

Workshop on Indexing systems and Medical Journalism

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Currently there are too many different databases which index and abstract medical journals. Some of these databases not only provide information but also evaluated the contents as well.

These kinds of databases are very important and normally open their gates after conducting more or less a series of appraisal measures. Among such databases can be mentioned of PubMed, PubMed Central, and Thomson ISI. Other databases exert simpler criteria but are among the most important databases such as SCOPUS. Instead, some of them only provide information like IMEMR, which assist the journals to find their ways to attract more readers and improve their visibility.

Index Copernicus is such a database that at the first step indexes all journals without evaluation but annually evaluates journals scientifically and let them know their weak and strength points. Some of these databases have their specific device for evaluating journals, e.g. Thomson ISI utilizes Impact Factor, while the others look at the rate of marketing, the number of views by readers, institutions etc. However, a very important consideration is that these databases are undoubtedly indispensable for all journals if they want to improve their visibility and marketing.

Criteria for applying for these databases are diverse and include simple application by sending only one email, filling out a questioner, sending printed journal, passing a series of different steps etc. A very important key note is timely publication of the journal, which is requested by many databases. In this workshop, definition, criteria, and method of application were discussed as regards PubMed, Thomson ISI, SCOPUS, IMEMR, DOAJ, Open DOAR, Index Copernicus, EMBASSE, Chemical Abstracts, CABi, and Google Scholar.