

# *Canadian Journal of Anesthesia*

## *Journal canadien d'anesthésie*

### Editor-in-Chief Annual Report to the Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society; 2020 Annual Report

#### CJA MISSION STATEMENT:

*“Excellence in research and knowledge translation related to the clinical practice of anesthesia, pain management, perioperative medicine and critical care.”*

#### **Overview**

The *Canadian Journal of Anesthesia* is the official journal of the Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society (CAS) and the Canadian Critical Care Society (CCCS). This is my final report as Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal*, bringing an end to my 12-year term on the editorial board, the last seven of which I served as Editor-in-Chief (EIC). Herein, I will address some of the key points in the *Journal's* progress over the past year. Many of the metrics in this 2020 report reflect data for 2019, as some 2020 data will not be available until after the report is submitted (May 2021).

#### **Key Facts**

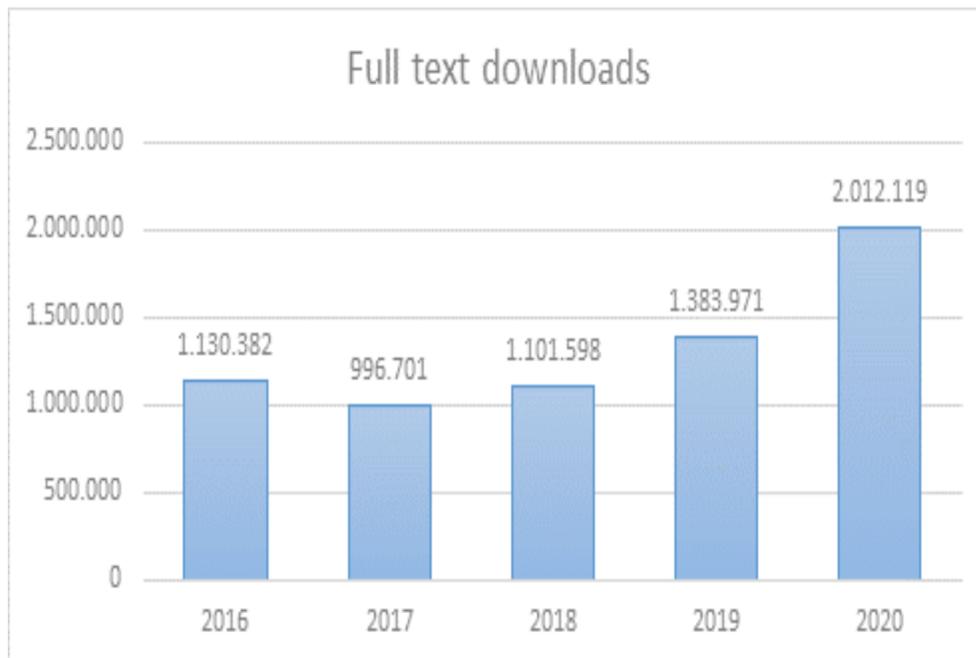
- Submissions: **1,335 in 2020** (962 in 2019)
- Published articles: **340 in 2020** (277 in 2019)
- Acceptance rate: **26% in 2020** (currently 30% in 2019)
- Time from submission to first decision: **12 days in 2020** (14 days in 2019)
- Time from submission to final accept decision: **82 days in 2020** (currently 110 days in 2019)
- Usage: **2,012,119 full-text downloads in 2020** (1,383,971 in 2019)
- **2019 Impact Factor – 3.779** (2018 IF – 3.374)

#### **Usage**

The content of the *Journal* is available through direct subscription to all CCCS and CAS members. In addition, there were 8,700 institutional library consortia that access the *Journal*. The *Journal* continues to be accessed by an ever-increasing number of other users. In 2020, we averaged >165,000 downloads per month. In terms of full-text article request by geography, 11% of requests originated from Canada in 2020, in comparison to 25% of requests originating from the United States. Twenty-five per cent of requests now come from Asia-Pacific countries, 22% from Europe, and 16% from elsewhere. These data continue to reflect the international in scope of the *Journal*.

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### **Production**

There were 340 articles published in 2020 as compared to the 277 articles published in 2019. The *Journal* continues to achieve a more rapid turnaround time to publication. The average production time between receipt at Springer and online first publication was 12 days in 2020. This is a key metric that is important to encourage repeat author submissions.

### **Editorial Content**

The editors remained highly selective in 2020 in regard to choosing which articles were published according to their novelty, scientific merit, and overall importance. Each issue contains, on average, 2-3 editorials, 5-6 reports of original investigations, 1-2 review articles, reflections, continuing professional development modules (3-4 per year), occasional case reports (5-6 per year), correspondence items, and book reviews.

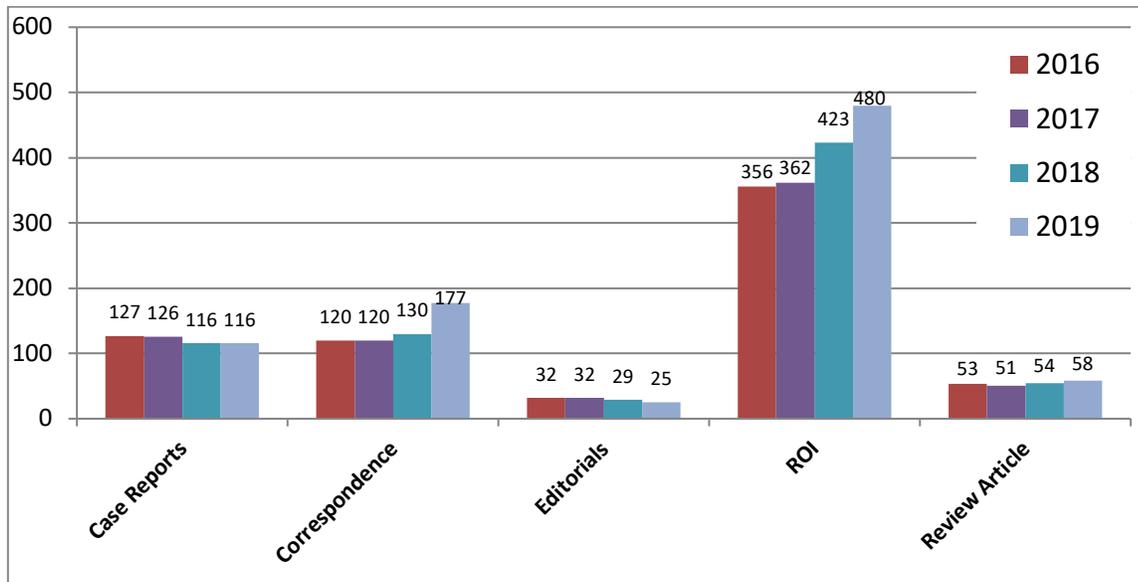
**Critical Care Content** – Approximately 8% (108 of 1,335 submissions in 2020, to date) of the reports of original investigations are related to critical care-themed studies. This content is growing and the CCCS relationship continues to be an important one to foster.

### **Journal Data and Metrics**

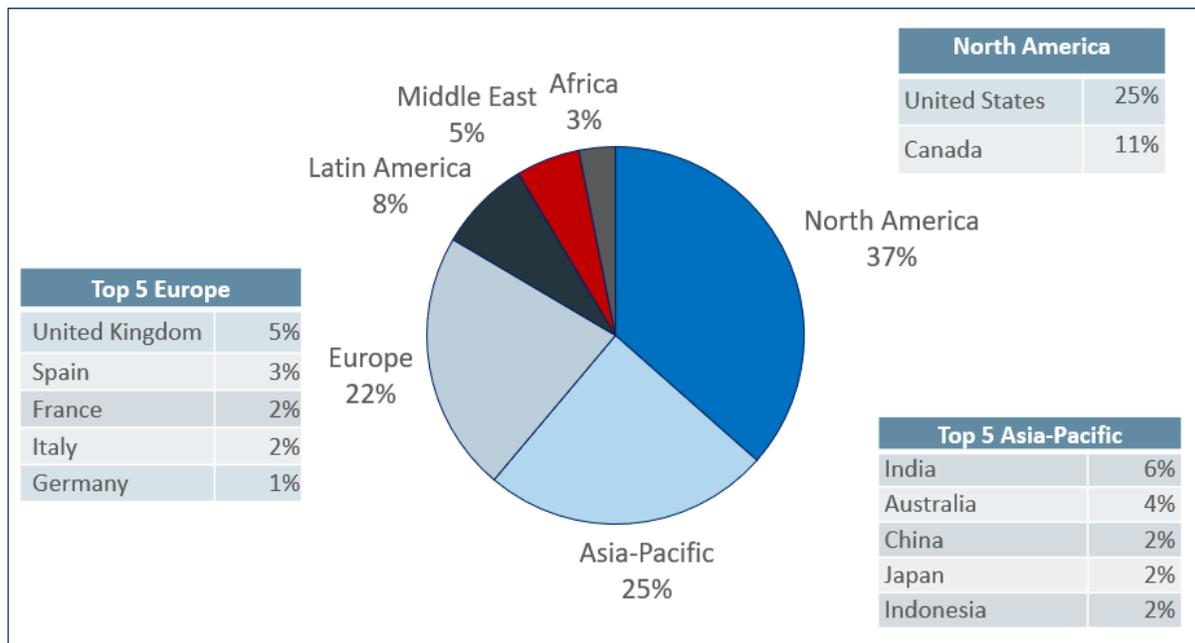
Overall, there were 1,335 submissions considered for peer-review in 2020. This is the largest number of annual submissions in the *Journal's* history. The overall acceptance rate was approximately 26%.

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Submissions by article type:



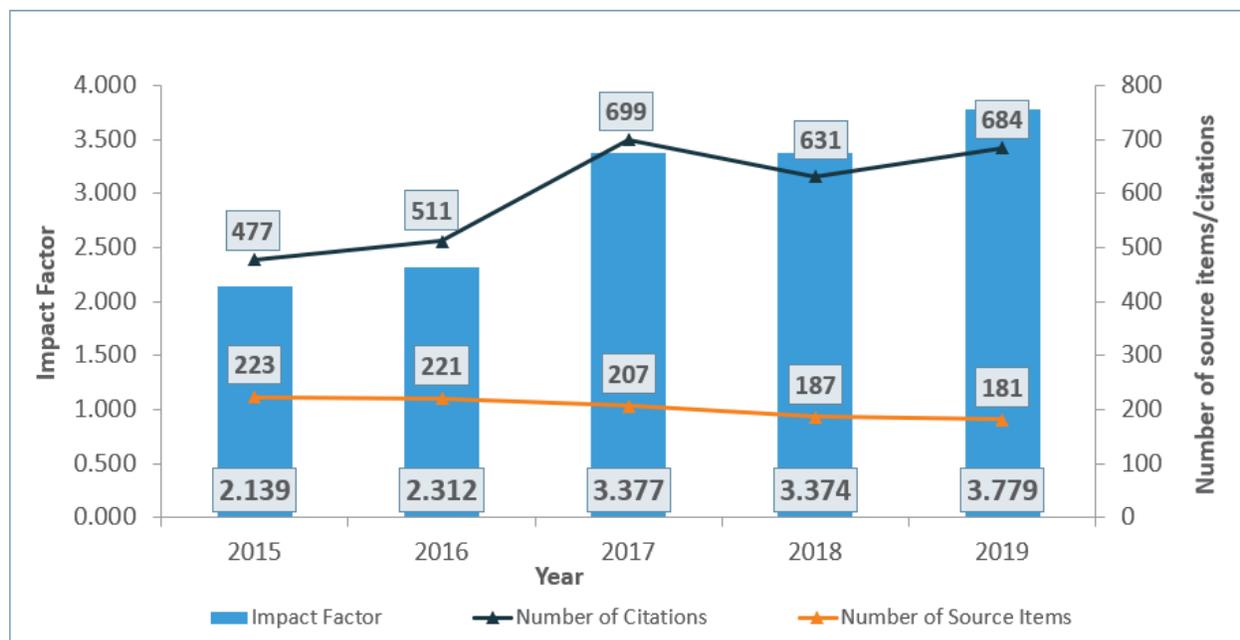
## Readership



Source: Google Analytics data on Google Big Query

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## Impact Factor Analysis



## 2019 Journal Citation Report: Anesthesiology

Top 20 journals in the category Anesthesiology and the rank of *Canadian Journal of Anesthesia/Journal canadien d'anesthésie*

Rank	Abbreviated Journal Title	Publisher	Total Cites	Impact Factor	IF without Journal Self Cites	5-Year Impact Factor
1	ANESTHESIOLOGY	LIPPINCOTT WILLIAMS & WILKINS	27,752	7.067	6.461	6.820
2	REGION ANESTH PAIN M	BMJ PUBLISHING GROUP	5,942	7.015	5.852	5.987
3	BRIT J ANAESTH	ELSEVIER SCI LTD	21,894	6.880	5.925	6.932
4	J CLIN ANESTH	ELSEVIER SCIENCE INC	4,858	6.039	5.118	3.391
5	ANAESTHESIA	WILEY	10,476	5.739	4.258	5.175
6	PAIN	LIPPINCOTT WILLIAMS & WILKINS	37,753	5.483	4.923	6.474
7	EUR J ANAESTH	LIPPINCOTT WILLIAMS & WILKINS	4,378	4.500	3.994	4.211
8	ANESTH ANALG	LIPPINCOTT WILLIAMS & WILKINS	26,554	4.305	3.827	4.123
<b>9</b>	<b>CAN J ANESTH</b>	<b>SPRINGER</b>	<b>5,678</b>	<b>3.779</b>	<b>3.050</b>	<b>3.278</b>
10	EUR J PAIN	WILEY	7,579	3.492	3.202	3.445
11	PAIN PHYSICIAN	AM SOC INTERVENTIONAL PAIN PHYSICIANS	4,529	3.251	2.611	3.214
12	J NEUROSURG ANESTH	LIPPINCOTT WILLIAMS & WILKINS	1,608	2.928	2.120	2.469
13	CLIN J PAIN	LIPPINCOTT WILLIAMS & WILKINS	6,956	2.893	2.763	3.480
14	PERIOPER MED-LONDON	BMC	220	2.740	2.680	
15	ANAESTH CRIT CARE PA	ELSEVIER FRANCE-EDITIONS SCIENTIFIQUES MEDICALES ELSEVIER	709	2.707	2.325	2.502
16	PAIN MED	OXFORD UNIV PRESS	7,432	2.513	2.260	3.101
17	MINERVA ANESTESIOLOGIA	EDIZIONI MINERVA MEDICA	2,771	2.498	1.614	2.243
18	PEDIATR ANESTH	WILEY	5,196	2.311	1.983	2.358
19	CURR OPIN ANESTHESIOLOGY	LIPPINCOTT WILLIAMS & WILKINS	2,866	2.276	2.190	2.409
20	J CARDIOTHOR VASC AN	W B SAUNDERS CO-ELSEVIER INC	5,371	2.258	1.418	1.873

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JCR Year: 2019 CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE					
Rank	Full Journal Title	Journal Impact Factor	Rank	Full Journal Title	Journal Impact Factor
1	LANCET RESPIRATORY MEDICINE	25.094	19	ANAESTHESIA CRITICAL CARE & PAIN MEDICINE	2.707
2	INTENSIVE CARE MEDICINE	17.679	20	JOURNAL OF CRITICAL CARE	2.685
3	AMERICAN JOURNAL OF RESPIRATORY AND CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE	17.452	21	MINERVA ANESTESIOLOGICA	2.498
4	CHEST	8.308	22	CRITICAL CARE AND RESUSCITATION	2.493
5	CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE	7.414	23	MEDICINA INTENSIVA	2.363
6	CRITICAL CARE	6.407	24	AUSTRALIAN CRITICAL CARE	2.214
7	RESUSCITATION	4.215	25	INJURY-INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF THE CARE OF THE INJURED	2.106
8	ANNALS OF INTENSIVE CARE	4.124	26	AMERICAN JOURNAL OF CRITICAL CARE	2.105
9	CRITICAL CARE CLINICS	3.804	27	BURNS	2.066
10	JOURNAL OF NEUROTRAUMA	3.793	27	RESPIRATORY CARE	2.066
	CANADIAN JOURNAL OF ANESTHESIA	3.779	29	SEMINARS IN RESPIRATORY AND CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE	2.028
11	HUMAN GENE THERAPY CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT	3.611	30	ANAESTHESIA AND INTENSIVE CARE	1.539
12	JOURNAL OF TRAUMA AND ACUTE CARE SURGERY	3.381	31	JOURNAL OF BURN CARE & RESEARCH	1.533
13	JOURNAL OF INTENSIVE CARE MEDICINE	3.142	32	CRITICAL CARE NURSE	1.484
14	JOURNAL OF INTENSIVE CARE	3.103	33	THERAPEUTIC HYPOTHERMIA AND TEMPERATURE MANAGEMENT	1.176
15	SHOCK	2.960	34	JOURNAL OF TRAUMA NURSING	0.875
16	CURRENT OPINION IN CRITICAL CARE	2.920	35	ANASTHESIOLOGIE & INTENSIVMEDIZIN	0.840
17	PEDIATRIC CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE	2.854	36	ANASTHESIOLOGIE INTENSIVMEDIZIN NOTFALLMEDIZIN SCHMERZTHERAPIE	0.531
18	NEUROCRITICAL CARE	2.720			

### Updates to the Journal's online presence

Our online content and other social media presence continues to evolve with Dr. Ron George serving as our *online presence* editor. Dr. George expanded our social media reach by cultivating an Instagram presence.

Social media platforms, such as Twitter and Instagram are social utilities, providing meaningful professional and social benefits. To take advantage of these benefits CJA must be part of the conversation. The modern approach to staying informed and disseminating valuable anesthesia content includes engagement in social media. This medium is becoming an accepted venue for discussion among physicians, researchers, and professional groups including patients.

The *Journal* continues to have a vibrant presence on social media. Our presence on Twitter grows on average by approximately 50-100 new followers each month with over 11,000 current followers. The *Journal* makes roughly 120 thousand impressions each month - an impression is the most common analytic of social media, representing a tally of all the times a Tweet has been seen. The number of impressions speaks to our use of graphics in our communications strategy, specifically our monthly visual abstract. Springer supports our social media strategy, regularly posting our feeds on their account and providing monthly altmetric attention scores of our top manuscripts. This allows us to amplify our reach and impressions.

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### Other Non-Impact Factor Metrics

In addition to traditional metrics (e.g., impact factor), journals and their content are also evaluated according to alternative metrics – or so-called *Altmetrics*.

Our publisher uses Altmetric to measure attention to our articles. Altmetrics are an aggregate of multiple data sources derived mostly from news stories, tweets, Facebook pages, blog posts, and Mendeley readers. Altmetric measures immediacy and attention for the article as well as non-academic engagement. The *Journal* recognizes the opportunity to share interesting and exceptional articles via social media.

The figure below demonstrates an example of the CJA’s top articles aggregated by Altmetric scores.

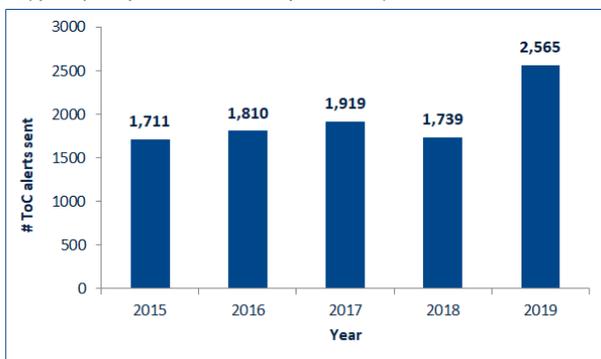
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
News Stories	1	10	14	156	195	62
Tweets	1,308	1,792	3,585	6,987	10,085	13,239
Facebook posts	43	53	117	103	89	99
Blog Posts	6	13	20	24	34	32
Google+ posts	4	20	22	12	22	11
Videos			1	4	6	7
Other		6	20	23	407	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,362</b>	<b>1,894</b>	<b>3,782</b>	<b>7,309</b>	<b>10,832</b>	<b>13,474</b>



The *Journal* is available online via SpringerLink™ and has enhanced the online *Journal* with functionalities and innovative new features such as semantic analysis of documents and “look inside” preview capability to allow readers to view and browse the content of any document without having to download it first. The eTOCs (electronic Table of Contents) are sent monthly to every member of the CAS. We have received positive feedback since this feature was launched.

#### Table of Contents (ToC) Alerts

- The ToC Alerts inform readers when a new issue is available online. Customers can easily register for this free service on the journal’s homepage. The email contains direct links to the articles and if the registered ToC Alerts subscribers have access through their institutions, they can link directly to the papers. Nonsubscribers to the journal have access to the abstract and may purchase individual articles.
- Readers can easily sign up for the ToC Alerts, by using thee *One-click Sign-up*: your exclusive link: <http://springer.com/tocsubscription/12630> Copy and paste your exclusive link to your website, newsletters and social media accounts.



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### ***Editorial Board Personnel***

As with any large editorial board, there have been continual changes to the makeup of the CJA board with several editorial board members having been recently added. Our most recent editorial board additions include Dr. Kathryn Sparrow (Memorial University) and Dr. Karsten Bartels (University of Colorado).

After six years of service as an associate editor, Dr. Steven Backman stepped down in March of 2020. In addition, Dr. Alexis Turgeon from University of Laval finished a nine-year term on the board.

### ***CJA and COVID-19***

Just as it has impacted our collective personal and professional lives, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the *Journal* as well. As of November 1, 2020, the *Journal* received over 260 COVID-19 related submissions of which 75 have been published. These articles have been downloaded over 700,000 times, and even more importantly, have been widely cited almost 1,000 times. The surge of COVID-19-related submissions has required a large amount of additional work in order to meet the rapid peer review deadline of 24 hours and 48 hours to issue the first editorial decision. The board and reviewers have responded to this challenge and are to be commended.

### ***CJA Editor-in-Chief Transition***

Dr. Stephan Schwarz began his term as Editor-in-Chief on January 1, 2021, and I am pleased to report that the transition of EIC activities was smooth and will continue throughout the first two quarters of 2021. Dr. Schwartz has been actively engaged with continued editorial board membership changes, including the appointment of new associate editors and a new Deputy Editor-in-Chief. It is with great confidence that I finish my term as Editor-in-Chief, knowing that the *Journal* is in the best position it has been in its history, and has an incoming Editor-in-Chief with a clear vision and plan to continue the growth of the *Journal*.

As I wrote in my final editorial, published in the December 2020 issue of the *Journal*, my involvement with the *Journal* has been one of the most professionally rewarding aspects of my career. It has been filled with both challenges, and many rewards. Indeed, some of these rewards were unanticipated, and the personal growth and knowledge that I gained in reviewing these >6,000 manuscripts over these years has grown my own scientific base and expanded my clinical practice. I have been privileged over these years to work with a talented editorial board that has been incredibly responsive, particularly this year to the increasing demands of the substantial growth of the *Journal*. Indeed, the nearly doubling of the submissions over the last seven years is something that I am particularly pleased with, as it has been reflected in the growing international stature of the *Journal*, and our ability to continually attract a higher quality of authored manuscripts. It has been a privilege to have a front row seat to observe some of the progress that has been seen in our specialty, and the collaboration with authors to help communicate their important scientific messages has been particularly rewarding. Indeed, one of my goals upon beginning the position as Editor-in-Chief was to foster this collaborative spirit. I have also been particularly satisfied with the ability to deliver a journal that has consistently had a surplus budget in challenging times when revenues from publishers are continually eroded.

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Although my time as Editor-in-Chief has seen significant expansion of the editorial board, and increased diversity, I am also confident that this growth of the editorial board and further diversity will continue under the tenure of Dr. Schwarz.

In summary, it has been a privilege and honour to serve the *Journal* and its component Society and as Editor-in-Chief – I will be forever grateful for having had the opportunity to serve.



Respectfully submitted,

Hilary P. Grocott, M.D.  
Editor-in-Chief (2014-2020)  
*Canadian Journal of Anesthesia*  
May 2021