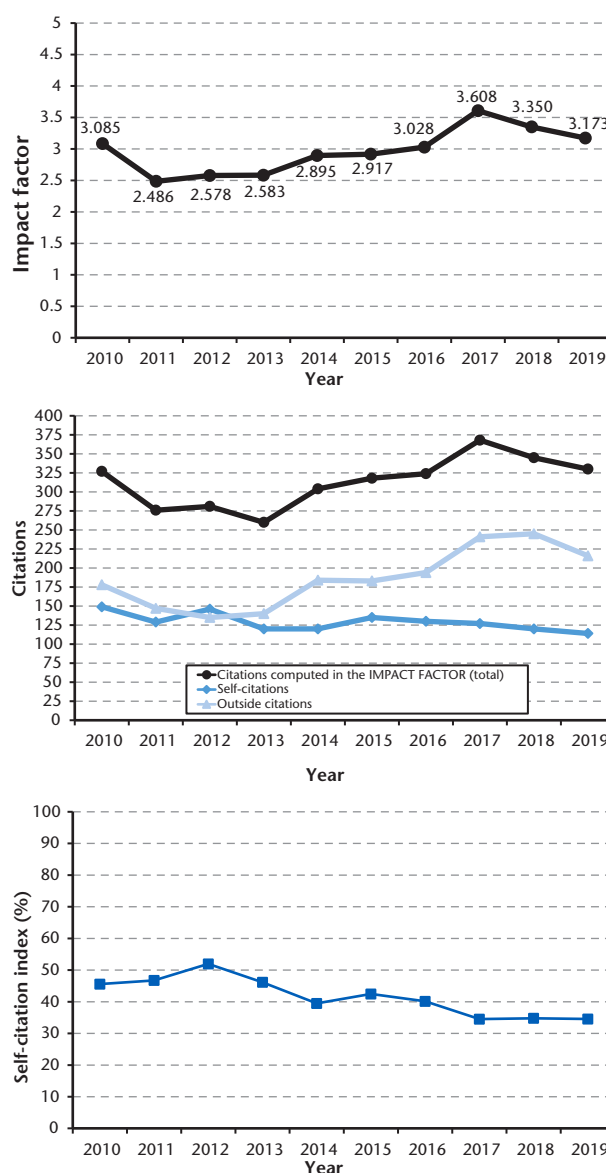
## EMERGENCIAS: 10 years with an impact factor

## EMERGENCIAS: 10 años con factor de impacto

Òscar Miró

Journal Citation Reports recently published the 2019 impact factor of 12,855 scientific journals from all over the world, including EMERGENCIAS for the tenth consecutive year. The impact factor of EMERGENCIAS in 2019 was 3,173. This places it in the 2,961 place among all the indexed journals (percentile 77), in fourth place among the 31 journals of the area of Emergency Medicine (percentile 87; only surpassed by Annals of Emergency Medicine, Resuscitation and World Journal of Emergency Surgery) and in third place among the biomedical journals published in Spanish (only surpassed by Archivos de Bronconeumología and Revista Española de Cardiología). This is good news for Spanish emergency physicians and researchers in general, and for the Spanish Society of Emergency Medicine (SEMES), which owns the journal, in particular.

It is all the more commendable to see how EMERGENCIAS has established itself in these privileged positions since it became part of the list of journals indexed by Science Citation Reports in 2010<sup>1</sup>. Thus, its magnificent first impact factor received in 2011 (3,085)<sup>2</sup> has been followed by similar impact factors during the following years, with values between 2.5 and 3.6 (Figure 1). Furthermore, over the last four years the impact factor has always been above 3<sup>3-5</sup>. This only conveys the fact that researchers use the scientific material published by EMERGENCIAS as a starting point or as discussion material for the research they carry out. Such is the significance that Journal Citation Reports gives to the citations of scientific journals, which are a fundamental part when calculating the impact factor. In 2019 there were more than 300 citations of articles published in EMERGENCIAS the two previous years (2017 and 2018) and that were ultimately responsible for the impact factor obtained in 2019: 3.173. Here we can also observe that the citation of EMERGENCIAS is greater in recent years and, more importantly, that the number of citations from other journals that are not EMERGENCIAS has increased markedly over time (Figure 1). This has meant that the rate of self-citation (percentage of all citations coming from the journal itself evaluated, in this case EMERGENCIAS) has decreased. Thus, the last two years only a third of the citations are self-citations (2019 self-citation index: 35%;



**Figure 1.** Evolution of various bibliometric parameters of EMERGENCIAS from its inclusion in Journal Citation Reports (2010) to the present (2019): impact factor (top), citations (center) and self-citation index (bottom).

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Figure 1). This is a fact that shows how EMERGENCIAS is increasingly used as a primary source of information by researchers who publish in other journals.

There is no doubt that staying for a decade among the best biomedical journals in its specialty and in its language is the result of constant work and a continuous redefinition of the objectives<sup>6-10</sup>. The confidence of SEMES and the commitment of the Editorial Committee of EMERGENCIAS have a fundamental role to play in all this. Now is also the time to thank the researchers for their trust in us by submitting their works, which are of ever higher quality, and which enter into a publication process that is more competitive every year, since the space allocated to publications in the Journal is fixed and the number of manuscripts received is growing. In addition to this trend in recent years, there has been an avalanche of research papers on the COVID-19 pandemic, whose research from the perspective of emergencies and urgent care has been added to the usual research activity in this field. As an example, during the first 8 months of 2020, EMERGENCIAS has received 437 manuscripts, and only 79 of the 402 in which a definitive editorial decision has already been taken have been accepted for publication; that is, an acceptance rate of 19.6%.

We can only hope that during the next few years EMERGENCIAS will continue to be the gateway to the best information and research produced, preferably in

Spain and by emergency physicians, in the specialty of Emergency Medicine. And this Editorial Board will work hard for that.

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