BJD Report

The BJD June issue was a bumper issue and showcased six papers from the Re:Mission study (the qualitative study of the low-calorie diet pilots for remission of type 2 diabetes) from Louisa Ells's group with Chris Walton leading on this. The six papers were printed as a mini-edition for Diabetes UK in April 2024.

We finally received confirmation last November that our application to COPE (Committee on Publication Ethics) has been accepted after much chasing. We have selected 25 articles for submission to PubMed Central as required,and RHI have outsourced the preparation of these documents in the required format to an external specialist firm. PubMed Central do not give any indication of how long they now take to process applications for registration

We have received 32 new submissions to date this year and there are more submissions in the pipeline. For comparison there were 41 new submissions in 2023, 37 in 2022, 54 in 2021 and 59 in 2020.

We are grateful for the goodwill of a relatively small group of reviewers for the quick turnaround of manuscripts. Chris Walton (deputy editor), Jen Atkinson (RHI), and I continue with our weekly Zoom meetings, and we have an editorial board meeting every 2 months, again via Zoom. Measures are in hand to expand the database of reviewers and to streamline the review process.

Adverts for expression of interest for the BJD editor role have gone out and we have had some interest which has been conveyed to the directors.

In closing we wish to highlight to the committee two areas which we feel require attention going forward and which we would be happy to discuss further.

1) It is likely that papers submitted will increase if Pub Med Central registration is achieved. There is already a desire from the directors of BJD to increase the number of issues from two per year. The editor and deputy editor believe that this cannot be achieved without greater investment in administrative support for the journal, and indeed the recruitment of future editors is likely to depend on a commitment to further develop the journal in terms of both quality and the number of papers published.

2) We feel that the interaction with the academic subcommittee could and should be enhanced. For instance, the editors would welcome the recommendation of one important systematic review to be commissioned by the journal for each edition.

Statistics for 2024 to date

· Number of new submissions in 2024 = 32 *

· Total number of active papers = 2

· Accepted so far in 2024 = 17

· Declined/ withdrawn in 2024 = 19

· Average time in review (from submission to decision returned to authors. Includes papers submitted within previous 12 months and resubmissions) = 31.48 days (32.3 days in August, 33.45 days in May, 32.5 days in March, 25 days in December, 27 days in October/ November, 30 days in September).

*excludes 7 RE:Mission papers as submitted prior to Christmas

Statistics for 2023

· Number of new submissions in 2023 = 41

· Accepted in 2023 = 14

· Declined in 2023 = 9

· Withdrawn in 2023 = 2

· Average time in review (from submission to decision returned to authors. Includes papers submitted within previous 12 months and resubmissions) = 32.3 days in August 2023. (33.45 days May 2023, 32.5 days in March 2023, 25 days in December 2022, 27 days in October/ November, 30 days in September, 26.1 days in July/ August, 24.7 in May/ June, 23.5 days in April 2022).

Statistics for 2022

· Number of submissions in 2022 = 37

· Accepted in 2022 = 19 (51.35% of total submissions in 2022)

· Declined in 2022= 5 (13.51% of total submissions in 2022)

· Withdrawn in 2022 = 1

· Average time in review (from submission to decision returned to authors. Includes papers submitted within previous 12 months and resubmissions) = 27 days in November 2022 (25.7 in Sept/ Oct, 26.1 days in July/ August, 24.7 days in May, 23.5 days April, 25 days in December, 27 days in October/ November 2021)

Statistics for 2021

· Number of submissions in 2021 = 54

· Accepted in 2021 = 31

· Declined in 2021= 16

· Average time in review (from submission to decision returned to authors. Includes papers submitted within previous 12 months and resubmissions) = 25 days in December (27 days in October/ November, 30 days in September, 29 days in August, 24 days in July, 36.2 in June, 37.5 days in May, 41.5 days in April, 45.5 days in March 2021).

Statistics for 2020

· Number of submissions in 2020 = 59

· Accepted in 2020= 28

· Declined in 2020= 13

· Average time in review (from submission to decision returned to authors following 1st round review for 2020 papers) = 48 days (56.5 days in November, 58 days in October)

september 2024