

Ciência & Saúde Coletiva: what has been achieved to date and what has yet to be done

Ciência & Saúde Coletiva ended the year 2012 (volume 17 of its collection) faithfully fulfilling its mission to disseminate debate and research in the area, as broadly and openly as possible: 299 articles closely linked to the field and the various disciplines that interface with it were published. For the second consecutive year 12 numbers were produced, i.e. one per month, with absolute punctuality and dealing with the burning current issues in the sector – as is the case with the numerous thematic issues about Access to health services; Homicides in Brazil and in Latin America; Men's Health; Abortion; Suicide among the elderly; Assessment-oriented management; Qualitative research in health; Social support; Rio+20, and others – and publishing results of multiple research, attending the demands of the collaborators.

Although the results of the work cannot be measured in numbers, they represent clear indicators of the national and international acceptance and legitimacy of our Journal. For example, we received 2262 articles in the course of this year, 270 of which were unconditionally accepted and 1366 rejected. 299 texts accepted in 2011 and 2012 were published, 63 are currently being checked to ensure they meet the norms; 164 are pre-assessed; 165 are in the process of evaluation; 27 were conditionally approved and 69 have some technical aspects pending. From our standpoint, the number of rejected articles (1366) deserves special attention. In many cases, these are rejected for lack of scientific merit or because they are outside the required scope. However, within this total there is a substantial number that receive insightful observations from the peer reviewers, which provides the authors with important input such that they can be successfully resubmitted. Thus, our experience shows that the peer review process is indeed an educational tool for enhancement of the production of knowledge.

Seeing out the year 2012 and seeing in 2013, we take the opportunity to thank all those who participated together with us in the success of the journal. First, the authors who chose to submit articles and the ad hoc peer reviewers, a group of generous and active intellectual workers who give the stamp of quality to what is published. Next, our most sincere thanks to the members of the Editorial Board, the Associate Editors and the Board of ABRASCO that give us their trust and support.

But, this is the ideal time to express our thanks, which are difficult to express in words, to the Assistant Editors who have shared with us the executive work of reviewing the articles, and the executive committee of the Journal composed of Rai Mangas, Telma Freitas, Danúzia Rocha and Luciana Mangas, who routinely manage and make the entire editorial process possible. Likewise, our thanks to those who help us complete this production process with quality and elegance: Derrick Phillips, our English reviewer; Marcelo Afonso, our Portuguese reviewer; and Adriana Ribeiro, our graphic designer.

It's time to celebrate what has been achieved and to prepare ourselves to tackle the challenges ahead. The year 2013 is shaping up as the time for major investment in the internationalization of our magazine. This means that, together with *Scielo*, we intend to publish our Journal in full (and not just the abstracts and references of articles) on the *PubCentral* system and consequently translate the entire articles into English, making our journal bilingual on the *Scielo* system. These challenges will involve not only action strategies but also additional expenses. And for this to occur, we will undoubtedly count on the assistance and understanding of our authors and all our collaborators.

May the year 2013 bring us all joy, health and strength for these major achievements,

Maria Cecília de Souza Minayo, Romeu Gomes
Editors-in-chief