

RIASE

REVISTA IBERO-AMERICANA DE SAÚDE E ENVELHECIMENTO
REVISTA IBERO-AMERICANA DE SALUD Y ENVEJECIMIENTO

EDITORIAL

Carla Santos - Library Coordinator; University of Évora

VOL. 2 N.º 1 APRIL 2016

With the new challenges thrown up by the information age and the emergence of the Internet as a tool for democratising access to knowledge, the role of journals in the dissemination, communication and legitimation of the authorship of scientific evidence has become indisputable.

For Ribeiro¹, periodicals have the role of disseminating knowledge; conferring to the author intellectual property rights or priority of authorship; serving as a memorial and educational and historical source of knowledge produced; establishing itself as a social institution, affording prestige and recognition to authors, institutions, editors and reviewers, and playing an essential role in defining and legitimising new fields of knowledge.

The growth in scientific output has required the creation of flexible and efficient mechanisms for information retrieval, and as a result, indexing and abstracting services.

For Strehl,² the main objective of an indexing service is to ensure the recovery of any document or piece of information when a user searches for a particular subject in an information system.

The indexing services have become bibliographic control mechanisms, and thus databases have been created that are responsible for organising knowledge published and making it visible to the academic community, distributing it quickly and systematically among the scientific community.

With the indexing of journals in specific databases and portals by thematic area, greater value will be placed on the journals themselves, as well as the scientific societies in the area and associated professionals, as producers of the information. These societies receive greater recognition both among the medical community and the scientific community in general, allowing greater sharing of experiences and best practices critical to the development of professional skills and, consequently, patients.

In order for the journals to optimise their impact, they need to bring together some features, including visibility, speed and efficiency in the form of access to information, features that are facilitated through the indexing.

1 Ribeiro, M. (2006). The importance of indexing for the dissemination of knowledge communicated in technical and scientific journals. *Revista Mineira de Enfermagem*, 10 (1). Accessed at: <http://www.portalbvsenf.eerp.usp.br/7scielo.php?script=sciarttext&pid=S141527622006000100001&Ing=pt&nrm=iso>

2 Strehl L. (1998). Evaluation of the consistency of indexing undertaken at a university arts library. *Ciência da Informação*, 27 (3), 329-35.

The Revista Ibero-Americana de Saúde e Envelhecimento / Revista Ibero Americana de Salud y Envejecimiento (RIASE), in line with the criteria that accord recognition of its scientific quality, is now taking the first steps towards being indexed in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), and through the efforts of all involved, may soon be found in other highly prestigious databases at home and abroad.

Despite only having emerged in 2015, the RIASE is already a source of great pride for the different universities and researchers involved in this highly successful project.