

Keeping Research Relevant: *WestJEM* Bi-monthly Electronic Issues Coming Soon

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At *The Western Journal of Emergency Medicine: Integrating Emergency Care with Population Health* (*WestJEM*), we're committed to using technology to disseminate our authors' scholarly work and enhance our journal's relevance in the digital age. Rapid dissemination to the world in an open-access format maximizes impact and promotes academic discourse. To align our journal's goals with the increasing pace of technology, we are moving towards a dramatic change.

We listened to respondents from our survey, looked at timetables for other journals, and considered the time to publication for articles in *WestJEM*, which is longer than we would like. *WestJEM* is committed to maximizing the visibility and influence of our authors' work, but delays from acceptance to publication threaten this. With these changes, we plan to bring the best research and content to the world sooner.

WestJEM's new plan is simple, minimizing the wait time between acceptance and publication. These articles will become available on PubMed and PubMed Central with PubMed ID numbers, functioning DOIs, and the ability to share and discuss their work sooner.

Starting in July 2014, *WestJEM* will begin a

bi-monthly online publication issue complimented every three months by a compilation print issue highlighting topics, cases, ideas, and images selected by our editors.

All articles will initially come out electronically and be assigned page numbers within the volume and PubMed ID numbers. These will be the official "versions" of the research papers. Articles that are selected for the print compilation issues will be assigned separate numbers within the print issue, and not be sent to PubMed again, thus avoiding any duplication of a paper in the database.

In time with enhanced journal content, we plan to publish electronically monthly, with additional print compilation issues. The shift of *WestJEM* towards initially electronic publishing should not devalue the print medium. We still believe in the value of having content that can be held and felt, read more easily for some, and strive to provide the best of worlds, rapid availability and traditional print presentation.

We look forward to the prospect of continually improving *WestJEM* for our readers and authors and welcome continued feedback. Please visit <http://www.westjem.com/survey> to find and fill out our running feedback survey.

		Publication Format		
		Online Only Issues	Print Compilation Issues	Print Special Issues
Month	January	1-20: Articles accepted and go through format and layout 21-31: Finish up layouts, prepare TOC, publish Issue 1 online		
	February	1-28/29: Articles accepted and go through format and layout	Compilation Issue 1 Print in February	
	March	1-20: Articles accepted and go through format and layout 21-31: Finish up layouts, prepare TOC, publish Issue 2 online		
	April	1-30: Articles accepted and go through format and layout		
	May	1-20: Articles accepted and go through format and layout 21-31: Finish up layouts, prepare TOC, publish Issue 3 online		
	June	1-30: Articles accepted and go through format and layout	Compilation Issue 2 Print in June	
	July	1-20: Articles accepted and go through format and layout 21-31: Finish up layouts, prepare TOC, publish Issue 4 online		
	August	1-31: Articles accepted and go through format and layout		ECIC Special Issue Print in August, Content Compiled Jan-May
	September	1-20: Articles accepted and go through format and layout 21-30: Finish up layouts, prepare TOC, publish Issue 5 online		CORD Abstracts Issue Print in September, Content Compiled May-Jun
	October	1-31: Articles accepted and go through format and layout	Compilation Issue 3 Print in October	
	November	1-20: Articles accepted and go through format and layout 21-30: Finish up layouts, prepare TOC, publish Issue 6 online		
	December	1-31: Articles accepted and go through format and layout		

Figure. Bi-monthly publication outline.