



Editor's note: rank of journal

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Beginning in April 2018, journals used in graduate school dissertation defenses must satisfy the following criteria at my university:

1. The journal must be listed on the Web of Science Core Collection's Science Citation Index Expanded.
2. The journal must be listed on PubMed.

Satisfying both of these criteria is now a mandatory requirement.

I imagine that not that many of us have an accurate understanding of the above. As this is important information, I asked Springer, the publisher of the Journal of Medical Ultrasonics (JMU), for clarification. I received the following explanation from Springer:

- Web of Science Core Collection (WoSCC).
WoSCC is a literature collection provided by Clarivate Analytics.

<http://mjl.clarivate.com/>.

<https://clarivate.jp/news-releases/2017-06-26-esci>.

WoSCC is currently divided into the following four groups:

- Arts and Humanities Citation Index.
- Science Citation Index Expanded.
- Social Sciences Citation Index.
- Emerging Sources Citation Index.

A formal impact factor is calculated and published beginning in the third year after registration, but there is no impact factor for the Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI).

For journals that have not been listed on the WoSCC yet, an application is first filed for inclusion on the ESCI, which is followed by the further review and listing in one of the above three groups.

- Medline

Medline is the main database that comprises the online bibliographic database of the National Library of Medicine (NLM).

If a journal is registered on Medline, articles in the journal can be searched on PubMed.

PubMed Central (PMC) is a database comprised primarily of open source articles, and the full text of articles can be accessed. These articles can also be searched on PubMed.

When registering a journal on Medline, there is a review process as the database serves the purposes of its users. A journal is reviewed based on factors such as the rigor of the peer-review process, the editorial policy, the quality of the published content, the degree of internationality, and periodical publication, and it is registered if it gets an overall score ≥ 3.75 .

Please refer to the explanation of Medline, PubMed, and PMC provided at the following website.

<https://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/difference.html>.

JOMU is currently listed on both WoSCC's Science Citation Index Expanded and Medline, and its articles are searchable.

Some of you may not have been aware that the Web of Science Core Collection has four categories, and that PubMed and PubMed Central (PMC) are technically different.

I am relieved to reconfirm that JMU at least satisfies the requirements for use in dissertation defenses at my university. I will continue to endeavor to increase JMU's impact factor going forward while firmly maintaining its current category. I would like to thank all of you, our readers, in advance for your cooperation.

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