

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Five years have passed since *Reproductive Medicine and Biology* (RMB) obtained its first impact factor (IF). Its IF has steadily trended upwards during this time, with the latest data showing an IF of 3.3; RMB is 19th out of all 140 JCR-listed journals in the field of obstetrics and gynecology, and is ranked Q1. We aim to go even further and put RMB—hailing from Asia—on par with *Fertility & Sterility* in the U.S. and *Human Reproduction* in Europe.

RMB was first published in 2002 as the official journal of the Japan Society for Reproductive Medicine, the Japan Society for Fertilization and Implantation, and the Japan Society of Andrology; in 2020, the Japan Society for Ova Research joined this list, as well. The number of submissions has grown steadily, and today, more than 60 high-quality invited reviews and original articles are published in RMB every year. Since Volume 21 in 2022, we have published one issue a year, and accepted papers are posted online as necessary. Every article published in RMB since the inaugural issue in 2002 is searchable on PubMed, as well.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/journals/3326/>

Furthermore, we have published “Virtual Issues” since 2022. These special issues, which focus on hot topics, select previously published papers and reorganize them. To date, 19 Virtual Issues have been published, with new papers being added to each Virtual Issue as appropriate. Click on “BROWSE” on the homepage to find these Virtual Issues. We hope you will make use of them to stay up to date with the latest findings.

For the further advancement of reproductive medicine, we will need to gather more high-quality clinical evidence and research findings for the development of new testing and treatment methods. We ask for your continued support, so that RMB will be utilized by researchers and clinicians in Japan and overseas as a platform to present findings from basic and clinical studies, and further develop as a globally renowned international journal of reproductive medicine and medical science.

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Akira Iwase

Japan Society for Reproductive Medicine Editorial Board Member

Editor-in-Chief of RMB