

Web of Science Journal Citation Reports: 2021 Release Updates

February 2021 (V3, May 2021)

Early Access JCR Policy Change for 2021

First, what is Early Access in the Web of Science...

Compatible Early Access material is journal material that is the Version of Record (VOR), made available early, before it is published in an issue. It has a DOI¹ and distinct early access publication date². When it is later published in an issue, it then has volume, issue, pages, and final publication date data³.

The screenshot illustrates the transition of a journal article from Early Access to the Version of Record.

Left Panel (Early Access Information):

- Identification of biomarker panels as predictors of severity in coronary artery disease
- By: Ben Braiek, A (Ben Braiek, Assia) ^{1, 2, 3}; Chahed, H (Chahed, Hind) ²; Dumont, F (Dumont, Florent) ³; Abdelhak, F (Abdelhak, Fodha) ^{4, 5}; Hichem, D (Hichem, Denguir) ^{4, 6}; Gamra, H (Gamra, Habib) ⁴; Baudin, B (Baudin, Bruno) ^{1, 7}
- JOURNAL OF CELLULAR AND MOLECULAR MEDICINE
- Volume: 25 Issue: 3 Pages: 1518-1530
- DOI: 10.1111/jcmm.16244
- Published: FEB 2021
- Early Access: DEC 2020
- Document Type: Article
- Abstract
- Keywords
- Author Keywords: apolipoproteins; arterial hypertension; coronary metalloproteinases
- Keywords Plus: CIRCULATING MATRIX METALLOPROTEINASES; TISSUE INHIBITOR; MYOCARDIAL-INFARCTION; CLINICAL PRESENTATION; MATRIX-METALLOPROTEINASE-9; PLAQUE; INFLAMMATION; SIMVASTATIN; PROFILE; TIMP-1

Middle Panel (Journal of Cellular and Molecular Medicine):

- Journal of Cellular and Molecular Medicine
- Open Access
- ORIGINAL ARTICLE | Open Access | ⓘ ⓘ
- Identification of biomarker panels as predictors of severity in coronary artery disease
- Assia Ben Braiek, Hinda Chahed, Florent Dumont, Fodha Abdelhak, Denguir Hichem, Habib Gamra, Bruno Baudin
- First published: 31 December 2020
- <https://doi.org/10.1111/jcmm.16244>
- SECTIONS
- PDF
- TOOLS
- SHARE

Right Panel (Version of Record Information):

- Volume 25, Issue 3
- February 2021
- Pages 1518-1530
- Advertisement
- Wiley Digital Archives
- PRIMARY SOURCES
- Natural and Environmental History

Change coming in the 2021 release

Most indexed Early Access items have an early access date and a final publication date in the same calendar year. The new JCR policy will not change how these items are counted.

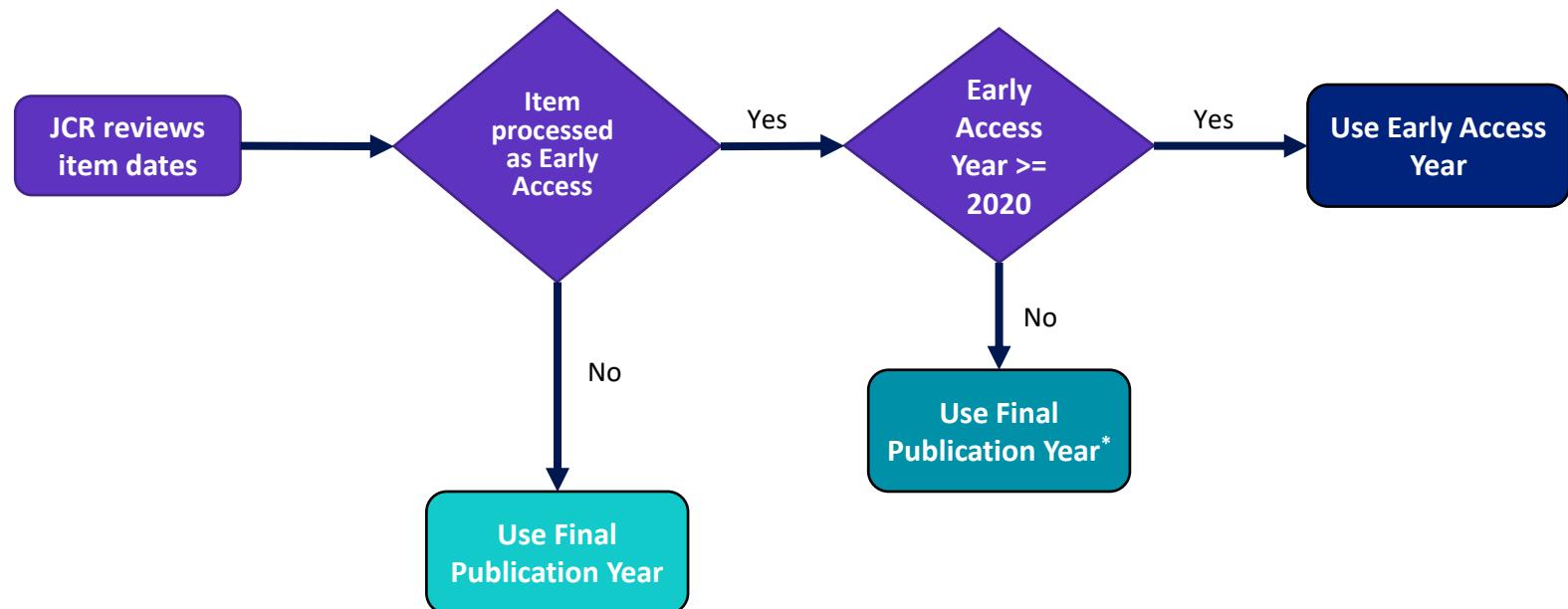
For indexed Early Access items where the early access date is in a different calendar year than the final publication date, we will use only the early access data. This will only affect items indexed with an early access date of 2020 or later.

Prospective Approach

Based on our analysis, we determined to take a prospective approach, starting with content indexed in 2020.

See [Adding Early Access to Journal Citation Reports](#) for details about this analysis.

Determining JCR year



Paper A

...
Final
Publication



Paper B

Early Access
2018
Final
Publication
2019



Paper C

Early Access
2020
Final
Publication
2021



* 2019 and earlier Early Access items with no final publication year are excluded

How this will work over time

2020 JIF =

Citations in 2020 to items
published in 2018 + 2019

Number of articles & reviews
published in 2018 & 2019



2021 JIF =

Citations in 2021 to items
published in 2019 + 2020

Number of articles & reviews
published in 2019 & 2020



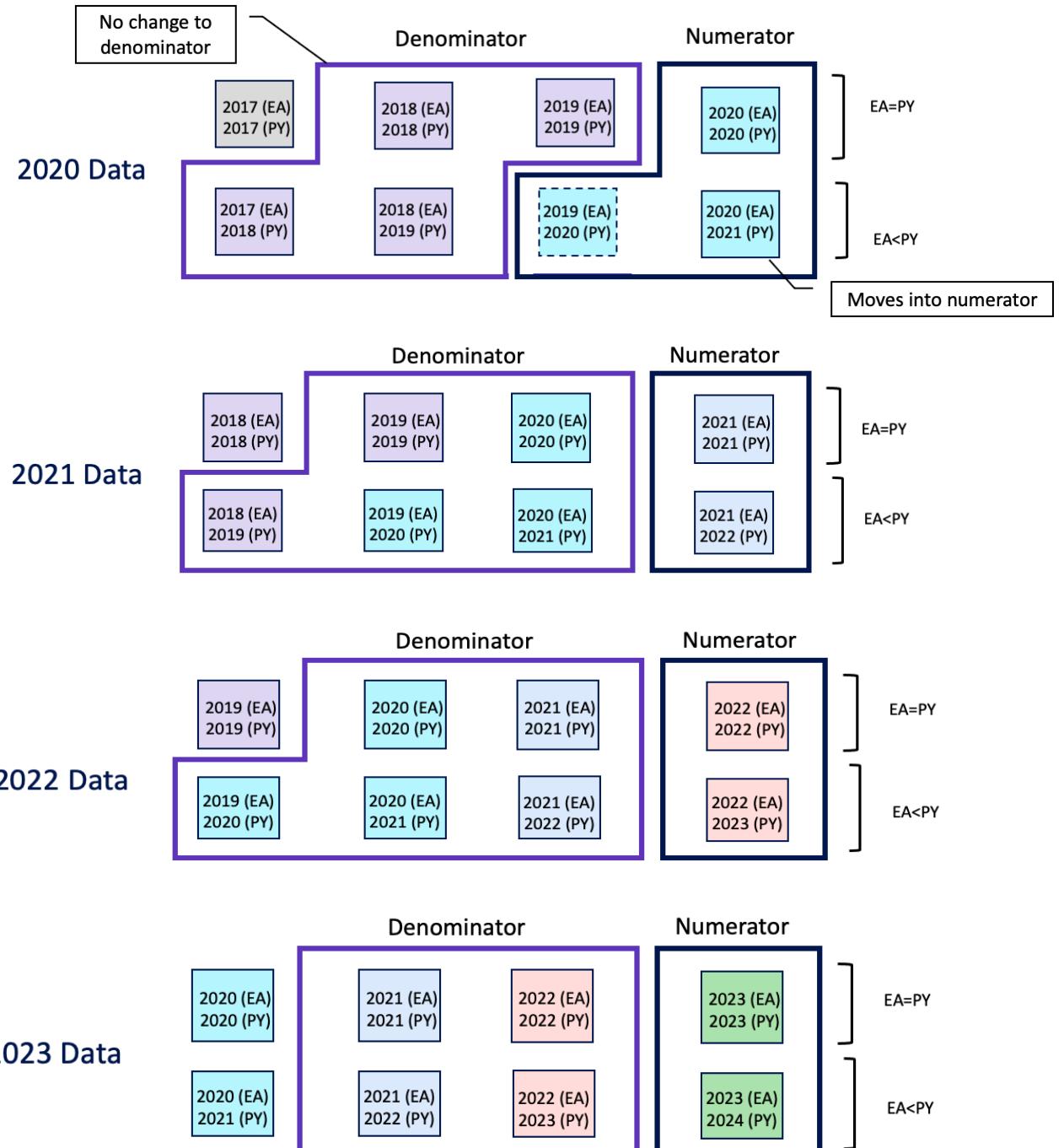
2022 JIF =

Citations in 2022 to items
published in 2020 + 2021

Number of articles & reviews
published in 2020 & 2021

Example

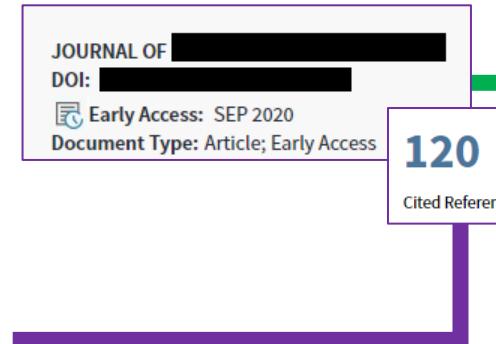
- Citations from the Numerator have a distributed effect and **apply to all journals that material cites**
- **Journals onboarded later will have a similar transition**



Early Access Citations

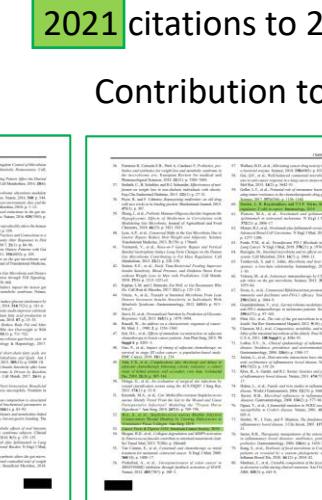
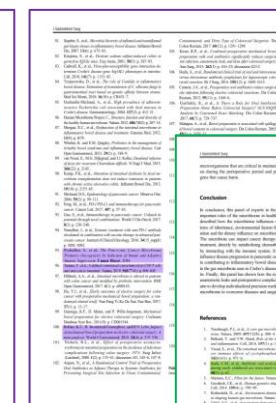
Early Access content typically has a higher contribution to JIF when counted by the early access date

Early Access 2020 example with 2021 planned publication



2020 citations to 2019 (7) or 2018 (16)

Contribution to 2020 JIF: 25



2021 citations to 2020 (0) or 2019 (7)

Contribution to 2021 JIF: 7

Other FAQs

My journal content includes an Early Access date that's different than the issue. Does this policy apply?

- This policy applies if we are indexing your content when it is Early Access only before it is assigned to an issue. If you publish Early Access but have not been onboarded, the policy will apply in the 2022 release, assuming successful onboarding in 2021.
- It does not apply to Continuous Article Publication (CAP) models or Build Online if the item date and issue date are in the same month/year.

What if my journal(s) has Early Access items from 2019 and earlier that have not been assigned to an issue?

2019 Early Access items and earlier not been assigned to a volume/issue will only contribute to the JCR when the items are indexed in the final volume/issue.

Early Access Onboarding

Other Publishing Models

- Continuous Publishing model does not require onboarding since those items have a single publication date and final journal metadata (volume, issue, pages)
- Build Online model will be assessed on a case-by-case basis

Continuous Article Publication (CAP) – Content published through a continuous publication model is comparable to Early Access in that it is published as soon as it is the VOR. Unlike Early Access, it is not later updated with final metadata. Continuous publication material with respect to the JIF denominator, including the timing of the cited reference contributions for JIF numerators, are not affected by the Early Access policy change.

Build Online – This is a publication model whereby journal content is published in a volume and issue while the issue is building to completion. The current Web of Science indexing policy for this model is to index the issue only upon completion. Since Build Online issues typically complete within a calendar year, their published content with respect to the JIF denominator, including the timing of the cited reference contributions for JIF numerators, are not affected by the Early Access policy change. There may be exceptions where Build Online journals publish Early Access Content before assignment to an issue. Those can be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

*Accepted manuscripts and corrected proofs are not VOR.

Criteria for Early Access Indexing

Eligible journals* that meet these requirements will be onboarded in 2021, for all current 2021 EA content

Early access content must meet certain criteria to be compatible for indexing in the Web of Science Core collection.

Eligible content must:

- Be the **version of record** that will not change, aside from the final assignment in a volume/issue
- Include a **DOI that will not change**
- Include an **Early Access publication date**
- **Include the cited references** if present in the version of record
- **Not include** volume, issue, page range, final publication date*
- be published in a journal with a **volume/issue model**

* EA indexing for books, book series, and proceedings is not planned for 2021 but will be evaluated for future expansion

* Temporary default values may be possible pending onboarding assessment.

Onboarding Process

Note: Early Access onboarding starts when the Early Access content is indexed in full. We do not capture early access dates when processing from the final volume/issue.

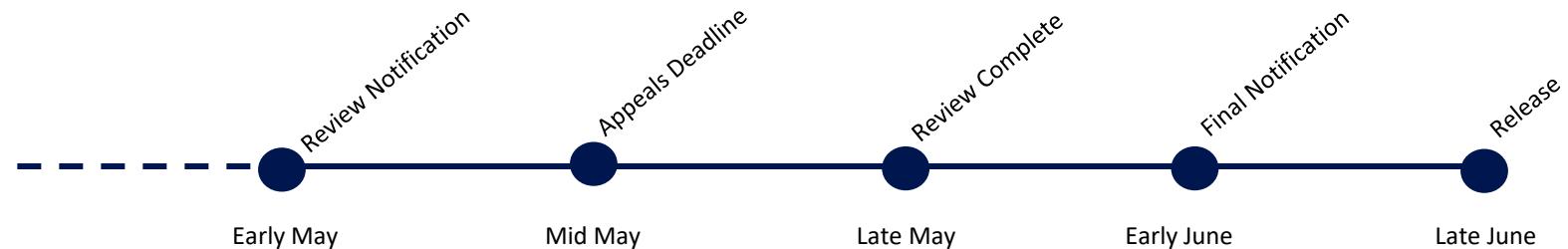
1. Initial outreach requesting publisher confirms journals that meet our EA indexing criteria
2. Clarivate schedules onboarding timing
3. Publisher provides samples for onboarding review and testing
4. Clarivate and publisher verify EA content access, where appropriate
5. Publisher provides all 2021 EA content that has not been published in a final volume/issue
6. EA content processing begins.

Suppression Timing and Appeals Process

Suppressions

Suppression notification, appeals, and final review before release

- Publishers will have 5 days from notification to submit appeal
- One appeal permitted per journal
- All suppression decisions will be final for the June release



New Suppression Timeline:

1. Journals will be identified for suppression review earlier in the schedule
2. Publishers will be notified of titles identified for suppression review early May*
3. Publishers will have 5 days from notification to submit an appeal
4. Final suppression analysis, including appeals submissions, will conclude by end of May for the June release
5. Publishers will be notified of the final decision in advance of the June release

* Tentative timing based on the current schedule

Thank you

