



Ciencias Psicológicas

ISSN: 1688-4094

ISSN: 1688-4221

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La comunicación científica en pandemia
Ciencias Psicológicas, vol. 15, no. 2, e2747, 2021
Facultad de Psicología. Universidad Católica del Uruguay.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.22235/cp.v15i2.2747>

Available in: <https://www.redalyc.org/articulo.oa?id=459569568024>

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Scientific communication in pandemic

We close this volume of the journal *Ciencias Psicológicas* in the context of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. There have been many difficulties and challenges that the world had, has and will have to face, referring to circumstances that were difficult to imagine a short time ago. The importance of scientific research was strongly evidenced, as well as issues related to the dissemination and access to its results.

The pandemic put a magnifying glass on aspects of scientific and editorial work that have been long discussed. First, the social relevance of the research and its applicability in policies that address the problems that afflict societies. Second, the need to have the best available evidence in the shortest time possible. Having the best evidence implies methodologically rigorous, transparent research processes that are reviewed by expert peers in an exchange that is always fruitful. Scientific journals can collaborate in reducing editorial process times. Thus, journals have adopted the continuous publication system and/or pre-prints with enormous efforts to fulfill the editorial phases in record time. Deadlines overwhelm all the actors in scientific publishing: authors pressured to publish, reviewers who do not have the availability to meet so many demands, editors who must continually update themselves to ensure and improve editorial quality. A third aspect that became evident in the current context is the importance of the diffusion of scientific knowledge. There is so much information that we access so immediately that it is essential to have guarantees regarding the information sources. Confident of the quality of the works that are published, the journals must seek ways to reach the entire community.

Ciencias Psicológicas is responding to these challenges and, in that process, it has achieved recognitions that make us proud. This year, the journal has been evaluated and indexed in Scopus, one of the world's leading scientific databases and publications. Even under such complex circumstances for the work of researchers and academics, we closed volume 15 with a total of 39 articles and 4 short communications, from different Ibero-American countries.

International and national organizations have warned about mental health problems linked to the pandemic and the measures of social distancing that will be maintained even when the end of the health emergency is declared. It will be important to identify and address these problems efficiently. We trust that this publication, rooted in Psychology discipline, will be a contribution in this regard.

Dra. Cecilia Cracco



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