

THE HEALTH BULLETIN – SCIENTIFIC EXCELLENCE

Dragan Babić, Josip Šimić, Darjan Franjić, Roberta Perković

Fakultet zdravstvenih studija Sveučilišta u Mostaru,

88000 Mostar, Bosna i Hercegovina

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The last few decades have reported significant changes in the field of health sciences, including: nursing, radiological technology, physiotherapy, sanitary engineering, midwifery, etc. (1). The Faculty of Health Studies (FZS) of the University of Mostar has recorded growth and progress in its twenty-three years of existence. From its beginnings as a college, it became a respectable faculty of the University of Mostar, in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the region. Our faculty, with three education levels, provides students top-quality education and great learning and career opportunities. Hundreds of Masters of Healthcare, as well as several PhDs and associate professors, have been educated at our faculty.

With the desire for the widest possible spectrum of knowledge and the possibility of providing the highest possible quality of healthcare, and with the aim of educating students and teaching staff, there is an unquestionable need for science at the Faculty of Health Studies (2). The development of scientific activity and modern science is difficult to separate from the development of scientific communication, both in formal or informal networks used by scientists. The emergence of new discoveries in science also includes the process of scientific communication. Scientific

communication enables better cooperation among scientists, that is, it enables progress in all scientific fields (3). The Health Bulletin increases the ranking of our faculty and university in general. We publish the journal with the aim and hope that the innate and profession-oriented curiosity of our students will rekindle scientific thinking and scientific-research work in the field they have chosen as their career. The journal provides a space that teachers and associates will use to publish their scientific and scientific-research works, and at the same time encourage our students (4, 5).

The idea for the journal was born in 2014, and after detailed preparation, the first issue was published in May 2015. The journal is a semiannual publication, and in the past nine years, including this publication, 17 issues of the Health Bulletin have been published, including 170 works from over 350 authors and co-authors from nine countries (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Croatia, Serbia, Slovenia, Montenegro, Kosovo, Italy, Kazakhstan, and India). The majority of authors and co-authors are from the University of Mostar and the University Clinical Hospital Mostar, but there are authors from other universities in Bosnia and

Herzegovina (Sarajevo, Tuzla, Banja Luka, and others).

Our journal is indexed in four scientific databases (Cobiss, Google Scholar, Hrčak, and EBSCO), and we work towards indexation in Scopus and Web of Science citation databases. Until now, the largest number of published works were original scientific articles, but also review, professional, case reports, essays, and book reviews. So far, we have published works from biomedicine and healthcare, as well as from other related disciplines. Published papers in our journal are becoming increasingly cited in international databases. In the Google Scholar citation database, some of our works have between 20 and 30 citations (6-8), and others between 10 and 20 citations (3, 9-14).

Our plan for the future is to gradually increase the quality and raise the scientific and professional level of the journal. In the upcoming issues, we plan to increase the number of citations of authors and co-authors in our journal, as well as in other journals with higher ranking, which would increase the overall citation index of the Health Bulletin. This article, among other things, contributes to success on that front. Our long-term plan is to attract people to publish, and increase the number of readers with our professional and scientific quality and the variety and topicality of published work. We will strive to continue this progress, maintain a high level of teaching quality for the purpose of better education of our students who will help the sick in through careers, and some of them will also become teachers and educate new generations.

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