

## BRIEF COMMENTARY

## How Scientific Journals Work

## JACEP open annual report 2022

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## KEYWORDS

emergency medicine

## 1 | OVERVIEW

In this report, we summarize the *Journal of the American College of Emergency Physicians Open (JACEP Open)*'s performance and accomplishments for 2022.

## 2 | STATUS OF THE JOURNAL

JACEP Open began accepting and publishing manuscripts in 2019. JACEP Open was accepted for inclusion in PubMed Central in October 2020, and all articles are now indexed in PubMed. In addition, in April 2021 the journal was accepted to the Clarivate Web of Science for coverage in the Emerging Sources Citation Index, which is an important first step toward achieving an impact factor. The journal is presently listed or indexed with the Directory of Open Access Journals, PubMed, Europe PubMed, Google Scholar, Embase (Elsevier, Inc.), SCOPUS, and SHERPA/RoMEO.

## 3 | EDITORIAL AND PRODUCTION PERFORMANCE

The journal received over 475 manuscripts in 2022 (Table 1). The decline in submissions is consistent with industry trends.

Original research, brief reports, reviews, and concepts pieces comprised approximately one half of all submissions. Case reports and Images in Emergency Medicine comprised the remaining one half of submissions. Approximately 31% of submissions originated from outside the United States, and 270 (54%) manuscripts were transferred from JACEP Open's companion journal, *Annals of Emergency Medicine*.

The journal's acceptance rate was 41% for scientific works (original research, brief reports, systematic reviews, reviews, and concepts papers) (Table 2). The journal's 97 accepted scientific works spanned a range of topic areas (Table 3). Accepted manuscripts included authors from 13 different countries.

The journal continued to encourage the submission of COVID-19 works by waiving the article publication fee. In 2022 the journal published a total of 18 COVID-19 papers, including 13 original research, 2 brief research reports, and 2 systematic review/meta-analyses. JACEP Open's editorial and production processes continue to meet rapid internal benchmarks (Table 4).

## 4 | MANUSCRIPT ACCESS AND CITATIONS

As an open access journal, all JACEP Open content is fully accessible to all without a subscription fee. During 2022 there were a total of 312,998 full-text accesses of JACEP Open articles. Table 5 summarizes

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**TABLE 1** Article categories of *JACEP open* manuscripts, by year of publication

Article type	2019	2020	2021	2022
Brief Commentary	2	13	5	4
Brief Research Report	3	68	47	44
Case Report	19	134	135	98
Concepts	7	69	33	15
Editorial	0	6	5	4
Images in Emergency Medicine	19	146	181	117
JACEP Open Podcast Summary	0	3	5	0
Letter to the Editor	0	14	9	4
Original Research	36	226	211	147
Review Article	9	49	20	17
Special Contribution	2	8	12	8
Systematic Review–Meta-analysis	2	14	17	14
Videos in Emergency Medicine	0	0	3	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>683</b>	<b>479</b>

**TABLE 2** *JACEP Open* acceptance rates

Article types	Acceptance rate
Scientific works—original research, brief reports, systematic reviews, reviews, and concepts	97/237 (41%)
Case reports	23/98 (23%)
Images in Emergency Medicine	70/117 (60%)

the journal's most accessed articles. Individuals from 219 countries accessed *JACEP Open* articles; the international countries with the highest number of full text accesses were the United Kingdom, China, and India. To date, *JACEP Open* publications have been cited 1300 times by biomedical journals index in the Clarivate Web of Science (webofscience.com).

## 5 | NEWS MEDIA, SOCIAL MEDIA, AND ONLINE PRESENCE

ACEP promoted *JACEP Open* using multiple outlets. *JACEP Open* research and thought leadership was featured 540 times in leading publications. News stories were generated in mainstream media outlets such as the *Associated Press*, *HealthDay*, *Newsweek*, the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, *US News and World Report*, and *Buffalo News* (Table 6). *JACEP Open* promotes the journal through social media outlets including Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. The Twitter account received 113,674 impressions (Table 7). The journal has 655 followers on Twitter. The Instagram account is used to promote the journal's new Videos in Emergency Medicine section. Altmetric scores offer addi-

**TABLE 3** Topic areas of scientific works (original research, brief reports, systematic reviews, reviews, and concept papers) submitted in 2022

Topic area	Number of works
Airway	2
Cardiology	9
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion	1
Education	2
Emergency Medical Services	9
Evidence-Based Emergency Medicine	5
General Medicine	11
Geriatrics	6
Health Policy	6
How Scientific Journals Work	1
Imaging	4
Infectious Disease	11
Injury Prevention	1
Neurology	3
Pain Management	2
Pediatrics	11
Physician Wellness	1
Practice of Emergency Medicine	8
Toxicology	2
Trauma	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>97</b>

tional insights of *JACEP Open's* impact on social and public media (Table 8).

## 6 | EDITORIAL BOARD

The *JACEP Open* editorial board plays a pivotal role in the success of the journal. The current editorial board includes 47 editors, including 19 women, and 5 international editors. In 2022 we recruited 6 new editors and promoted one editor to senior editor. We also recruited 4 new assistant editors; this program allows early-stage academicians to enter the editorial board under the mentorship of more experienced editors and helps the journal to maintain depth and diversity. Three individuals serve as methodology-statistical editors, assuring expert assessment of all original research manuscripts with more advanced statistical and analytic methods.

## 7 | PEER REVIEWERS

Currently, there are over 664 individuals in *JACEP Open's* pool of primary reviewers. Through connections with *Annals of Emergency*

**TABLE 4** JACEP Open editorial and production performance for calendar year 2022

Metric	Original Research, Brief Reports, Reviews, Concepts	Case Reports	Images
Manuscript submission to first decision (accept, revise, or reject) – median (IQR)	24 days (9.5, 39.5)	14 days (5.5, 28)	8 days (4, 19)
Manuscript submission to final decision (accept, revise, or reject), including author's revision time – median (IQR)	55 days (17.5, 128.5)	20 days (6.4, 54.5)	13 days (5, 23)
Manuscript acceptance to proof – median (IQR)	11 days (8, 14)		
Manuscript acceptance to publication – median (IQR)	27 days (20, 36)		

Abbreviation: IQR, interquartile range

**TABLE 5** Top 10 most accessed papers in 2022

Article title	Article type	Full text accesses
Survival after self-poisoning with sodium nitrite: A case report (doi.org/10.1002/emp2.12702)	Case Report	21,425
Dizziness can be an early sole clinical manifestation for COVID-19 infection: A case report (doi.org/10.1002/emp2.12185)	Case Report	6392
Boarding of critically ill patients in the emergency department (doi.org/10.1002/emp2.12107)	Special Contribution	5863
N95 respirator and surgical mask effectiveness against respiratory viral illnesses in the healthcare setting: A systematic review and meta-analysis (doi.org/10.1002/emp2.12582)	Systematic Review-Meta-analysis	5758
Improving the management of acutely agitated patients in the emergency department through implementation of Project BETA (Best Practices in the Evaluation and Treatment of Agitation) (doi.org/10.1002/emp2.12138)	Review Article	5506
Updates on pediatric sepsis (doi.org/10.1002/emp2.12173)	Review Article	4678
An unusual case of high-voltage electrical injury involving fractal wood burning (Case report) (doi.org/10.1002/emp2.12330)	Case Report	4422
Characteristics and outcomes of adverse events after COVID-19 vaccination (doi.org/10.1002/emp2.12565)	Original Research	4284
Measuring without a ruler: Limited data to characterize the relationship between physician assistant/nurse practitioner staffing and emergency department performance (doi.org/10.1002/emp2.12617)	Brief Research Report	4052
The agitated older adult in the emergency department: a narrative review of common causes and management strategies (doi.org/10.1002/emp2.12110)	Review Article	3702

Medicine and Wiley publishing, JACEP Open has access to an additional 1200 peer reviewers. In 2022, JACEP Open peer reviewers completed 478 assignments. JACEP Open recognized the top 20 peer reviewers for 2022 (Table 9). In conjunction with Wiley, Inc., JACEP Open began offering continuing medical education credits to all peer reviewers. The journal also created a new section of the journal website with resources for training and on-boarding new peer reviewers, which can be found here: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/26881152/homepage/reviewer-guidelines>.

## 8 | EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND INITIATIVES

Members of JACEP Open editorial board partnered with members of the *Annals of Emergency Medicine* editorial board to provide an author's workshop, titled "Editors' Pearls," at the 2022 ACEP Scientific Assembly.

The workshop provided guidance and pearls for successful biomedical publishing.

## 9 | STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

In the spring and summer of 2022, Editorial Board members conducted a series of meetings to reflect on the journal's origins, early progress, and future directions. The discussions identified several strategic goals.

### 9.1 | Strategic Aim 1 – Solidify the aims and scope of the journal

JACEP Open aims to serve as emergency medicine's premier open access journal, publishing a full range of articles exemplifying the best

**TABLE 6** Leading media exposure for *JACEP Open* articles in 2022

Media article	Associated <i>JACEP Open</i> Article
Mental health, substance use issues prevalent among non-psychiatric emergency room patients. MedicalXpress, November 17, 2022. <a href="https://medicalxpress.com/news/2022-11-mental-health-substance-issues-prevalent.html">https://medicalxpress.com/news/2022-11-mental-health-substance-issues-prevalent.html</a>	Computer adaptive testing to assess impairing behavioral health problems in emergency department patients with somatic complaints ( <a href="https://doi.org/10.1002/emp2.12804">https://doi.org/10.1002/emp2.12804</a> )
Long stays common for kids who visit ERs in mental health crisis. December 28, 2022. <a href="https://www.usnews.com/news/health-news/articles/2022-12-28/long-stays-common-for-kids-who-visit-ers-in-mental-health-crisis">https://www.usnews.com/news/health-news/articles/2022-12-28/long-stays-common-for-kids-who-visit-ers-in-mental-health-crisis</a>	Pediatric mental health visits with prolonged length of stay in community emergency departments during COVID-19 ( <a href="https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/emp2.12869">https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/emp2.12869</a> )
Lack of mask mandates leaves cancer patients feeling unprotected. Renal and Urology News, July 22, 2022. <a href="https://www.renalurologynews.com/home/departments/practice-management/n95-respirators-vs-surgical-masks-for-protection-against-viral-respiratory-illnesses/">https://www.renalurologynews.com/home/departments/practice-management/n95-respirators-vs-surgical-masks-for-protection-against-viral-respiratory-illnesses/</a>	N95 respirator and surgical mask effectiveness against respiratory viral illnesses in the healthcare setting: A systematic review and meta-analysis ( <a href="https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/emp2.12582">https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/emp2.12582</a> )

science in emergency medicine. In addition to retaining traditional article genres, *JACEP Open* will explore newer, more succinct formats that better align with digital platforms, for example, brief reports and research letters. The journal has reduced word count limits across all article categories to achieve a more concise style. We will work with the publisher to maintain article publication charges at competitive levels.

*JACEP Open* will continue to provide a forum for publishing the work products of ACEP committees and task force work groups. The journal has worked with ACEP leadership to craft peer review and publication pathways for these works, as well as systems for covering associated article processing charges. Future efforts will focus on streamlining the ACEP committee paper process, including clarifying criteria for publication, aligning the genres of articles, and aiding writing committees with article conceptualization and development.

## 9.2 | Strategic Aim 2 – Raise the global profile of the journal

*JACEP Open* expects to receive its first impact factor rating in 2023. Optimizing the impact factor is critical to the journal's reputation and success. We expect to adjust editorial processes to select well-written

**TABLE 7** Top viewed Twitter posts for 2022 *JACEP Open* articles

Article	Twitter sources
The impact of mandatory conflict of interest disclosures on editors' manuscript acceptance decisions: A cross-sectional observational study. ( <a href="https://doi.org/10.1002/emp2.12680">https://doi.org/10.1002/emp2.12680</a> )	<a href="https://twitter.com/JACEPOpen/status/1549408768835862533">https://twitter.com/JACEPOpen/status/1549408768835862533</a>
Out-of-hospital, non-invasive, positive-pressure ventilation for acute dyspnea. ( <a href="https://doi.org/10.1002/emp2.12542">https://doi.org/10.1002/emp2.12542</a> )	<a href="https://twitter.com/JACEPOpen/status/1483824207091884034">https://twitter.com/JACEPOpen/status/1483824207091884034</a>
Emergency department-initiated buprenorphine protocols: A national evaluation ( <a href="https://doi.org/10.1002/emp2.12606">https://doi.org/10.1002/emp2.12606</a> )	<a href="https://twitter.com/JACEPOpen/status/1485998412642324485">https://twitter.com/JACEPOpen/status/1485998412642324485</a>

**TABLE 8** Top altmetric scores for 2022 *JACEP Open* articles

Title	Altmetric scores
Pediatric mental health visits with prolonged length of stay in community emergency departments during COVID-19 (10.1002/emp2.12869)	351
Trends in demographic and employment characteristics of US emergency medical technicians and paramedics, 2011–2019 (10.1002/emp2.12776)	320
Hospitals as disaster victims: Lessons not learned? (10.1002/emp2.12632)	217
Computer adaptive testing to assess impairing behavioral health problems in emergency department patients with somatic complaints (10.1002/emp2.12804)	92
Impact of acute intoxication on quantitative pupillometry assessment in the emergency department (10.1002/emp2.12825)	81

manuscripts with a high likelihood of citation. To enhance the journal's global presence, *JACEP Open* will also continue efforts to engage with international authors and readers, including the recruitment of additional international editors and peer reviewers.

Social media is critical for publicizing the journal and its articles and is particularly important given *JACEP Open's* common access through internet search engines. We aim to expand the *JACEP Open* social media team, enhancing our ability to increase the tempo of social media posts to better spotlight the unique content of the journal.

## 9.3 | Strategic Aim 3 – Grow the journal community

To ensure that the journal can maintain the highest quality of editorial decision making, we plan to continue expanding the editorial board

**TABLE 9** Top *JACEP Open* peer reviewers for 2022

Brian Ahern, DSc, PA-C
FitzGerald Alcindor, MD
Alexandra Amaducci, DO
Stephen Cantrill, MD
Rebecca Cash, PhD, MPH
James Chan, MD
Anna Ciullo, MD
David Cone, MD
Remle Crowe, PhD, NREMT
Adeola Kosoko, MD
John Lee, MD, MPH
Samuel Luber, MD, MPH
Dan Mayer, MD
Justin Moore, PhD, MPH
Debra Perina, MD
Karen Quaday, MD
Fred Severin, MD
John Tejjido, MD
David Toro, MD
Alexandra Weissman, MD, MS

of *JACEP Open* to match the increasing volume of submissions. We will continue to leverage the highly successful assistant editor program to recruit and develop new talent in the board, with continued attention to recruiting international editors. We will also continue efforts to expand the journal's pool of reviewers.

Growing the journal's author pool is a continued priority. We will strive to maintain the journal's reputation for rapid peer view and collegial editorial experience. The release of the journal's impact factor in 2023 will likely boost awareness of the journal and the number of submissions. We will also continue to identify opportunities for synergy between *JACEP Open* and its partner journal *Annals of Emergency Medicine*, building upon the current processes for transferring manuscripts. We aim to continue emphasizing *JACEP Open's* unique position relative to *Annals*, allowing both journals to complement each other.

#### 9.4 | Strategic Aim 4 – Enhance diversity, equity, and inclusivity

Aimed at leading diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) efforts throughout the journal community and its editorial processes, *JACEP Open's* DEI policy is available at <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/26881152/homepage/deistatement>. *JACEP Open* supports ongoing DEI initiatives, including efforts to determine the demographic characteristics of editorial board members, peer reviewers and authors, continued double-blind peer review, and continued outreach to the international audiences. We will also continue to offer editorial support and assistance to international authors.

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