



Collaborative Work Parallel Paper Session

The collaboration of the ECDC Library in the pursuit of *Eurosurveillance* impact factor

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The collaboration of the ECDC Library in the pursuit of *Eurosurveillance* impact factor

- *Eurosurveillance* introduction
- Web of Science® journal selection process
- Collaboration of ECDCL and *Eurosurveillance* editorial team
- Study development
- Conclusions



About *Eurosurveillance*



- Scientific journal which covers the epidemiology, prevention and control of communicable diseases predominantly in Europe
- Since 2007 implementing changes to become a leading publication in communicable diseases
- Weekly online, peer reviewed and free of charge
- Journal features rapid communications and peer reviewed scientific papers published
- Available the whole collection at <http://www.eurosurveillance.org/>
- More than 14,000 electronic subscribers worldwide
- A selection of electronic articles are published in a quarterly paper edition (only intended for promotional reasons). Releases 6,000 copies

Web of Science® journal selection process



- Bradford's Law:
 - Demonstrated that only a relatively small number of journals publish the main scientific results

- *Web of Science®*:
 - Indexes journals that are core in the scientific literature in a particular subject domain → Uniqueness of the journal
 - Use the impact factor to measure the spread of scientific information of a journal
 - Application form to submit journals for evaluation:
 - “Unique features distinguishing this journal” field

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ECDC Library (ECDCL)

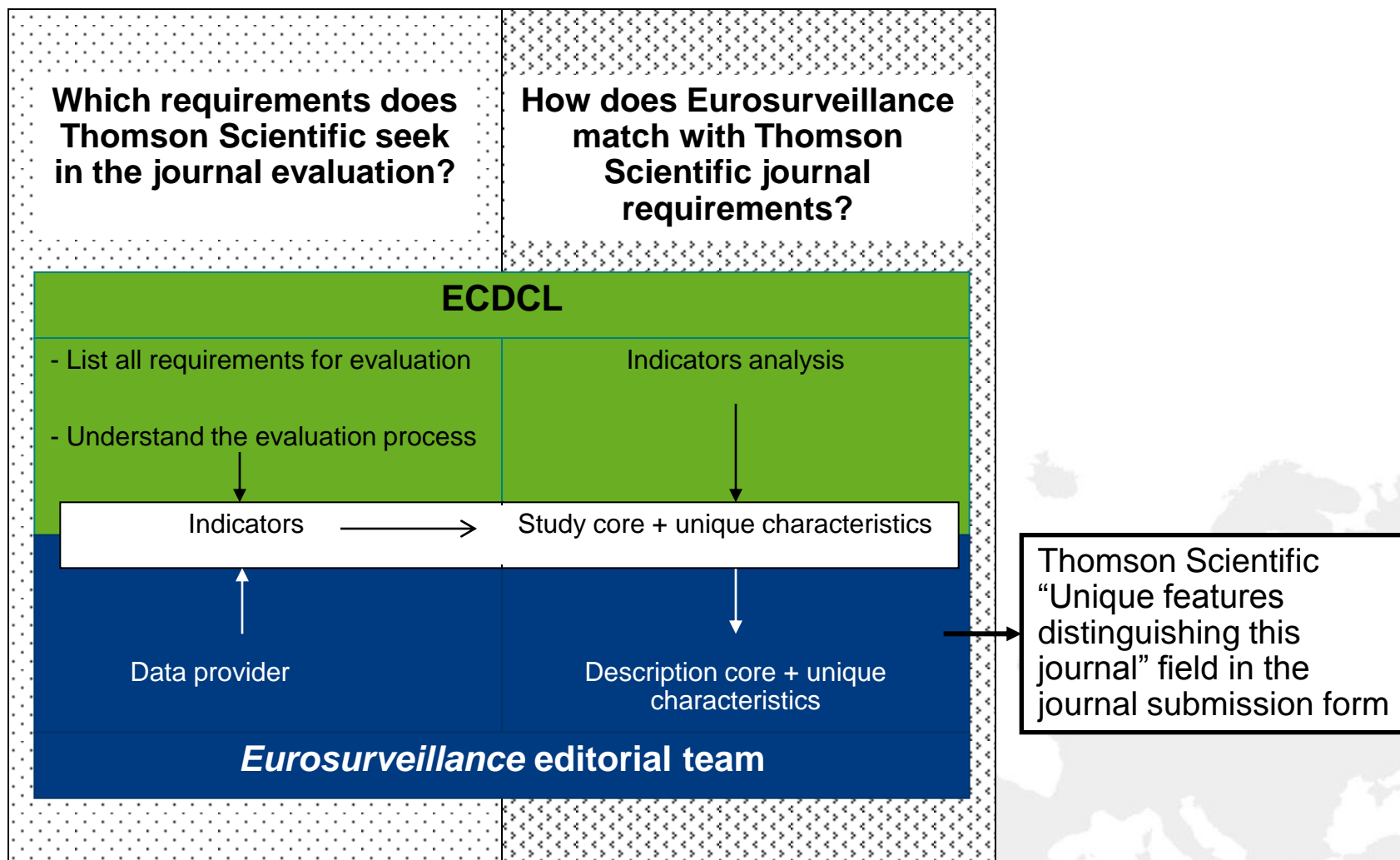
- Complexity scientific journals market
- Journal quality assessment
- Citation analysis

Eurosurveillance editorial team

- Awareness of other journals with similar editorial content to *Eurosurveillance*
- Data provider

- Which requirements does Thomson Scientific seek in the journal evaluation?
- How does *Eurosurveillance* match the Thomson Scientific requirements for the journal evaluation?

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Study core + unique characteristics

Characteristics analysis in 4 main groups:

1. Basic journal standards
 2. Editorial content
 3. International diversity
 4. Citation analysis
- ... Plus specific description for the evaluation of electronic journals

Study core + unique characteristics

1. Basic journal standards

Indicators

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1.1. Timeliness of publication | ▪ Punctuality of releasing the issues as it is stated in the journal periodicity |
| 1.2. International editorial conventions | ▪ Requested to follow an international editorial convention |
| 1.3. Language | ▪ If other than English language: title, abstract and keywords in English (essential); cited references translated into English (recommended) |
| 1.4. Peer review process | ▪ Evaluation how the journal executes its peer review process and publisher's reputation |

Eurosurveillance:

- ✓ Punctual weekly release
- ✓ Vancouver style
- ✓ Table of contents for each issue
- ✓ Articles are published in English
- ✓ Double blind peer review. Process explained in website
- ✓ Editorial board members formed from different reference institutions across the Member States

Study core + unique characteristics

2. Editorial content

- Indicator: State the unique content qualities of a journal

Eurosurveillance:

- ✓ Rapid peer reviewed communications
- ✓ Euroroundups
- ✓ Innovative research in specific infectious diseases and emerging diseases
- ✓ Articles concerning infectious diseases events and trends in Europe and major events in other parts of the world
- ✓ Covers potential threats to health for the EU population

3. International diversity

- Indicators: Journal spread in the international scientific community: nationality of subscribers and affiliation of editorial board members; presence in bibliographic databases, library catalogues, repertories and search engines.

Eurosurveillance:

- ✓ +14,000 electronic subscribers spread in the EU Member States and also outside Europe
- ✓ Editorial board members formed from different reference institutions across the Member States
- ✓ Indexed in bibliographic databases: PubMed/Medline, Index Medicus, Scopus, Toxline
- ✓ Indexed in major library catalogues: WorldCat (USA), British Library (UK), COPAC (UK), CCFR (FR), Deutschen Nationalbibliothek (DE), REBIUN (SP), IDS Zürich Universität (CH)
- ✓ Indexed in journals directories and repertories: DOAJ, *Ulrich's Online*
- ✓ Indexed in scientific search engines: Google Scholar, Scirus
- ✓ Regional scholarship

4. Citation analysis

- Thomson Scientific editors receive a substantial citation data to analyse on annual basis
- Self-citation analysis

Eurosurveillance:

- ✓ Most cited scientific journal in Promed (<http://www.promed.org/>) in 2007
- ✓ One of the main sources of information for the global Health Map (<http://www.healthmap.org/en>)
- ✓ 5 top most cited articles published in Eurosurveillance are cited by other journals already indexed in *Web of Science*®

Study core + unique characteristics

Electronic journals specific requirements

- Indicators: List of requirements available in the journal selection process website

Eurosurveillance:

- ✓ Assigned for each article an unique page number or article number
- ✓ Completed table of contents for each issue
- ✓ Provided to authors instructions how to cite the electronic version of Eurosurveillance journal
- ✓ Provided descriptive article titles and abstracts
- ✓ Completed bibliographic information for all cited references
- ✓ Stated clearly which author belongs to its working institution
- ✓ Bibliography placed in a standard location within the journal
- ✓ ...

Conclusions

- Unnecessary to apply in detail the indicators → General statement in the unique characteristics in the submission form
- Thomson Scientific editors use multiple citation data for the journal evaluation → citation analysis is not fully specified in journal selection website neither in the bibliography used
- Submit a journal with all the requirements does not guarantee that it will be indexed in *Web of Science*®
 - Component of the subjective judgement of the experts of the field
- Expertise combination from ECDCL and *Eurosurveillance* editorial team was a good asset
- End product: 453 words describing the unique and core characteristics of *Eurosurveillance*

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