



Editor's viewpoint

Statistical evaluation of the Brazilian Journal of Veterinary Pathology – The first two years

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Abstract

The Brazilian Journal of Veterinary Pathology (BJVP) is the official electronic periodical of the Brazilian Association of Veterinary Pathology. The purpose of the BJVP is to publish original full papers, short communications, case reports, letters, reviews (by invited experts) and abstracts of scientific meetings in the fields of natural and experimental pathology, directed to the national and international scientific community

The present communication provides information regarding some of the BJVP numeric details, its target audience and statistical data of worldwide reader's access in these first two years of publication, in order to better inform interested authors and readers regarding the Journal's scope and range.

Key Words: Scientific journals, information technology, veterinary pathology

Introduction

Most biomedical journals are now published in electronic as well as print versions, and many are published only in electronic form (1). Since 2007, the Brazilian Journal of Veterinary Pathology, the official periodical of the Brazilian Association of Veterinary Pathology, is available online.

The present communication provides many of the BJVP numeric details, its target audience and statistical data of worldwide reader's access in these first two years of publication (August 2007 to present date), in order to better inform interested authors and readers regarding the Journal scope and range. Data was obtained directly from the BJVP webserver, using the Advanced Web Statistics 6.7 (build 1.892 - AWStats) log program (2).

Time from submission to referral

Time between submission of the article and its referral presented an average of 88 days, ranging from 12 days (shortest time) to 162 days (longest time). It could be considered a quite adequate period, considering that two referees are consulted on each and every article submitted, investing special attention, criteria and rigor in the evaluation of the manuscripts. The electronic form of communication and the engagement of the referees and dedication of the authors were responsible for this efficiency.

Indexing Institutions and methods

The BJVP is currently indexed in three databases, and in one full text database.

IBICT

The Brazilian Institute of Science and Technology is a branch of the Brazilian Ministry of Science and Technology, responsible in promoting competence, resources and infrastructure development within Science and technology, aiming techno-scientific knowledge production and integration. The IBICT is the sole responsible for ISSN publications indexation in Brazil, obeying standards of the *Centre Internationale du ISSN* (Paris, France) and the National Council of Scientific development and research (CNPq) (3).

The BJVP attends to the normative of the IBICT, having been granted the registration number 1983-0246.

Cab Abstracts

The CAB abstracts is the most comprehensive database of its kind, providing researchers access to over 5 million records covering the applied life sciences. It is operated by the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux International (CABI), a not-for-profit science-based development and information organization. Its database contains over 5 million records from over 9,000 journals, books, and conference proceedings (4).

Since January 2009, the BJVP is also available in full text via CAB Full Text.

IndexCopernicus

Index Copernicus (IC, property of Medical Science International) is a world-wide gateway to complex scientific information, aimed at academic-level researchers and clinical practitioners. Its Journals Master List Index includes thousands of international and local journals, published in English or local languages (5).

The BJVP is indexed in the IC Journals Master List since April 2009.

Number of accesses

Although the first issue of the BJVP was only published in May 2008, its website first aired August 2007. Since then and until June 2009, the website has received a total of 4,918 accesses, with a total of 3,683 unique visitors (unique visitor meaning a single computer, identified by a single Internet Protocol [IP] number), meaning that each visitor consulted the website an average 1.33 times.

It is important to notice that the number of accesses to the BJVP has shown a steady increase almost each month since its launch in August 2007, with concomitant increase in the download of articles. This increase reflects an increase in overall acceptance of the journal, either in the national and international levels.

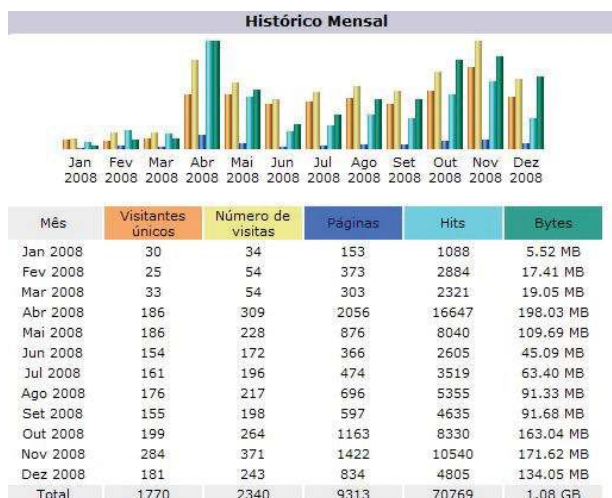


Figure 1 – Number of access in 2008

Countries of origin of accesses

Data regarding the details of accesses show that readers from at least 54 countries have visited the BJVP website, including: Argentina, Aruba, Austria, Australia, Brazil, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Cayman Islands, Czech Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominica, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hong Kong, India, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Peru, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Slovak Republic, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey and United States. These identified countries comply 74,8% of the total accesses. The remaining 25,2% are from unknown origin.

Regarding the accesses of known origin, more than half (53,9%) were of international origin (originated from countries other than Brazil), 39% originated from the United States. It is important to notice that since March 2009 accesses originated from the United States have surpassed the number of accesses originated from Brazil.

Characteristics of accesses

19,039 pages were visited by 3,683 unique visitors, meaning that each reader accessed an average 5.16 pages, downloading an average 605Kb of data. 60% of accesses were during work hours (8a.m. to 18p.m.), 83% during workdays (Monday to Friday). 78% of visits lasted 0-2 minutes, 17% 2-30 minutes and 5% lasted more than 30 minutes. Regarding the journals contents, the articles were read/downloaded a total 3224 times, with an average 248 times per month.

It is important to notice that, just like numbers of accesses have increased systematically, so have also increased the spent time in the website and the number of article downloads.

Países				
Países		Páginas	Hits	Bytes
United States	us	523	3057	93.87 MB
Brazil	br	498	4057	88.42 MB
Desconhecido	ip	483	3843	54.26 MB
Australia	au	94	582	9.16 MB
Argentina	ar	45	321	2.82 MB
France	fr	24	42	1.90 MB
Cayman Islands	ky	22	145	4.32 MB
Japan	jp	21	70	1.38 MB
Canada	ca	13	13	4.39 MB
Denmark	dk	4	33	377.98 KB
Iran	ir	4	83	303.65 KB
Great Britain	gb	3	3	1.37 MB
Colombia	co	3	37	345.78 KB
Italy	it	3	3	204.85 KB
Austria	at	2	2	1.18 MB
South Africa	za	2	2	3.00 MB
Dominica	dm	1	1	64.25 KB
Portugal	pt	1	1	64.25 KB
South Korea	kr	1	1	0
Russian Federation	ru	1	1	64.25 KB
Romania	ro	1	1	64.25 KB
India	in	1	1	1.06 MB
European country	eu	1	1	0
Germany	de	1	17	127.52 KB
Outros visitantes		0	0	0

Figure 1 – Countries of origin of accesses, May 2008.

Internet Browsers

More than 95% of readers access the BJVP using Microsoft® Internet Explorer, Mozilla® Firefox and Netscape® Navigator. However, the BJVP website have increasingly been accessed with the use of mobile devices, identified as Apple Safari® Mobile based systems and Mobile phones browsers (Nokia® Web Browser, and Blackberry®8310 browser). This is entirely possible, since the BJVP website was designed taking into consideration low speed networks, to allow access in areas or institutions with poor or no broadband connections. This *portability* is of increasing importance nowadays, since it allows readers to access the articles files in handheld devices and exchange information.

Search engines

90% of accesses to the BJVP website were established through direct connection to the <http://www.bjvp.org.br> domain. 7% was established through links in other pages (including the ABPV website) and the remaining 3% of accesses were attained through *search engines* such as Google, Yahoo and Altavista. This form of access is of utmost importance, since several articles published in the BJVP were accessed through search of keywords within the articles contents.

Future endeavors

The increasing number of veterinary pathologists in Brazil and an increasing scientific production in all areas of veterinary pathology, including domestic, wild, aquatic, and laboratory animals, prompted the ABPV to launch the BJVP (6). For the near future, the editing board efforts will be aimed toward; 1) BJVP indexation in other international databases, 2) to obtain good evaluations from the indexing databases, 3) keeping the manuscripts time of evaluation as short as possible, 4) improving the methods of information exchange between the BJVP and the authors and the BJVP and the referees, 5) Diversification of the subjects published in its pages.

Conclusions

Online scientific journals are an effective method of publication, regarding time, financial and human resources. It is capable of attaining national and worldwide reach among the scientific community and practitioners.

As a new and promising periodical, the BJVP has encountered fertile ground for its development. Thanks to the great and unwavering efforts of its editorial board members, referees and contributing authors, to whom we extend our acknowledgments.

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