Education and Research - Challenges and Opportunities

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Education and research are essential to Brazil’s development. From an economic point of view, education is a prominent factor. Data from 2014, from the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) suggest that Brazil is the second country with the largest difference in wages among individuals with higher education and secondary education. Adults aged 25-64, who have completed higher education, get paid about 2.5 times more than those who have only completed high school. Initiatives to increase public investments in education and increased inclusion of children in pre-school have been encouraged and the results are expected.

Quality education results in the production of knowledge. The publication of Brazilian scientific papers has increased. According to the SCImago ranking, Brazil ranks 13th place in the total number of scientific papers, with 59,763 publications in indexed journals in 2014. Of this total, 16,578 are medical papers, totaling 27% of the Brazilian scientific production.

One of the challenges of national scientific research is the quality of its publications, as the number of quotes of Brazilian publications is low. Data show that manuscripts written by Brazilian authors are associated with low international collaboration, and are primarily published in Portuguese. According to Packer, 2.67 Brazilian publications are cited in foreign journals. However, this citation rate drops six times to an average of 0.43 for Brazilian papers published in Brazilian journals. This figure rises to 0.57 when the papers are published in English.

Cardiovascular sciences outstand in the field of health sciences and *Arquivos Brasileiros de Cardiologia* (ABC) is the main journal that publishes Brazilian scientific research. The ABC publishers have demonstrated their relevant role in the dissemination of Brazilian research at an international level. An evaluation of the original papers published by Brazilian authors and institutions between 2010 and 2012 shows that 27% of all papers were published in the ABC journal. However, the ABC journal has been unable to absorb all good-quality papers produced in Brazil, as it has a high rate of rejection of papers, and relatively long publication time. In this context, the International Journal of Cardiovascular Sciences (IJCS) plays a significant role in the promotion of national and international publications, offering a modern and agile scientific journal published for an international audience, with an editorial board consisting of 69 cardiovascular researchers, 26% of whom are members of institutions based overseas.

Worthy of note is the opportunity for the IJCS to collaborate with the scientific dissemination of graduate programs. Among the CAPES goals disclosed in the Brazilian National Postgraduate Plan 2011-2020 is the two and a half-fold increase in the publication of scientific papers in qualified journals. The relentless pursuit of development of scientific production must always be combined with production of a greater impact. IJCS has been playing a significant role in the pursuit of this goal, noting that in most of its issues, such as the January-February 2015 one, the absolute majority of the papers
are related to the production of graduate programs. The best demonstration of this is the choice of Rubbo-Blanco et al. paper as the best paper of 2015, published in IJCS, arising from a postgraduate program.\textsuperscript{6}

In line with the needs of increasing and strengthening research, the IJCS’s mission is to publish scientific manuscripts on cardiovascular topics, emphasizing original manuscripts covering epidemiology aspects, multidisciplinary studies, evaluations of healthcare quality, clinical study designs and single-center and multicenter studies, contributing to disseminating scientific production on cardiovascular sciences.

We invite all cardiovascular researchers to collaborate and improve the IJCS. Only through critical evaluation, production and qualified scientific communication we will be able to change the future of the society we live in.

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\section*{References}


