Opinion poll: listening to the RBP’s readers

In the second semester of 2010, the *Revista Brasileira de Psiquiatria* (RBP), official journal of the Brazilian Psychiatric Association (ABP), sent by email an opinion poll to every ABP’s members in all states of Brazil. The goal of this communication is to describe the results of this poll regarding to: (1) the member’s clinical and academic profile; (2) the reading habits regarding the RBP; (3) the member’s opinion about the quality of the articles published in the RBP, and (4) the criticism and suggestions to the editorial board.

The initiative of the editorial board to listen to the reader aimed to open a channel for the communication with the members regarding the RBP’s editorial policy and content, as a tool for the modernization process of the journal within its strategic planning for the next year. A total of 420 members (9.3%) have answered the opinion poll by means of the email addresses registered in ABP’s mailing list.

The members who answered the poll have a predominantly clinical profile. A total of 50% (n = 208) do not perform research activities and 28% have less than one day per week dedicated to research. Only 2% of the members are fully committed to research activities and do not have a clinical practice. Regarding the reading of the RBP, 90% of the members reported generally to read the articles, 57% reported having read some of the articles per issue and 33% declared to be assiduous readers, reading fully many or all the articles of the RBP. Besides, 69% have already visited the journal’s website. Among the journal’s sections, the most read articles are review articles, which 78% read frequently, almost always or always.

Of the members who read the RBP, the approval (% of good and very good answers) varied between 89% and 94%, considering all the journal’s sections (Figure 1). Besides, for 79% of the psychiatrists the RBP has shown to have impact in their clinical practice. Although the results are limited by the members’ low answering rate, and for being restricted to those who regularly access their email (what could have somewhat biased our results), in general a high percentage of RBP readers can be observed among the ABP’s members, and the great majority of them classified the material published as good or very good and as having impact on their clinical and research practice.

The Editors thank the participation in the poll with criticisms, suggestions and compliments given by the participants to the editorial policy. The results of this poll will be taken into consideration in the strategic planning of the journal for the next year. We thank the positive assessment of the readers and we commit ourselves to make the RBP keep growing and innovating within the national and international scenery.

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**Figure 1 – Opinion of the readers about RBP’s articles**

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