

GGA: ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

GGA: conquistas e desafios

Now in 2019, we have completed our fourth year in charge of GGA. Before sharing our struggles and achievements, we owe a special thanks to our associate and friend, Professor Otávio Tôledo Nóbrega, from Universidade de Brasília (UnB), who, in an inspiring way, has served as an associate editor for GGA. In several occasions, he has also served as a reviewer and taken great care of the Editorial Manager submission system. We are also deeply grateful to all other associate editors, Professor Alexandre Leopold Busse, from Universidade de São Paulo (USP), Professor Ana Paula de Oliveira Marques, from Universidade Federal de Pernambuco (UFPE), and Professor Fausto Aloisio Pedrosa Pimenta, from Universidade Federal de Ouro Preto (UFOP), who have always promptly responded to our requests by balancing the demands of the journal with their duties.

The change in the name of the journal, aiming at the internationalization of published research, has contributed to the progressive increase in the number of citations (Figure 1), and is also attracting the attention of investigators throughout the world. During this period, we had articles from France, Colombia, and Mexico. The provision of an English-language translation of all articles not submitted in this language, carried out with the excellent editing services of Scientific Linguagem, a Brazilian company located in Porto Alegre, southern Brazil, has contributed to increasing the number of publications and the visibility of the journal. We remind readers that this is a free service for authors upon acceptance of the manuscript.

Another contributing factor in the increased visibility of the journal was our website redesigning (www.ggaging.com), which, in two years, has received nearly half a million visitors. Also, previous journal issues are now available in electronic form. Publishing an electronic version of the article before it is released in print (epub ahead of print) has allowed us to make articles widely available both nationally and internationally.

The online manuscript submission system now used by the journal has expedited the submission process, particularly expediting the time of peer review. In general, authors receive the reviewers' comments within 21 days. Many journals worldwide have not been able to achieve this goal. Moreover, we have managed to meet our goal of publishing at least 20 original articles annually. We have also received many thesis abstracts, which has allowed the dissemination of academic knowledge to a wider audience, thus increasing the visibility of graduate research in the field of aging.

The challenges to be overcome are enormous. The main challenge is to achieve indexation in major databases, such as MEDLINE and the Scientific Electronic Library Online (SciELO). Zeppelini Publishers, the publishing company in charge of GGA, has worked hard on this project. In its present form, the journal has already achieved the quality level and design to

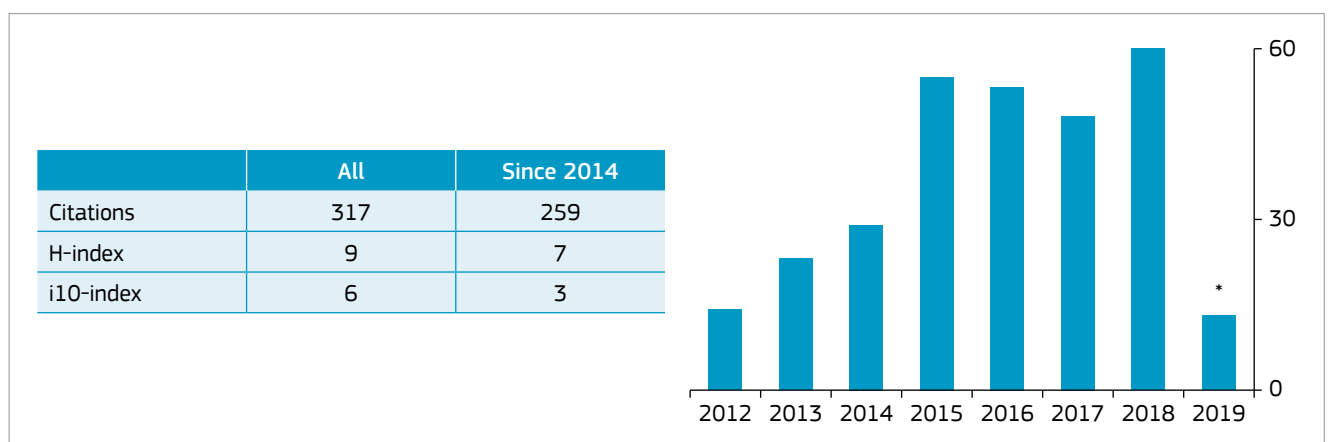


Figure 1 Absolute number of citations according to Google Scholar until March 2019 (last accessed March 28, 2019).

be indexed in these and other databases, including the Online Regional Information System for Scientific Journals from Latin America, the Caribbean, Spain and Portugal (Latindex), Safety Literature (SafetyLit), and Latin American and Caribbean Health Sciences Literature (LILACS) — as for the latter, the editorial team has successfully indexed the journal in this database.

We cannot close this final editorial without expressing our deep appreciation to the national board of directors of the Brazilian Society of Geriatrics and Gerontology for their unstinting support to GGA. We would like to express our gratitude to the different boards of directors by thanking them in the person of their presidents, Dr João Bastos Freire Neto, Dr José Elias Soares Pinheiro, and Dr Carlos André Uehara, who have made this journey alongside this editorial team over the past years. We are also delighted to welcome Professor Roberto Alves Lourenço, who takes over as editor-in-chief starting next issue. His editorial expertise, acquired while serving as an executive editor for *Revista Hospital Universitário Pedro Ernesto*, and scientific knowledge will be an important asset to GGA. It is with a deep sense of gratitude that I bid farewell to the editor-in-chief position, wishing success to the new editorial team and long life and growing protagonism to our GGA.

Einstein F. Camargos
Editor-in-chief