Answering reviewers

Reviewer’s code: 04025443

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Dear colleagues! I read with interest your manuscript "Baishideng’s Reference Citation Analysis database announces the first Journal Article Influence Index of 101 core journals in gastroenterology and hepatology" which is an Editorial. It provides the data about new scientometric system, the Reference Citation Analysis, the Journal Article Influence Index and top-twenty journals in the field of gastroenterology and hepatology according to the index. This information is important and evidently should be published. There is no major flaws and the paper may be published as is. I have only a few minor notes/suggestions. Although there is no strict rules for the structure of Editorials (according to the guidelines for manuscript preparation), I would suggest to organize it according to the general structure of scientific papers: introduction, methods, results, discussion, conclusions (even if not using these specific section’s names). In the Introduction I would add some information on the need for yet another index and rating (this information is already present, at least in part, in the RCA’S MISSION paragraph). In Methods, it would be possible to transfer the data of CALCULATION METHOD OF 2022 JAII and EVALUATION PROCESS OF RCA JOURNALS; the Results may contain the data on the top-twenty journals in gastroenterology and hepatology by JAII. In the Discussion it would be possible to leave INCLUSION PRINCIPLES OF RCA JOURNAL, but I would suggest to add some information on the similarity of the results obtained with the use of JAII with previously existed indexes, possible drawbacks of JAII (if any), or what the new system evidently not able to provide, from the viewpoint of scientometric evaluation, of course. For sure, these comments are only suggestions, and, as it has been mentioned before, the paper is consistent and may be published at the present state.

Answer: Another scientometrics article about the comparison of the indexes of
Gastroenterology & Hepatology journals in different databases is also be written, and published soon. In that article, the similarity, differences between the RCA and other database will be discussed. So, for this article, I prefer to keep the present state.

Matters to consider: Is it correct to show the cover of one specific issue of the journals on figures? Why the issues of the journals are of different date? Won't the publication of these images lead to copyright issues? Some of these cover pages are of low resolution (fig. 6, 9, 11, 12, 15 and 20). The photo of the Editorial board member, Nikolaos Papadopoulos on the cover image of WJG (fig. 18) may require his consent.

**Answer:** Thank you very much for your comments. Our aim is to introduce these journals to the readers. And I have added the original source for each journal’ cover. Because the journals are different, the issues of the journals are of different date. For the low resolution cover pages, I tried to make an update, but can’t find the high resolution image. For Figure 18, Nikolaos Papadopoulos are agree to be the cover person of the journal, so it’s Ok for this use.