



EDITORIAL

Challenges and opportunities of Colombian scientific journals

Retos y oportunidades de las revistas científicas colombianas

Adalberto Campo-Arias¹ , Oskarly Pérez-Anaya² 

1 Universidad del Magdalena, Santa Marta, Colombia. Correo: acamboa@unimagdalena.edu.co - <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2201-7404>

2 Universidad del Magdalena, Santa Marta, Colombia. Correo: operez@unimagdalena.edu.co - <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0701-7847>

In Colombia, scientific health journals are edited mainly by universities or medical associations¹. During the last decade, with the globalization of knowledge, most of these journals quickly fell out of the most prestigious international indexing because many university journals were created to improve institutional accreditations or classifications and helped to increase the salaries of some faculty with disclosures in journals ranked more favorably in Publindex, the National Indexing System of Serial Publications of Science, Technology, and Innovation of Colombia^{1,2}.

Local articles especially nourished the national journals because they were published in Spanish; however, the lower visibility gave that it was limited to the Spanish-speaking academy³. In addition, national authors had a greater possibility of acceptance given the less demanding peer review process than that implemented by foreign publications. They published research papers of low complexity or budget².

The first issue of *Duazary* was published in March 2004 under the editorial direction of psychologist Guillermo Augusto Ceballos-Ospino, now a pensioner. With this issue, volume 20 is reached with the renewal of the editorial team headed by Adalberto Campo-Arias, MD, MSc. During these almost two decades of scientific dissemination in health, *Duazary* has made academic production available to

the local, regional, national, and international community, especially from the region, in an increasing number and better-quality standards that have allowed it to maintain the Colombian classification of Publindex⁴. However, the difficulty of staying recognized within the Publindex ranking is due to the gradual process of comparing national journals with the parameters used for those published abroad, such as SCImago Journal Rank or Journal Citation Reports^{5,6}.

The rapid changes that impact scientific publications represent an excellent opportunity to disseminate and contribute to the global construction of knowledge in health beyond local, regional, and national limits⁷. However, new barriers and difficulties surround knowledge generation in low- and middle-income countries of the global south⁵.

The visibility of scientific publications is measured by the number of citations, preferably in high-impact international journals. However, university journals face challenges such as the reduced number of widely known and cited international authors, inbreeding (authors from the universities themselves), underfunding due to open science policies, and 'predatory' journals^{5,8}. In the same way, it is necessary to increase the visibility of *Duazary* with a gradual increase in the number of articles in English³. Currently, around 95% of scientific knowledge is socialized in English, the international language of science⁹.

Consequently, Colombian authors must write more and more for a global audience in national journals published in English¹⁰.

Duazary must remain current, grow in audience and citations in high-impact journals published, naturally in English, and increase the quality of the peer review process. These advances are necessary to achieve indexing in indices such as Scopus and Web of Science. These are the challenges and opportunities of all Colombian scientific journals edited and financed by universities.

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