

Exploration of Drug Science 2024 Annual Report

Founded in 2023, [Exploration of Drug Science](#) (eISSN 2836-7677) has always focused on cutting-edge drug science research and is committed to promoting high-quality scholarship. As a rapidly developing emerging journal, EDS achieved significant progress in 2024, achieving **dual growth in publication volume and academic influence**. These milestones would not have been possible without the dedication and support of our Editorial Board members, authors, reviewers, and readers. The editorial office extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has contributed to the journal.

Submissions & Publications

In 2024, EDS received **112 submissions from 31 countries and regions**, reflecting an 21.7% year-on-year increase. The primary submission categories included Original Articles (41%) and Reviews (45%), with an overall rejection rate of approximately **55%**, thereby the selection of high-quality manuscripts. Notably, OA submissions rose from **30% in 2023 to 41% in 2024**, demonstrating the growing interest in publishing original research with us.

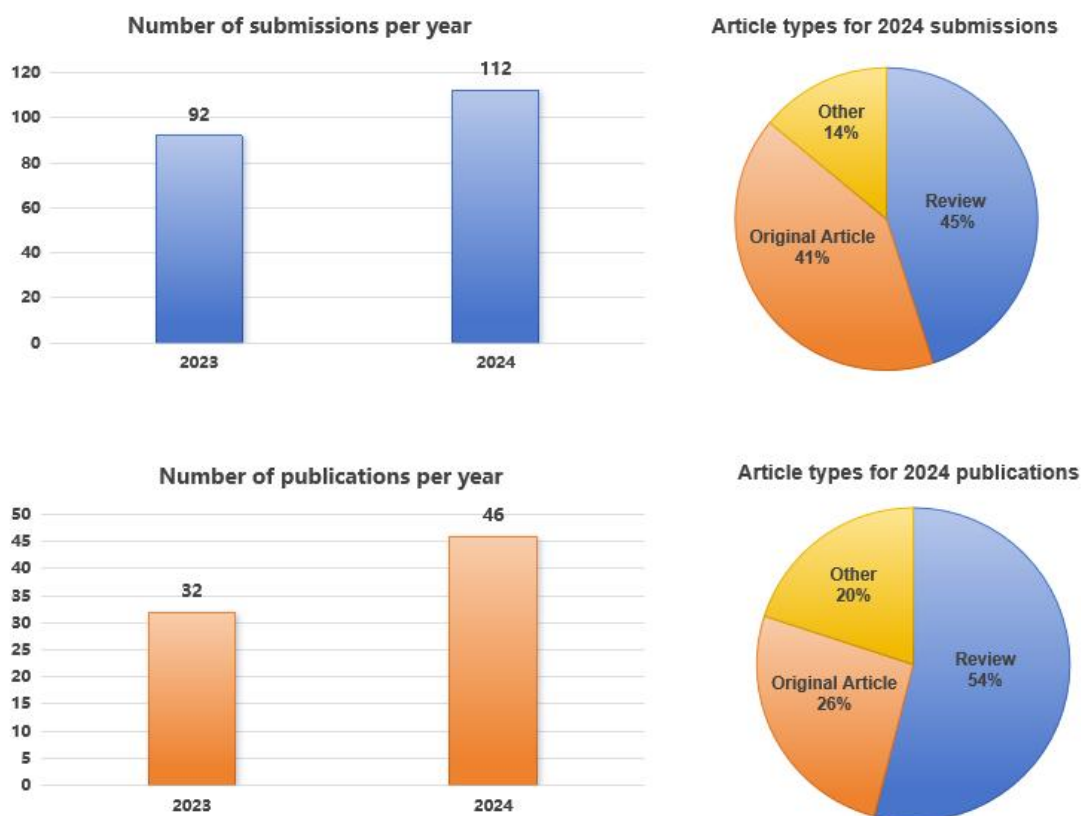


Figure 1. Submissions & Publications in 2024

EDS published **46 articles**, marking a **43.8% growth** compared to the previous year. Among these, 54% were review articles (25 papers) and 26% were original research

articles (12 papers). The average H-index of corresponding authors was **31.1**. These numbers underscore the journal's commitment to publishing high-quality and innovative research. We strive to recommend more valuable academic articles for our readers. Looking ahead to 2025, EDS aims to attract more high-quality articles to enhance academic discussions and further expand the journal's impact in the field of drug science.

Publication Process

A key focus in 2024 was optimizing the editorial workflow to enhance efficiency while maintaining rigorous academic standards.

- A total of **149 reviewers** from 39 countries, with an average H-index of 18.1. The average number of review reports per manuscript is 3.2. This diverse and highly qualified group brings a wealth of expertise and perspectives, ensuring a comprehensive and balanced evaluation of submitted manuscripts.
- The average time from submission to first decision was **39 days**, an 8% reduction from the previous year, reflecting our efforts to provide timely feedback to authors.
- By December 2024, the average time from acceptance to publication had decreased to just one-fourth of what it was at the start of the year, significantly accelerating the dissemination of research findings.
- In 2025, EDS will transition to a **continuous publishing model**, further reducing publication delays.

Additionally, we plan to upgrade our online submission, peer review, and production systems to create a more seamless publishing experience. These improvements aim to provide authors with a more convenient and efficient publishing experience, ultimately fostering more timely academic exchange and collaboration.

Journal Impact

Database Indexing

EDS has been indexed in **DOAJ, Google Scholar, and Dimensions** and plans to apply for Scopus in March 2025, which requires a new journal to have two years of publishing history before application. We are confident in our application based on the experience of our other four sister journals



Figure 2. [EDS indexed in DOAJ](#)

Citations & Influence

The total number of citations for EDS articles surged to 98 citations in 2024, reflecting an impressive **89 citation** increase from the previous year. The average citation per article now stands at **1**, a promising indicator of EDS' growing influence in pharmaceutical research. A notable highlight was the recognition of a **2024 Highly Cited Paper Award** for the article titled "[Approved antibacterial drugs in the last 10 years: from the bench to the clinic](#)", highlighting its significant contribution to the journal's impact.

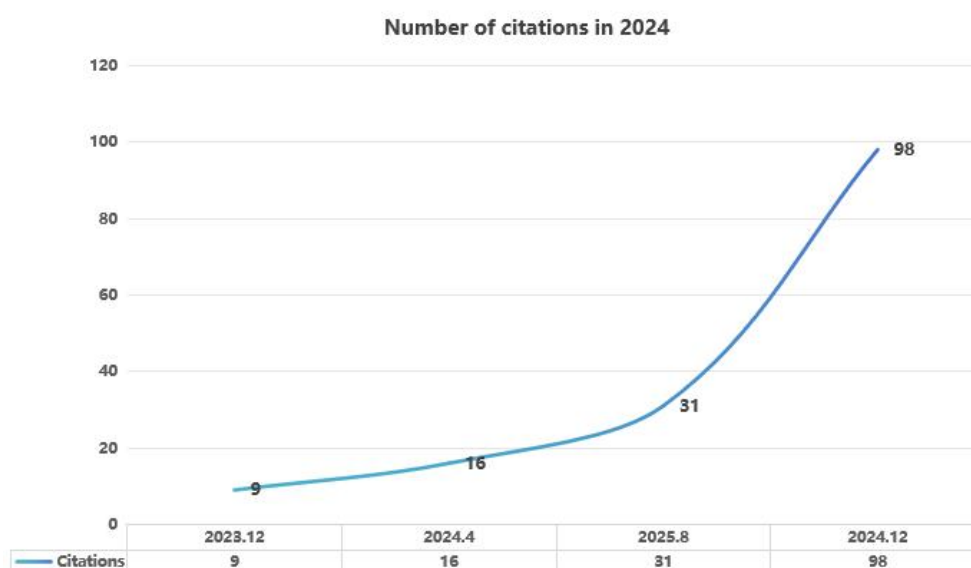


Figure 3. Citation growth in 2024

Readership Growth: Views & Downloads

By the end of 2024, *EDS* had achieved impressive visibility, accumulating **126,514 views and 3,663 downloads**. The most accessed articles addressed pressing topics in pharmaceutical research, including bioactive peptides, biomimetic analogs, and marine-derived therapeutics. These articles have played a significant role in the journal's relevance and visibility within the scientific community.

Table 1: Top 3 Most Viewed & Downloaded Articles in 2024

Title	Authors	Views	Downloads
Seaweed: a sustainable solution for greening drug manufacturing in the pursuit of sustainable healthcare	Leonel Pereira*, João Cotas	5813	133
Revisiting 310-helices: biological relevance, mimetics and applications	Diego Núñez-Villanueva*	4301	90
A review of the effects of pharmaceutical pollutants on humans and aquatic ecosystem	Jaya Vinny Eapen, Sweetie Thomas, Shelmi Antony, Paul George, Jayesh Antony*	4593	144

Expanding Global Reach Through Social Media

In 2024, EDS leveraged social media platforms such as WeChat, LinkedIn, and Twitter to consistently share the latest articles and updates with readers:

- LinkedIn: 93 posts, 5,160 connections
- X: 112 posts, engaging a global audience
- WeChat: consistently updated to connect with Chinese researchers

These efforts have successfully enhanced the journal's recognition, fostered discussions, and attracted a broader readership. Moving forward, we aim to expand our social media network and implement more interactive engagement strategies.

Editorial Board Expansion

In 2024, *EDS* welcomed **21 distinguished scholars** to its editorial board, including 7 Associate Editors (AEs) and 14 Editorial Board Members (EBMs). This expansion has enriched the journal's academic network and expanded its intellectual foundation.

Editor-in-Chief



Fernando Albericio

Associate Editors



Figure 4. Associate Editors of EDS

Currently, *EDS* boasts an editorial board of **62 members** from 24 countries, with 25 Associate Editors and 37 Editorial Board Members, collectively holding an **average H-index of 45.5**. Over 37% of board members actively contributed through 2024 by

submitting manuscripts, reviewing papers, promoting the journal at conferences, and organizing special issues. The engagement and scholarly excellence of our editorial team ensure that EDS upholds rigorous academic standards, fostering innovation and enhancing the journal's authority in the field of drug science.

Editorial Board Members



Figure 5. Editorial Board Members of EDS

Academic Engagement & Conferences

In 2024, *EDS*, with the strong support of our Editor-in-Chief and Editorial Board Members, actively participated in **4 international academic conferences**, significantly boosting its global presence. These conferences provided crucial platforms for showcasing the journal, fostering collaborations, and broadening its academic impact. We extend our sincere appreciation to all members who played a role in these successful engagements.

➤ [EDS in 6th Workshop on Therapeutic Peptides for Bioapplications](#)



➤ EDS in 27th Human Genome Meeting



➤ EDS in 18th Chinese International Peptide Symposium (CPS 2024)



➤ EDS in Russian-Chinese Life Sciences Congress



Conclusion & Future Outlook

2024 marked a pivotal year of growth, refinement, and increasing influence for Exploration of Drug Science. The journal made substantial strides in publication volume, citation impact, and global outreach while improving editorial efficiency and expanding its academic network. Looking ahead to 2025, we remain dedicated to:

- Attracting and publishing high-impact research.
- Enhancing the efficiency of our editorial and publication processes.
- Expanding our indexing and citation impact.
- Strengthening international collaborations and academic engagements.

We look forward to working together with more scholars in the future to create even greater achievements!

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