

Notice Regarding Acquisition of an Impact Factor

October 24, 2008

To Authors of papers submitted to *ATCS*,

The Thomson Reuter Group and Thomson Corporation K.K. (formerly Thomson Scientific) have informed the Editorial Office of *Annals of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery (ATCS)* that *ATCS* will be included in their Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE), which is a part of their citation index database, the Web of Science (WOS).

As a result, in the near future it will not only become possible to search *ATCS* papers with the WOS, but starting with the 2010 edition of the Journal Citation Report (JCR) it will also become possible to refer to Impact Factor and citation indexes such as the Total Cites index (total number of times papers published in a pertinent journal in 1 year are cited in other literature), the Immediacy Index (recent literature index: a numerical value that indicates how often the papers published in a pertinent journal in 1 year are cited in the same year), and Cited Half-Life (numerical value that indicates for how long a period the papers published in a pertinent journal continue to be cited). Since *ATCS* began to be included in the SCIE in 2008, its Impact Factor and other citation indexes are scheduled to be provided starting with the 2010 edition of the JCR (to be released in mid-June 2011).

The steps in acquiring an Impact Factor are listed below.

Steps in Acquiring an Impact Factor:

· Step 1

2008–2009

Accumulation of data on papers for the years 2008–2009 in the database of Thomson Corporation K.K.

· Step 2

2010

Survey and determination of the data concerning the extent to which the papers in 2008–2009 were cited in 2010.

· Step 3

2011

The Impact Factor will be calculated by dividing the numerical value in Step 2 by the number of papers published in 2008–2009, and by listing in the JCR database it will be possible for JCR service contractors (such as universities, hospitals, research institutions, individuals) to view the citation indexes.

Opportunities for papers published in *ATCS* to be utilized as a result of SCIE listing are expected to expand in the future. We are deeply grateful to all of you for your enthusiasm and efforts in supporting *ATCS* and your commitment to improving the contents of the journal thus far, and we sincerely request that, in order to develop *ATCS* into a journal that excels in scientific value and is highly evaluated on an international level, you submit high quality papers and cite papers published in *ATCS* when submitting papers to *ATCS* and to other journals.

Yukiyasu Sezai, Editor-in-Chief,
and the Editorial Board of *ATCS*