

## **The indexation of *Ciência & Saúde Coletiva* by Isi/Thomson and our test of fire**

This is the last number of *Ciência & Saúde Coletiva* in 2008, the year our Journal completes 13 years of existence. Although still young, in fact the youngest among the Brazilian journals related to Public Health, its history is a story of promising growth and development.

Starting from the idea that scientific communication and peer citation complete the cycle of the scientific process, our Journal is making this trajectory in a very steady and progressive way: in 2002, it was indexed at the Scielo base, the most important scientific database for Latin America, the Caribbean, Portugal and Spain. In 2007 it was indexed at Medline, the greatest and most reputed database in the health area on international level. And now, in 2008, the Journal was accepted at ISI/Thomson, the citation base most valorized in the scientific world. Although we received this excellent news only recently, in the second semester, the Journal will be indexed retroactively, starting with the first number published in 2008.

In this last editorial of the year I also want to express my heartfelt thanks to all the referees for their generous contribution to the evaluation of the texts and to the entire editorial team that cared and cares passionately for the periodicity, the standard and the quality of our Journal.

This said, it must be stressed that now, more than ever, we must engage in scientific policy in a global manner. I believe that everyone knows that today Brazil is occupying the 15th place in the world as refers to the number of articles divulged in international databases. This is a great achievement to which we hope to be able to contribute always more and always better. However, I am not sure if everyone is aware that the number of citations of our articles is very low.

In this sense, *Ciência & Saúde Coletiva* will now have to take its test of fire. The fact of being on a quite respectable level of international visibility needs to go hand in hand with a concern of the authors, referees and readers with the quality of the texts and with the number of citations of the articles published in the Journal. I mention this because we all know that many Brazilian researchers only use to cite themselves, their group and international authors, clearly disregarding or ignoring what is produced and published in the great number of internationally distributed Brazilian journals. This is a point I would like to emphasize because, if we don't cite each other the international community won't cite us either, or only marginally, seeing that our texts are mainly of interest for the Brazilian health sector.

From this point, the relevance of the content, editorial quality and citation rates will be our most important concern. I am saying this because I know that we need to "dance to the tune" of the international scientific communication policies. However, I also know - and fully agree - that our studies and communications are above all focusing on the Brazilian Public Health and on the improvement of the Brazilian Health System. Therefore, all of us are invited to help developing this equation according to which we are local and global at the same time.

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