

Revista Medicina, Ribeirão Preto. A few steps away from Regular Periodicity

Revista Medicina, Ribeirão Preto. A poucos passos da Periodicidade Regular

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Two main factors are determinants of the irregular periodicity of a journal: the lack of papers to be published and the lack of funds for regular printing of the issues. This generates lack of interest on the part of readers and of authors, who end up by not submitting papers to be judged and published on the basis of merit. All of this leads to low motivation also regarding possible sponsors, which in turn leads to reduced funding and to the end of the journal itself. It is a natural evolution of no interest to anyone.

When we became responsible for the editorial board of the journal *Medicina*, the financial resources needed to keep the journal functioning, with issues printed

on paper, did not exist. Very few papers were submitted for publication. Thus, the classical vicious cycle was established: lack of funds, delayed printing, lack of regular periodicity, few papers for publication, and so on.

In view of this scenario, we abolished the paper version and the journal started to be published electronically¹, on line. Within about one year the number of papers increased, the process of emission of external reviews was streamlined and today we are one step away from having regular periodicity in the internet, on line². Our prediction is that, starting September or October of next year (2011) each issue will be available on the internet without delay.

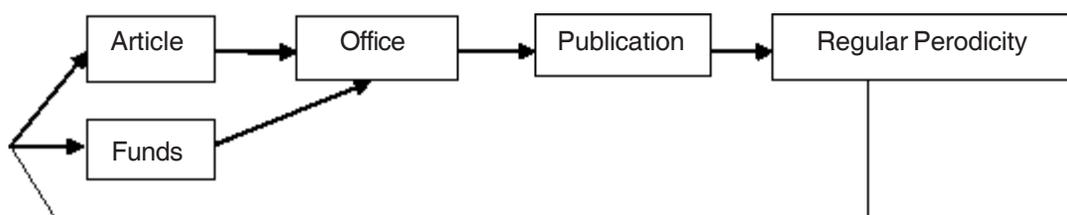


Figure 1: Natural history of the maintenance of a journal.

With publication regulated, the goal for 2013 is to index the journal in Scielo (Scientific Electronic Library Online) so that it will acquire greater national and international visibility and an impact fitting the potential of our community and necessary in order to satisfy the rules of CAPES regarding the ranking of professors involved in postgraduation sensu stricto.

Thus, we hope to be able to count on the collaboration of potential authors regarding the submission of papers for evaluation and possible publication in our journal.

References

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