The changes described above would be illogical were they not accompanied by greater international recognition of the content published in the JBP. We are pleased to report that that is what has occurred. The JBP impact factor, as published in Thomson Reuters Journal Citation Reports has stabilized and has actually risen slightly, currently standing at 1.019. That indicates that the journal has begun to overcome the effects of the temporary suspension of 2014. (13) Supporting that impression is the fact that the two-year Scimago Jornal Rank citation index is now 1.282, corresponding to a 15% increase in relation to the previous cycle. These figures, while indicating substantial room for growth, make the JBP the leading journal in the field of respiratory medicine in Latin America. In addition, the JBP continues to be an important journal for the dissemination of postgraduate studies conducted in Brazil, receiving a good grade in the journal ranking system of the Brazilian Office for the Advancement of Higher Education, a system known as Qualis.

There is a need for further consolidation of the JBP processes. There are several highly relevant research groups in our country that do not yet participate significantly in the publication of the JBP and that could greatly enrich the representativeness of the Journal. There is also an opportunity to update several of the Brazilian Thoracic Association guidelines, which also play a fundamental role in the visibility of any scientific journal. These opportunities will be explored in upcoming years.

The JBP can also become a platform for the discussion of pathways and alternatives in respiratory medicine. There is room to open a debate on several aspects, from the education of pulmonologists to the future of research in the area of respiratory medicine. Relevant themes for the future of respiratory medicine, which could be exposed in the JBP in the form of debates between exponents of each of the respective areas include the ideal curriculum, funding sources, the minimum structure of a postgraduate program in the pulmonology, incentives for young researchers, retention of professionals in the university environment, and professional defense.

If there is still a great need to improve the processes and solidify the continued growth of the JBP, we must not lose sight of the opportunities to give the JBP an even more comprehensive role in leading the reader to reflection, not only on science, a fundamental principle of the existence of the journal, but also on health policies, vocational training, and medical education. We invite our readers to take this next step with us.
REFERENCES