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Editor-in-Chief's report 2019

The editorial work in Scandinavian Journal of Primary Health Care ran smoothly in 2019. The winners of the paper of the years 2017 and 2018 were celebrated at the Aalborg conference. A total of 230 papers were submitted to journal, and 60 were published. The average time from submission to first decision (first round of peer review) was 53 days and to acceptance 122 days. The journal impact factor rose to 2.095. Two journal workshops were given by the editors at conferences: one in May in Tampere EGPRN conference together with the European Journal of General Practice and another one at the Aalborg conference.

Papers of the year 2017 and 2018

The journal selects a Paper of the year for each year and the winners are celebrated at the Nordic conferences. The authors of these papers are given an opportunity to present their findings as well. The panel who makes the selection consists of Nordic professors of general practice. In 2019, the panel members were Mette Brekke from Norway, Päivi Korhonen from Finland, Jakob Kragstrup from Denmark, Patrik Midlöv from Sweden and Margret Olafia Tomasdottir from Iceland.

The winners were announced in Aalborg in June and they were:

2017: Stein Nilsen from Norway who together with Professor Kirsti Malterud wrote a qualitative paper What happens when the doctor denies a patient's request? A qualitative interview study among general practitioners in Norway.



2018: Laura Trolle Saust, Lars Bjerrum, Volkert Siersma, Magnus Arpi and Malene Plejdrup Hansen from Denmark. The title of their paper was Quality assessment in general practice: diagnosis and antibiotic treatment of acute respiratory tract infections

Editorial team

The editorial team met twice: in April in Copenhagen and in June in Aalborg, Denmark. The members of the SJPHC editorial team are presented in Table 1. In the beginning of the year, Anne Møller quit the role of Assistant Editor of Denmark and was replaced by Malene Plejdrup Hansen. The position of Assistant Editor in Iceland continues to be vacant.

Table 1. SJPHC National and Assistant Editors in the beginning of 2020

Country	National Editor	Assistant Editor
Denmark	Ass. Professor Jørgen Nexøe, University of Southern Denmark	Malene Plejdrup Hansen University of Copenhagen
Finland	Prof Päivi Korhonen, University of Turku	Prof Markku Timonen University of Oulu
Iceland	Ass. Professor Emil Sigurdsson, University of Iceland	Vacant
Norway	Ass Prof Svein Kjosavik, University of Bergen	Dr Anja Maria Lyche Brænd, University of Oslo
Sweden	Ass Prof Hans Thulesius, Lund University	Prof Cecilia Björkelund, University of Gothenburg

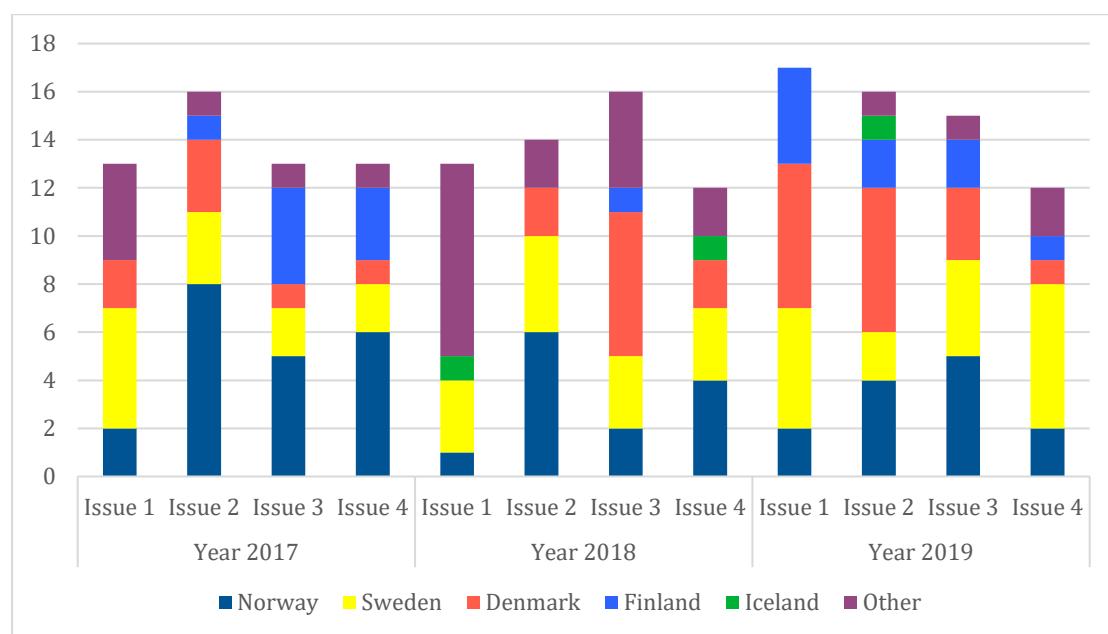
Published papers

The number of published papers in 2019 was 60 plus one letter to the editor from Sweden.

Figure 1 presents the published papers per country and per issue. There were 17 papers from Sweden, 16 from Denmark, 13 from Norway, 9 from Finland, one from Iceland and altogether four from other countries, Austria, Belgium, Netherlands and Switzerland one from each.



Figure 1. Papers in the SJPHC in 2017 – 2019 per country and per issue.



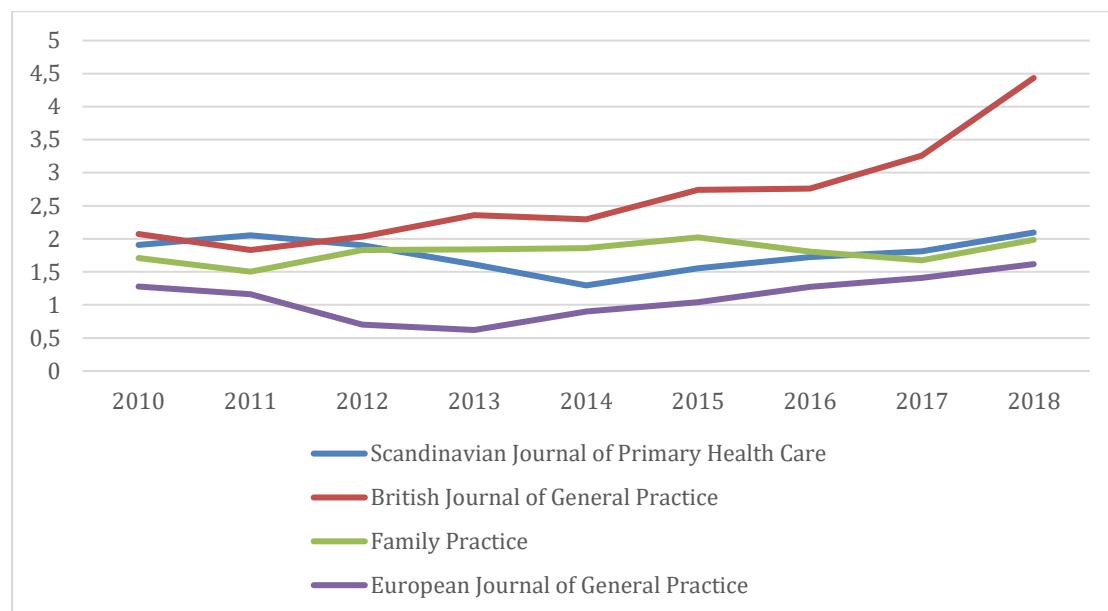
Journal impact factor (JIF)

The impact factor of the journal continues to be an important matter for both the authors and the editors. The impact factors always refer to the previous year and are published in June. The JIF for the SJPHC released in June 2019 was 2.095 and rose for the fourth year in row. It is close to the highest ever of 2.205 in 2009. The current competitive situation with the SJPHC impact factor is presented in Figure 2.

In 2018, of the competitors, British Journal of General Practice increased its impact factor from 3.261 to 4.434, which is a remarkable change.



Figure 2. General practice journal impact factors 2009 – 2018



Collaboration with the publisher and finances

The collaboration with Manuscript Manager, the editorial software and Taylor & Francis, the publishing house ran smoothly. The publisher informed in the beginning of November that the downloads of 2019 had already exceeded those of 2018 (178,202), which shows that there is a steady growth in the openings of the journal article at the website.

In 2019, there were no changes to the publication fees. The publication fee for non-members remained at 1500€ euros and that of members was 500€. The income from the papers in 2019 was 51,000€. Of the accepted papers, 59% came from members of the Nordic colleges, who pay the lower publishing fee of 500€.



Plans for the 2020

The experiences of the workshops at conferences were good in 2019 and there are plans to continue them in 2020, in May in Gothenburg EGPRN conference and in June in Berlin at the Wonca conference. With the editors, new ways to run the journal business even more effectively will be looked at.

Finally, my warmest thanks to the team of National and Assistant editors, the team at NFGP and our editorial assistant Pauliina Ilvespakkka. Working with these people for the good purpose has been a true pleasure.

Helsinki January 2020

Helena Liira
Editor-in-Chief