

Continuing Education for all of us

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It was quite a painful process to understand that self-teaching is necessary in Orthodontics. I have always enjoyed teachers, tutors or someone who could hold my hand to give me the confidence to embrace new methods, techniques or procedures. Yet, the speed of progress in the health area does not allow for regular academic learning, it barely waits for the publication of a book. The true source for our continuing education lies in scientific journals. They are the perfect place to find the new, which was peer-reviewed, with the rigour and technique that the scientific method demands. And, as we ascend the levels of evidence, it reaches applicability and, better yet, predictability of results.

And this is what the *Dental Press Journal of Orthodontics* (DPJO) has been working on to offer, along its 22 years of existence, ending in a very

successful result. According to the SCImago database, Brazil is today the second country in the world in number of publications in Orthodontics in the period from 1996 to 2016, losing only to the United States of America. And the DPJO is among the ten best orthodontic journals, with a *cites per doc*^{*} of 0.72 in 2016 — which almost doubled, since it was 0.44 in 2015. This is the outcome of the labour of a number of professionals, who dedicated their time, their talents, their critical minds in the belief of the development of this periodical. To the editors-in-chief who preceded me, the associate editors, the reviewers, the group in technical editing, and the Dental Press publisher, our reverences and our deepest recognition.

^{*}*Cites/doc*: mean citation per document in a two year period.

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My liaison with the DPJO begins through the hands of Jorge Faber and his ideal in transforming the journal officially into an English-published periodical. We created a translation team that worked voluntarily and discreetly, and to whom we owe many acknowledgements, which helped us in translating into English all manuscripts accepted for publication. And this was how the journal slowly adapted itself to the universal language of science. This was one of the mandatory demands for its indexation on MEDLINE, which happened in 2013. It was not a coincidence that the citation indexes for the DPJO significantly raised, which also was due to the unique management ability of David Normando, who during the last six years precisely organized the current workflow of the journal.

The indexation of the DPJO on MEDLINE did not only lead the international orthodontic community to recognize its existence, but also to be completely involved with the journal. In 2017, of all manuscripts submitted to the journal, 50.79% were of foreign authorship, clearly demonstrating its excellent receptivity around the world. I also highlight that the DPJO has a mean of one million accesses per year, being the most accessed periodical in Brazilian dentistry, according to SciELO Analytics.

Recognizing the noble land into which I am now stepping highlights the degree of my responsibility and also enhances the great pride of realizing that Brazil has such a valuable and distinguished product. The DPJO history confounds itself with the marks that its previous editors-in-chief have imparted to it, and it will be a hard task to maintain the journal at the levels it has already achieved. This new period will not only be of continuing education, from reading the content of the journal itself, but also of its management. Of a journal that does not have boundaries any longer, but horizons, which were embraced by the world.

To enhance the importance of reading scientific journals and showing its real value outside the academic spheres is a vital function to our professional practice. After all, in the contemporary world, where digital communication has unmeasurable speed and reach, and when innovations with no scientific proof are easily confounded with a modern practice, it is vital to rely on trustful sources for our continuing education.

Good readings!

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