



Fund “Nauka” Project Resume № 13007 – Competition-Based Session 2013:

“Increase of the quality and international visibility of publications as a result of the scientific research conducted at the Medical University of Varna”

Project leader: Prof. Rinaldo Savov Shishkov, MD, PhD, DSc

For more than 50 years, since the founding of the Medical University “Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov” – Varna (MU-Varna), the results of its researchers’ activity are published in its issues. These scientific issues aim to popularize the achievements of our scientists in the country and abroad and to contribute to the more effective inclusion of the MU-Varna scientific community to the world models. The publications are distributed in the system of national and international book exchange. The full-text archive of some of them is also available on the website of MU-Varna.

Purpose of the study:

The purpose of this project is to create conditions for sharp improvement of the entire editorial and publishing process in the preparation and printing of publications of MU-Varna. These conditions will follow as a result of the restructuring of research in MU-Varna, directly oriented to publishing using the achievements of the world leading publishing houses and application of the most modern polygraphic, information and telecommunication technologies. The aim of MU-Varna is for its publications to directly contribute to achieving the goals of the National Strategy for Development of Scientific Research through high quality, relevance and applicability in the practice of scientific developments.

Working hypothesis (formulation):

Scientific issues play a major role in the system of scientific communications on a national and international scale. Their continuous improvement has a beneficial effect on research. We are witnessing the already established trends for interdisciplinarity, institutionalization and internationalization of science and higher education. At the same time, scientific publications, and in particular periodicals, are developing in the direction of continuous differentiation to the degree of narrowly problematic orientation, on the one hand, and non-weakening integration with the participation of disciplines within the same science and even other sciences, on the other.

Research methods used:

1. Information approach to research: adherence to the already established in the specialized literature on science understanding of the nature of science as a social

system for creating new scientific information about the world – nature, society and man.

2. Analysis of the content of normative documents, standards and ethical norms for the publishing activity in the field of science: it is a question of research of the rich normative base in this field.
3. Analysis of the systems for indexing and referencing of scientific websites and information portals.
4. Comparative analysis of successful foreign practices in the field of editorial activity.
5. Implementation of the positive foreign experience after its adaptation to the Bulgarian conditions.

The publication of a specific manuscript will go through the following stages:

1. Receipt of the manuscript from the technical assistant in the editorial office (in the traditional or online way).
2. Notifying the editor-in-chief and sending a letter to the author that the manuscript has been received by the editorial office.
3. The Editor-in-Chief, either alone or in collaboration with the members of the Editorial Board, shall appoint at least two independent reviewers for the proposed manuscript.
4. The manuscript is sent for review through the “blind review” method (the reviewer does not know who the authors of the manuscript are).
5. The Editor-in-Chief prepares a summary comment based on the analysis of the reviewers’ opinions. Several summary assessments are possible: a) the manuscript is accepted for publication in its original form; (b) the manuscript will be published if minor changes (corrections or additions) are made to it; (c) the manuscript will be published if significant changes (corrections or additions) are made to it; and (d) the manuscript is rejected.
6. The technical assistant responsible for liaising with the editors shall notify the author of the manuscript of the decision of the editor-in-chief and, if necessary, set a deadline for sending the corrected version of the manuscript.
7. The manuscript is successively passed through scientific and linguistic editing, processing of the individual components and pre-printing.
8. The author receives the version of the manuscript after its pre-press preparation, authorizes it and informs the editors if additional corrections are required.