



The Clinical Impact Factor

Over the past years many potential authors have asked me, “Does the *European Journal of Esthetic Dentistry* have an impact factor?” The real tragedy of the impact factor is that the academic community and government agencies rank and venerate scientists and scientific organizations based upon these numbers.¹ The impact factor, which was introduced by E. Garfield in the 1960’s,² has pros and cons that are discussed in many scientific journals.³⁻⁵

As we know, the field of dentistry is strongly related to our daily work, which is based on science, knowledge, skills and patients’ demands. The focus of all this is successful clinical work. This is also reflected in the mission statement of the *European Journal of Esthetic Dentistry*, which can be found on our website. The *European Journal of Esthetic Dentistry* addresses multidisciplinary aspects, both clinical and technical. Developing clinical esthetic treatment skills, networking with colleagues, and the building of successful esthetic dental practices is becoming ever more important, not least, to meet our patients’ increasing needs and requests.

This leads to the question, “Why not look for a clinical impact factor?” Over the past five years many authors have contributed with their manuscripts to

enhance our clinical protocols for the benefit of our patients. Isn’t this as important as collecting points for your academic career?

I would like to encourage potential authors to share their knowledge and skills with our readers. You may publish your scientific data in a journal which gives you the points you need and publish the clinical protocols related to these findings in our journal. So you get not only scientific but also a clinical impact from which many authors over the last years have taken advantage, resulting in invitations to present their clinical protocols at conferences around the globe.

Get your clinical impact factor by publishing in the *European Journal of Esthetic Dentistry*.

Sincerely,
Alessandro Devigus

1. Brumback RA. Impact factor: let’s be unreasonable! *Epidemiology* 2009;20:932-933.
2. Garfield E. The history and meaning of the journal impact factor. *JAMA* 2006;295:90-93.
3. Opthof T. Sense and nonsense about the impact factor. *Cardiovasc Res* 1997;33:1-7.
4. Saha S. Impact factor: a valid measure of journal quality? *J Med Libr Assoc* 2003;91:42-46.
5. Seglen PO. Why the impact factor of journals should not be used for evaluating research. *BMJ* 1997;314:498-502.