

# The Evolution of Cardiac Surgery in Brazil and the BJCVS

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I would like to congratulate our Revista Brasileira de Cirurgia Cardiovascular (RBCCV) / Brazilian Journal of Cardiovascular Surgery (BJCVS) for its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, celebrated in 2016.

Along these 30 years, the RBCCV/BJCVS has had a remarkable journey, based primarily on the quality of the cardiac surgery in Brazil as well as on the work of its editorial team. In addition, the importance of its three editors must be stressed. The journal started with Prof. Adib D. Jatene as its first editor, between 1986 and 1996; then, Prof. Fabio B. Jatene assumed the position between 1996 and 2002. Since 2002, Prof. Domingos M. Braile has been the editor of the RBCCV/BJCVS. Each with their own relevance, they have all had a significant impact in the implementation, consolidation and internationalization of the journal.

Throughout its history, the RBCCV/BJCVS has acquired quality editorial characteristics, thereby allowing it to follow the best international publishing standards, in English, with electronic publication and access and a rigorous peer-review process for all articles submitted.

Besides the relevance of the studies it publishes, the gradual acceptance by the international scientific community of cardiac surgery is testimony to the seriousness of the work developed by the RBCCV/BJCVS and its editorial board. A reflection of that is the fact that the journal has received articles from surgical centers worldwide and it has been indexed in several databases, such as SciELO, SCImago, LILACS, PubMed, Thomson Reuters, and, most recently, PubMed Central.

In the past few years, the number of submissions has continued to be above 150 articles per year. Rejection rate has been 30-45%. Therefore, the work of the journal's reviewers have allowed for a strict peer-review process, maintaining high quality standards of published articles.

Its quality is directly reflected in the interest the journal has awakened in readers. The number of users accessing the journal's website has been close to 1,000,000 a year. Thus, Brazilian cardiac surgery and its researchers have had increased visibility worldwide through RBCCV/BJCVS, which has served as a platform to disseminate the work of Brazilian cardiac surgeons around the world. This is consistent with the large number of contributions from Brazilian cardiac surgeons to this specialty as well as with the respect they have gained throughout the globe.

Nevertheless, the journal's path goes on. It is important that Brazilian cardiac surgeons (as well as foreign ones) feel increasingly motivated to describe the results of their cases, keep their data in high quality databases, collaborate with other researchers, and widen their research network so that the number and quality of scientific publications can increase, contributing with benefits to quality of service and improvements to patient care. Likewise, it is important that the RBCCV/BJCVS receive even more studies produced in our postgraduate programs.

This is the natural trend for the RBCCV/BJCVS. The challenges continue the same, including the increase in number of publications as well as in the quality of articles published, resulting in a positive impact in objective indicators of quality, such as the advancement in the impact factor and Qualis<sup>\*</sup>, in addition to subjective indicators, such as the increase in numbers of international articles submitted and the consolidation of the respect our specialty has obtained worldwide.

For all these reasons, we can only congratulate ourselves for the professionals that have participated in and led the RBCCV/BJCVS during these 30 years to where it is today. That this journal may keep growing, in numbers and quality, along the coming years: this is what all Brazilian cardiovascular surgeons hope and wish for.

<sup>\*</sup>Qualis is a Brazilian official system with the purpose of classifying scientific production. It is maintained by the Coordenadoria de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior (CAPES), a government agency linked to the Brazilian Ministry of Education.