



MJA 2007: gaining momentum

In this, our 23rd and final issue for 2007, we would like to take the opportunity to reflect upon the past year and thank all those who have made the MJA's continuing pursuit of excellence a reality. Our current reviewers (all 1183 of them) are listed below. We are constantly amazed by the thoughtful and incisive comments we receive, and are most grateful for the time and energy expended on behalf of the Journal by this distinguished throng. Our manuscript decision statistics, which are similar to last year's, can be seen in the Box.

A highlight this year was hosting the meeting of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (the "Vancouver Group") in Sydney in April. Although our Editor, Martin Van Der Weyden, is a regular star at these meetings, it was the first opportunity the deputy editors had to observe the machinations of this lively and effective committee.

We were also able to meet face-to-face with the members of our Content Review Committee for the first time this year (we usually meet by monthly teleconference), via two meetings at mutually convenient locations in Melbourne and Sydney. We discussed a wide range of topics at these meetings, including the future of the eMJA, improving content and quality, politics in the Journal and other thorny issues. We were also able to confirm that the Content Review Committee members, whose names appear below, are not only hard working and dedicated but also good looking! Throughout the year, the MJA editors have also enjoyed attending and presenting at various conferences and meetings around the country. These events keep us fresh and enthusiastic.

As well as the core work of the biweekly Journal, we produced two theme issues (Indigenous Health and General Practice) and four supplements, and participated in the global Poverty and Human Development initiative, in which science journals throughout the world simultaneously published articles on this topic. We published two new MJA books, *Interpreting and reporting clinical trials: a guide to the CONSORT statement and the principles of randomised controlled trials* and *The motor neurone disease handbook*, both available, along with more than 1200 other books and products, from our newly revamped eMJA shop <<http://shop.mja.com.au>>.

We continue to provide editorial and publishing services to several external journals and newsletters — *Critical Care and Resuscitation*, *ADF Health*, *Australian Health Review* and *Healthcare Brief* — and are always on the lookout for more titles.

There have been a few temporary changes to the MJA editorial team this year. Deputy Editor Bronwyn Gaut is on 6 months' sabbatical leave with her family in Ireland. Her emails are full of castles, laundry and the virtues of Australian weather. In her absence, our old friend Tania Janusic is ably dealing with the peer review and editing duties, and enriching us with her calm demeanour and clinical connections. Senior Assistant Editor Helen Randall is also on leave. Another long-term Assistant Editor, Kerrie Lawson, has stepped into Helen's managerial role, and we have purloined Rhana Pike to undertake a 4-month secondment from her usual job to work on the front line of manuscript editing for the Journal. Meanwhile, earlier in the year, our Editorial Assistant Christine Hooper added another member to the MJA family (a baby girl), and Laelie Macbeth joined the team to assist our Editorial Administrator, Kerrie Harding, an organisational dynamo around whom all editorial activities revolve.

All being well, early next year, the MJA, along with our parent company, AMPCo, will be moving from funky Pyrmont into our own more sedate building at 277 Clarence Street, Sydney, which we hope to make the Fleet Street of medical publishing. The Journal has been somewhat nomadic since the sale of AMPCo's building in Glebe in 1990. The purchase of the new building is a significant event in the company's history, and we are looking forward to making our home there. Sydneysiders may want to drop in to browse in our proposed ground-floor shop.

As you can see from the Box, the MJA's impact factor has now risen to 2.582. We hope that this reflects a true improvement in our relevance to you, our readers, and that we have been effective this year in informing, instructing and amusing you, and providing comment on important issues relating to health and health care. We remain committed to, and fearless in, our pursuit of this goal.

Ruth Armstrong

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Manuscripts received 2006–2007

Total (accepted/received)	611/1407 (43%)
Research	95/394 (24%)
Cases	29/149 (19%)
Reviews	15/37 (40%)
Letters	219/328 (67%)
Mean time (days)	
To reject	31
To accept	75
Number of reviewers used	1183
Impact factor	2.582

Content Review Committee

Craig S Anderson
 Leon A Bach
 Flavia M Cicuttini
 Jennifer J Conn
 Marie-Louise B Dick
 Mark F Harris
 Paul D R Johnson
 Tom Kotsimbos
 Campbell Thompson
 Tim P Usherwood
 E Haydn Walters
 Bruce P Waxman
 Owen D Williamson
 Jane Young
 Jeffrey D Zajac

Reviewers 01/11/2006 – 31/10/2007

Peter J Abbott
 Suzanne F Abraham
 Stephen P Ackland
 Karen Adams
 Stephen Adelstein
 Michael A Adena
 Ammish Adu
 Hairul A Ahmad
 Ananthila Anandacoomasamy
 Robert Anderson
 Gavin Andrews
 Rachel A Ankeny
 Nicolas M Anstey
 Adrian A Anthony
 Raqib Anwar
 Bruce K Armstrong
 Kylie Armstrong
 Peter C Arnold
 Leonard F Arnolda

Constantine N Aroney
 Raimondo Ascione
 Michael A Ashby
 Deborah A Askew
 David N Atkinson
 R Leigh Atkinson
 Marcus D Atlas
 Robyn G Attewell
 Mark S Awerbuch
 Philip E G Aylward
 Peter D Baade
 Leon A Bach
 Marilyn Baetz
 Ian J Baguley
 Paul M Bailey
 Ross S Bailie
 Jennifer Baker
 Robert A Baker
 Matthew Baldock
 David L Ball

Zsolt Balogh
 Emily Banks
 Michael P Barbato
 Cameron A Barnes
 David J Barnes
 Adrian G Barnett
 Ian G Barr
 Bruce H Barraclough
 Michael B Barton
 Ivan B Bastian
 Jennifer A Batch
 Shannon M Bates
 Deborah J Bateson
 Diana Battistutta
 Stuart Baulk
 Adrian E Bauman
 Peter E Baume
 Robert W Beal
 Peter J Beaumont
 Justin J Beilby

Sally J Bell
 Richard A V Benn
 Derrick A Bennett
 Alan Bensoussan
 Vasili Berdoukas
 Michael Berk
 Samuel F Berkovic
 Jonathan Berman
 J H Nicholas Bett
 Colin W Binns
 Sara Bird
 Donald J Birkett
 Jonathan I Bisson
 Carol M Black
 Deborah A Black
 Robert J Black
 Tim Blackmore
 Caroline C Blackwell
 Grant A Blashki
 Alex Blaszczyński

Jane Bleasel
 Sidney Bloch
 Frank H Boehm
 E Leslie Bokey
 Terry D Bolin
 Michael D Bollen
 Stephen N C Bolsin
 Barbara J Booth
 Michael L Booth
 Robert Booy
 Soufiane Boufous
 Neil W Boyce
 Ian W Boyd
 Edward W Boyer
 David L Bradford
 Clare Bradley
 George Braitherg
 Caroline A Brand
 David J Brand
 Annette J Braunack-Mayer

