

*Journal of Materials Science:*  
***Materials in Medicine***  
*Publication Aspects and*  
*What You Should Do as a*  
***Reviewer***

ESB 2010

Tampere, Finland

September 13, 2010

- Founding Editor: Prof. William Bonfield, Department of Materials Science and Metallurgy, University of Cambridge, UK
- The *Journal of Materials Science: Materials in Medicine* publishes refereed papers providing **significant progress in the application of biomaterials and tissue engineering constructs** as medical or dental implants, prostheses and devices. Coverage spans a wide range of topics **from basic science to clinical applications**, around the theme of materials in medicine and dentistry. The central element is the development of synthetic and natural materials used in orthopaedic, maxillofacial, cardiovascular, neurological, ophthalmic and dental applications. **Special biomedical topics** include biomaterial synthesis and characterisation, biocompatibility studies, nanomedicine, tissue engineering constructs and cell substrates, regenerative medicine, computer modelling and other advanced experimental methodologies.

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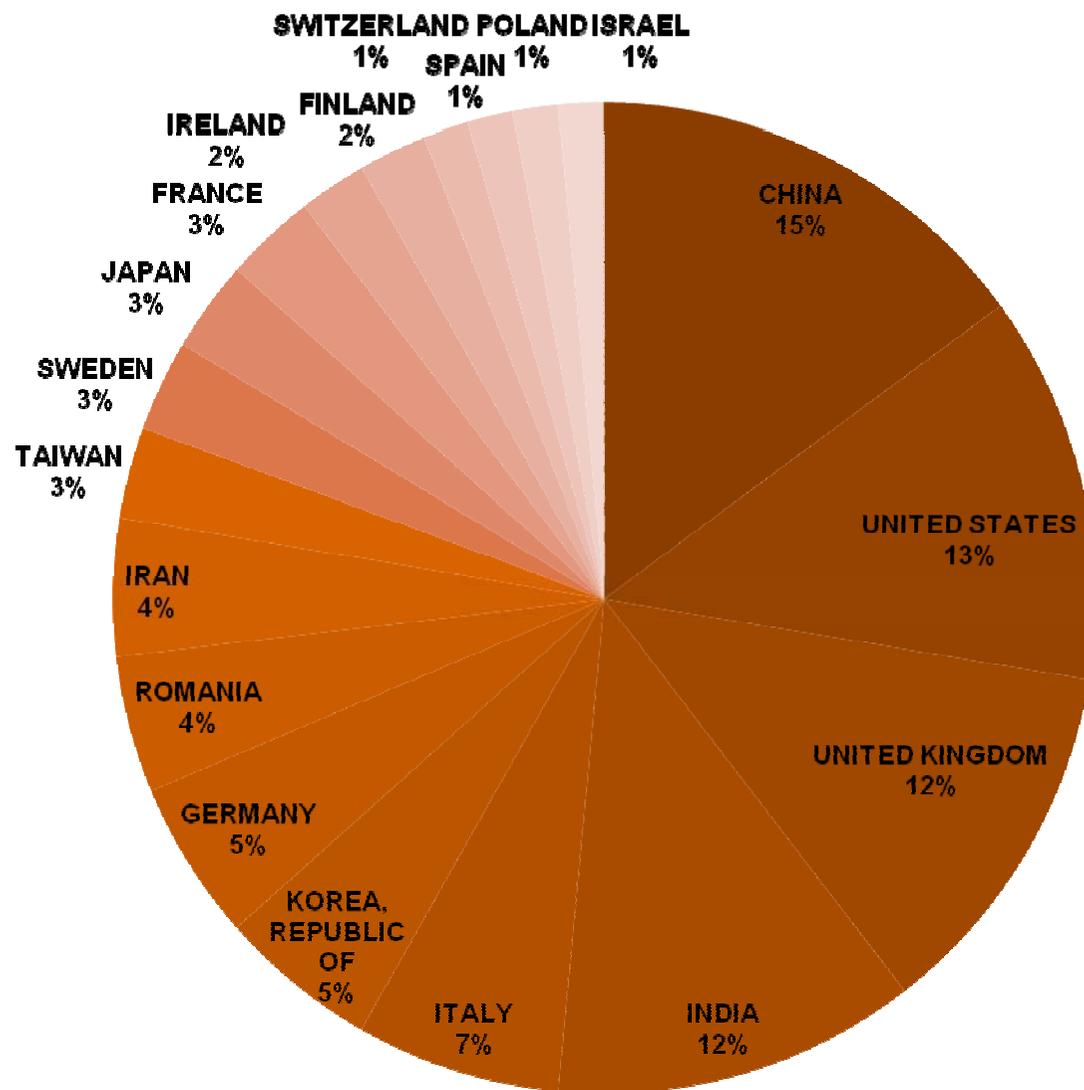
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- **Journal Coordinator:** Mrs Christine Carey, Dept. of Materials Science and Metallurgy University of Cambridge, UK

## JMS as the Official Journal of the ESB

- The journal mission is to provide a comprehensive overview of the research produced by the international community and in particular by the European scientific community
- Materials in Medicine publishes research from around the world, and the online content platform SpringerLink puts the journal on 15 million desktops globally.
- The journal publishes monthly issues including approximately 20 papers/issue
- The special issue dedicated to the annual ESB conference is a regular feature
- Additional special issues dedicated to other conferences are considered by the editors only on the basis of their high scientific standard



# Top 20 Countries of Origin, By Corresponding Author, Sep 2009 – Aug 2010



# Impact Factor Calculations, 2008

## 2-Year Impact Factor

Cites in 2009 to items published in:	2008 = 804	Number of items published in:	2008 = 440
	2007 = 627		2007 = 292
	Sum: 1431		Sum: 732

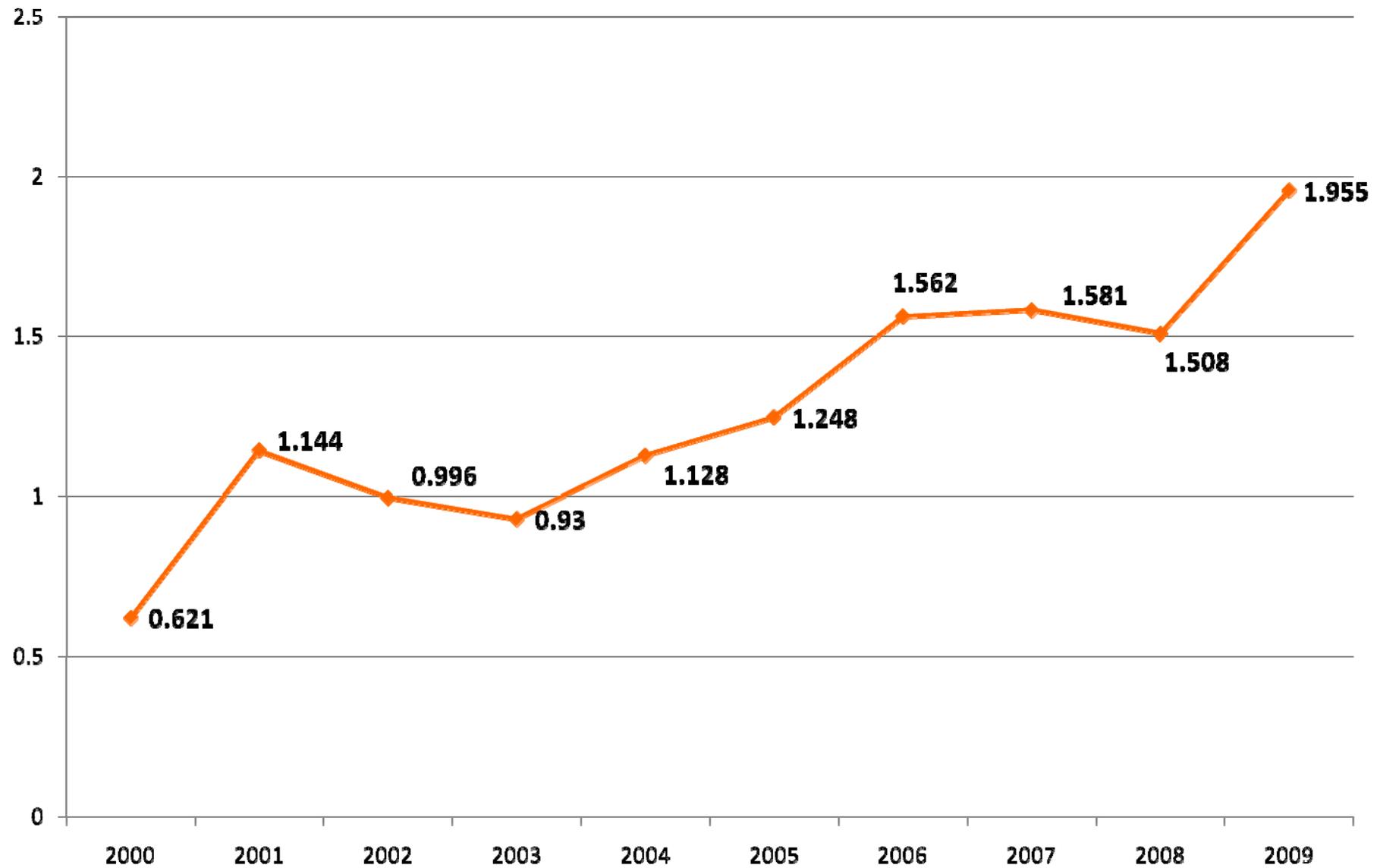
Calculation:  $\frac{\text{Cites to recent items}}{\text{Number of recent items}} = \frac{1431}{732} = 1.955$

## 5-Year Impact Factor

Cites in 2009 to items published in:	2008= 804	Number of items published in:	2008= 440
	2007 = 364		2007 = 292
	2006 = 337		2006 = 173
	2005 = 481		2005 = 161
	2004 = 588		2004 = 191
	Sum: 2905		Sum: 1257

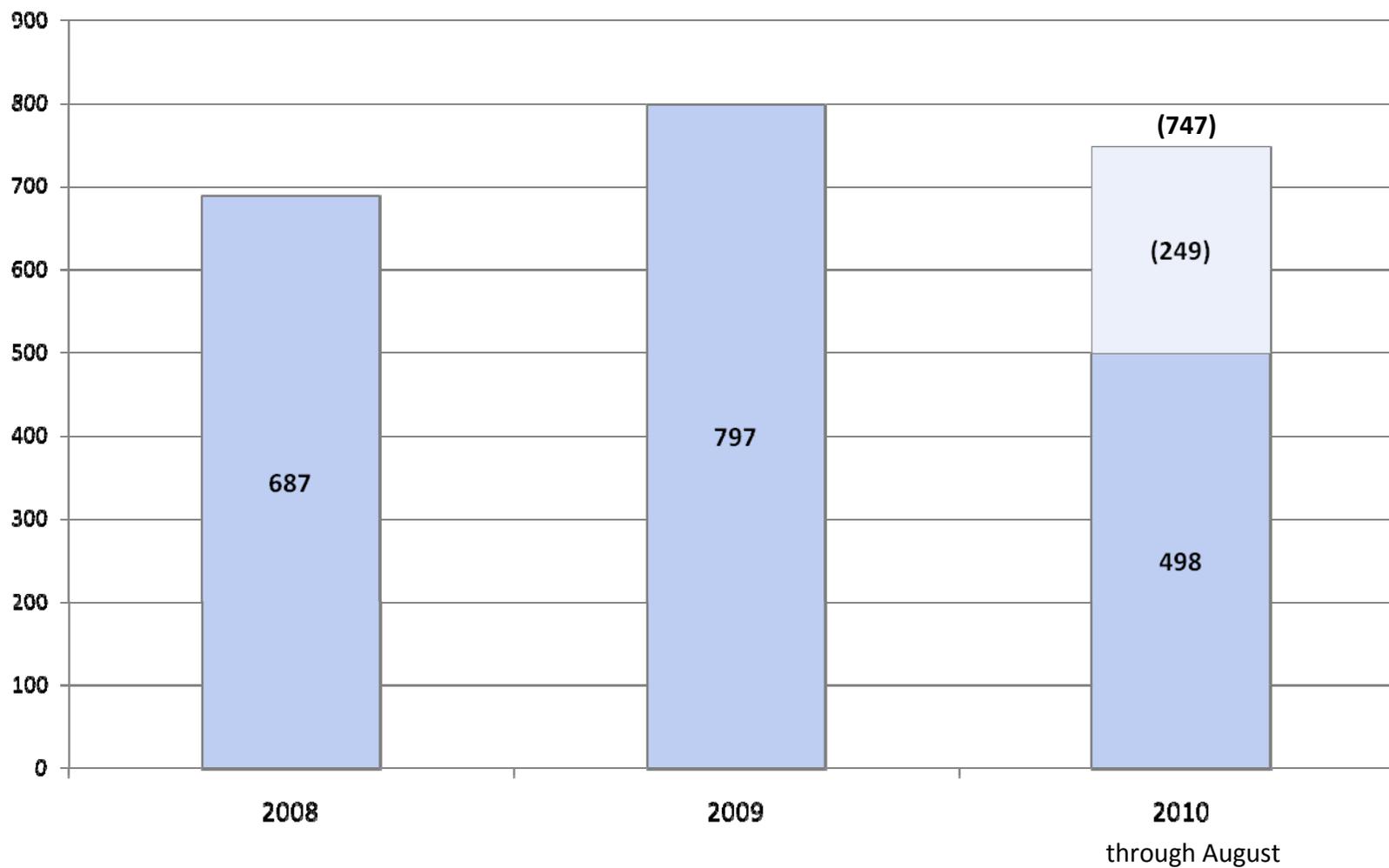
Calculation:  $\frac{\text{Cites to recent items}}{\text{Number of recent items}} = \frac{2905}{1257} = 2.311$

# Impact Factor Trend 2000-2009

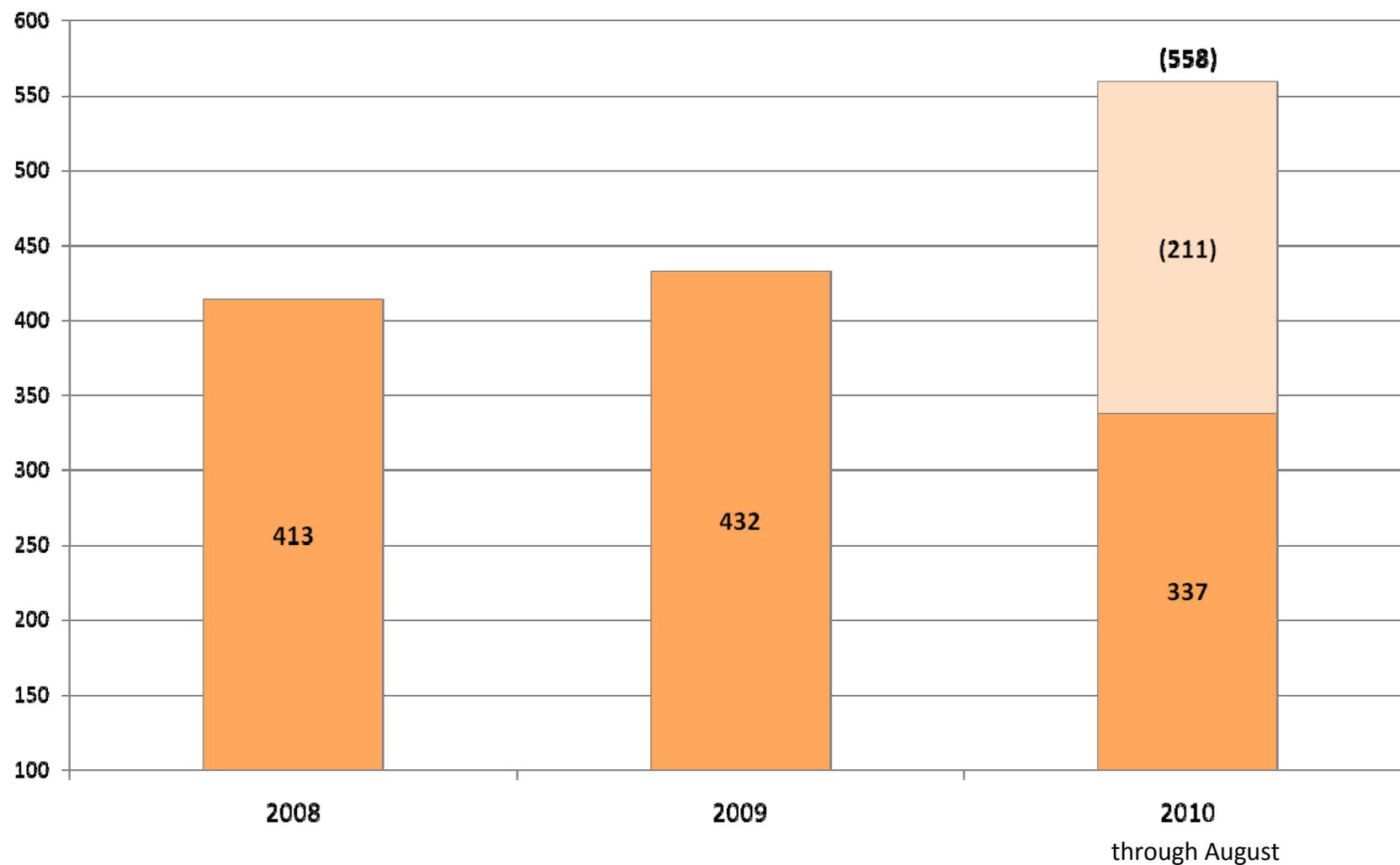


- Rejection rate is based on review of the science compared to the state-of-the-art in the field of application
- The integrative approach taken by the Editorial Board suggests an open policy with no set rejection rate
- **The quality and originality of the science presented in the submitted papers is the only selection criterion!**

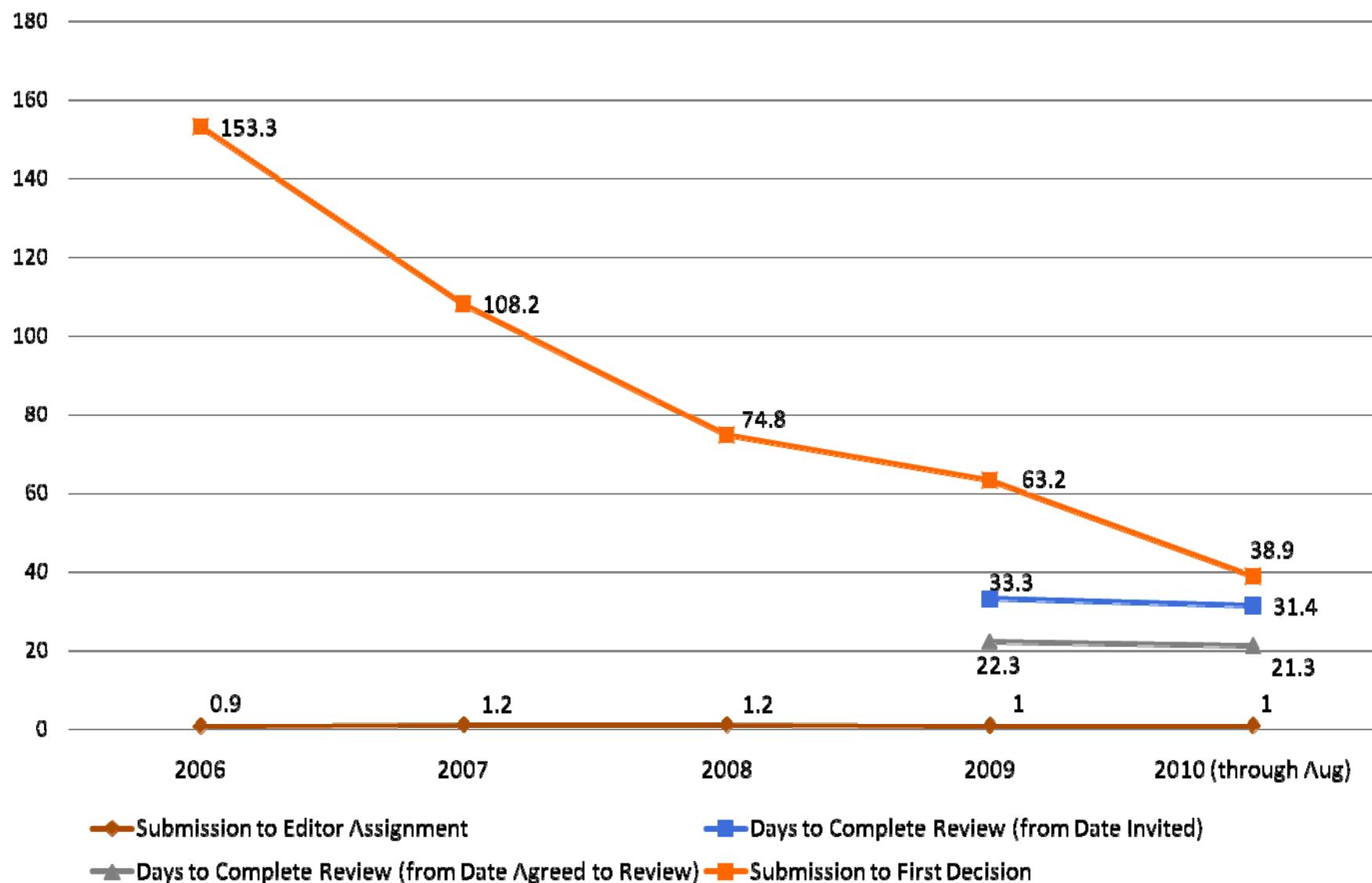
# Total Number of Papers Submitted



# Total Number of Papers Rejected



# Journal Turnaround Times, Average number of days, 2006-2010



- **Level 1, Editors pre-screening:** the papers are assessed by the Editors on the basis of their fulfilment of the journal scope, format and overall scientific merit and they are assigned to the Associate Editors
- **Level 2, Associate Editors 1<sup>st</sup> assessment:** the papers are evaluated in-depth and assigned to external reviewers
- **Level 3, Independent review:** External reviewers who have accepted the invitation have 45 days to provide their comments
- **Level 4, Associate Editors 2<sup>nd</sup> assessment:** the associate editor takes into account the reviewers' comments to reach a decision that is forwarded to the corresponding author
- **Level 5, Associate Editors/Editors 3<sup>rd</sup> assessment:** In case of papers where a decision is reached for either minor or major revision, the Editors and Associate Editors carefully assess the Authors' reply, their ability to address all the issues in the new version of the manuscript and reach final decision

# The Reviewer's Ethos and Actions

- The Ethos:
  - Make sure that there is no conflict of interest regarding the paper you have been invited to review
  - Provide constructive comments that can help the authors to improve their work
  - Avoid any comment that can diminish the authors and their commitment to research or that can undermine the importance of their research
- Actions:
  - accept/decline invitation as soon as possible
  - In case invitation is declined the editors would appreciate suggestions for alternative reviewers
  - In case invitation is accepted a period of 45 days is given to review the manuscript

- Consider the following indications:
  - Detailed correction of the text are welcome, but not strictly required
  - Papers based only on the synthesis and characterisation of materials are not acceptable unless innovative. Biocompatibility tests/proof of potential clinical application(s) should be provided
  - Papers focussing on biocompatibility or drug/bioactive molecule delivery studies should be performed in clinically-reflective conditions (either *in vitro* or *in vivo*)
  - An assessment of the literature provided by the authors should be performed
  - A monitoring of papers previously published in JMS that are relevant to the manuscript under assessment should be performed and flagged to the authors.

# The Reviewer's Role

JMSMXXXX

"Title of the paper"

Original Submission

Reviewer's Name, Title (Reviewer 1)

<b>Reviewer</b>	
<b>Recommendation Term:</b>	
<b>Comments to Editor:</b>	<p>Would you classify the scientific content as:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Innovative/Outstanding?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Good?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Worthy/Acceptable?</p> <p>A. Is the paper of special topicality and/or quality such as to merit accelerated publication?</p> <p>B. Do the title, abstract and summary give a sufficiently balanced picture of the contents of the paper?</p> <p>C. Are all the figures and tables necessary for the understanding of the text? Please state those which may be omitted if any.</p> <p>D. Strictly confidential remarks for the Editor:</p>

# The Reviewer's Role

<b>Reviewer Recommendation Term:</b>	
<b>Comments to Author:</b>	<p>The present paper focusses on....</p> <p>Potential interest to the readers of JMS</p> <p>How novel/original the findings are? The reviewer is kindly invited to assess the literature used by the authors</p> <p>Is the English of an acceptable standard?</p> <p>Does the Introduction section provide a concise but comprehensive overview of the state-of-the-art?</p> <p>Is the hypothesis of the work well defined?</p> <p>Are the Materials and Methods well described?</p> <p>Is there sufficient information to assess the reproducibility of the experiments, the statistical analysis methods used and, where applicable, the ethical approval?</p> <p>Are the results clearly described and consistent with their graphical presentation?</p> <p>Are all the figures of good quality and necessary? Molecular structures, scheme of reactions, drawings of equipment can be accepted only if new. No more than 6 figures should be provided, but figure panels may allow more graphical information.</p> <p>Does the Discussion section provide an interpretation of the results that is sound and robustly related to the literature?</p> <p>The Conclusion section should not be a repetition of the Results and Discussion, but rather frame the findings in the light of potential clinical applications</p>

# Recruitment of Early Career Reviewers

- Early career scientists are strongly encouraged to register as reviewers
- The editors seek for a training period beyond this session that would be supported by more experienced team leaders. This is particularly important to ensure that papers are competently reviewed
- A form will be made available at the end of this workshop and throughout the conference at the Springer exhibition space
- Initiatives will soon be undertaken by the publisher to show their gratitude to reviewers
- Submissions of research papers by early career scientists are warmly encouraged especially if they present high risk/innovative research

# Acknowledgements

- The Publisher and the Editors would like to thank:
  - The YSF for hosting this talk in their workshop
  - The ESB Council for the close and productive collaboration throughout these years
  - All the scientists who have been contributing to the journal success by submitting their research articles and their paper reviewing