

JAMA Ophthalmology—The Year in Review, 2019

Striving for Sex Parity in Leadership and Excellence in Publications

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Each year, in the early spring, *JAMA Ophthalmology* leadership pauses momentarily to review substantial changes over the past year and to thank our editorial board, the Advisory Committee, other journal staff, peer reviewers, and authors for contributing to the journal's mission, "To be the indispensable source of ophthalmic knowledge by promptly publishing innovative, clinically relevant research through consistent and authoritative peer review and, thereby, to be the first choice of authors for their important manuscripts." We also look back over the year and reflect on how we are doing.

For the first time in the journal's 150-year history, more than 50% of the editorial board members were women in 2019. Why is it important to be aware of this demographic? In 2017, the American Academy of Ophthalmology reported that 24% of its members and fellows actively practicing in the United States were women, as were half of the ophthalmology residents.¹ Nevertheless, the Editors in Chief of the top 10 ophthalmology journals, based on impact factor in 2019, were all men. The percentage of women on these editorial boards ranged from 11% to 53%. Four of these 10 journals mostly publish review articles rather than original investigations, and women comprised 11%, 32%, 30%, and 23% of their editorial boards in 2019. For the 6 other ophthalmology journals, women comprised 37%, 53% (*JAMA Ophthalmology*), 18%, 19%, 42%, and 15% of their editorial boards in 2019. While the editorial boards of ophthalmology journals have appropriate expertise, recognizing the sex imbalance allows for the consideration of possible unconscious bias, since editorial board members have a substantial role influencing what submissions get published and who writes opinion pieces, such as Invited Commentaries or Editorials. The editors and other editorial board members at *JAMA Ophthalmology* remain committed to sex parity for the journal.

Other measures of the journal can be seen in the **Table**²⁻⁴ and the statistics found in similar tables provided from previous years. For example, the number of research manuscripts received increased by 3.3% from 2018. Since the total number of publications remained approximately the same, invariably, the acceptance rate decreased. The acceptance rate of research submissions in 2019 was 10% compared with 13% in 2018. The global reach of the journal continues to grow, with more than 34 000 recipients of the electronic table of contents each week compared with 29 587 in 2018, an increase of more than 15%; there were more than 3.1 million full-text/PDF downloads in 2019 compared with more

Table. JAMA Ophthalmology Statistics for 2019

Characteristic ^a	Result
Manuscript data	
All manuscripts received	2342
Research manuscripts received ^b	1270
Acceptance rate, %	
Overall	14
Research	10
Peer reviewer turnaround, median, d	13
Receipt to first decision without peer review, median, d	6
Receipt to first decision with peer review, median, d	51
Acceptance to publication, median, d	77
Receipt to publication, median, d	192
2018 Journal impact factor	6.2
Information dissemination data	
Recipients of electronic table of contents per week	>34 000
Full-text/PDF downloads per year	>3.1 million
Twitter and Facebook followers	>30 000
Top 3 Original Investigations by Altmetric score	
1. Ismail et al, ² Association Between Dry Eye Disease and Migraine Headaches in a Large Population-Based Study	222
2. Kang et al, ³ Association of Statin Therapy With Prevention of Vision-Threatening Diabetic Retinopathy	192
3. Kang et al, ⁴ Association of Statin Use and High Serum Cholesterol Levels With Risk of Primary Open-Angle Glaucoma	182

^a Data based on all manuscripts submitted, including research, review and education, opinion, and letters.

^b Includes Original Investigations, Brief Reports, and Research Letters.

than 2.9 million in 2018, representing a 7% increase around the world.

The journal's success remains dependent on providing articles that may have a great effect on clinical practice, such as randomized clinical trials, and depends on peer reviewers⁵ whose experience and expertise helps to bring out the best in each investigation that the journal publishes. On behalf of the journal's editorial board and Advisory Committee, I thank our peer reviewers for their invaluable contributions to the journal, along with the authors of *JAMA Ophthalmology* publications, who share their scientific investigations in this way. We look back on 2019, the 150th Anniversary of *JAMA Ophthalmology*, with pride but look forward to even more novel, clinically relevant articles in the years to come.

ARTICLE INFORMATION

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