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## Publisher's Report 2008

By Wim Meester, Publishing Editor



# Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine

*Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine* is the official journal of the Faculty of Forensic and Legal Medicine

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Guide for Authors: <http://www.elsevier.com/locate/inca/711224/authorinstructions>

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Dedicated, branded journal page: <http://www.jflmjournal.org/>

## 1. Editorial

Overview of articles received and processed (accepted, rejected, or withdrawn) by the Editorial Office, as well as the rejection rate (previous year's values in brackets for comparison).

Milestones for time measurements are submission, (latest) first decision, author revision time, and final disposition. N.B. only articles submitted to and processed using Elsevier Editorial System (EES) or Editorial Manager (EM) are reported here. This implies that article counts and processing times may deviate somewhat from values reported in subsequent sections of this report.

### 1.1 Articles received

Articles received and processed by the Editorial Office.

	Subm. No. of articles	No. of articles	Final disposition						
			Processing times (in weeks)			Results			
			Subm. to 1st decn.	Auth. rev. time	Sub. to fin. disp.	Withdrawn	Accepted	Rejected	Rejec. rate
2007	178	148	15.1	6.5	22.3	9	72	67	48%
2008 YTD	84	66	14.3	9.6	21.8	2	36	28	44%

Measurements per 19 May 2008

### 1.2 Articles received per item type 2007

Item Type	Subm. No. of articles	No. of articles	Final disposition						
			Processing times (in weeks)			Results			
			Subm. to 1st decn.	Auth. rev. time	Sub. to fin. disp.	Withdrawn	Accepted	Rejected	Rejec. rate
Book Review	1	1	1.6	0	1.7	0	1	0	0%
Case Report	49	49	16.1	7.1	21.3	2	17	30	64%
Case Review	6	4	22	0.9	25.4	0	3	1	25%
Clinical Practice	7	4	9.7	4.1	14.6	0	2	2	50%
Editorial	1	1	0	0	0.8	1	0	0	
Leading Article	1	1	0.2	0	7	0	1	0	0%
Learning Point	1	1	6.2	0	6.3	0	0	1	100%
Letter to the Editor	14	11	5.5	2.6	6.2	0	7	4	36%
Original Communication	73	47	16.5	6.6	26.1	4	26	17	40%
Photocase		1	53.2	0	53.8	0	0	1	100%
Postcard	3	2	9.9	1.2	12.6	0	2	0	0%
Review	13	13	15.9	11.6	30.2	1	6	6	50%
Short Report	9	9	16.2	4.4	30.9	1	5	3	38%
<b>Total</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>42%</b>

Measurements per 18 Feb 2008

### 1.3 Current and previous years

Data 2005 and 2006 from the Journal of Clinical Forensic Medicine

Year	Subm. No. of articles	No. of articles	Final disposition						
			Processing times (in weeks)			Results			
			Subm. to 1st decn.	Auth. rev. time	Sub. to fin. disp.	Withdrawn	Accepted	Rejected	Rejec. rate
2005	80	42	7.1	2	8.9	0	24	18	43%
2006	185	155	10.6	4.3	14.6	7	85	63	43%
2007	178	148	15.1	6.5	22.3	9	72	67	48%
2008 YTD	84	66	14.3	9.6	21.8	2	36	28	44%

Measurements per 19 May 2008

## 2. Articles into production

### 2.1 Articles

Month values (previous year's values in brackets for comparison).

Current year	Jan 2007	Feb 2007	Mar 2007	Apr 2007	May 2007	Jun 2007	Jul 2007	Aug 2007	Sep 2007	Oct 2007	Nov 2007	Dec 2007
Articles	5 (13)	4 (26)	10 (8)	8 (0)	9 (11)	4 (27)	11 (15)	6 (11)	2 (3)	12 (15)	3 (7)	11 (13)
Pages	23 (47)	16 (105)	36 (21)	40 (0)	47 (49)	15 (112)	39 (55)	31 (49)	6 (13)	48 (77)	14 (22)	68 (61)

**Data 2006 and before from the Journal of Clinical Forensic Medicine**

Previous years	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008 YTD
Articles	77	71	95	149	85	48
Pages	376	284	403	611	383	177

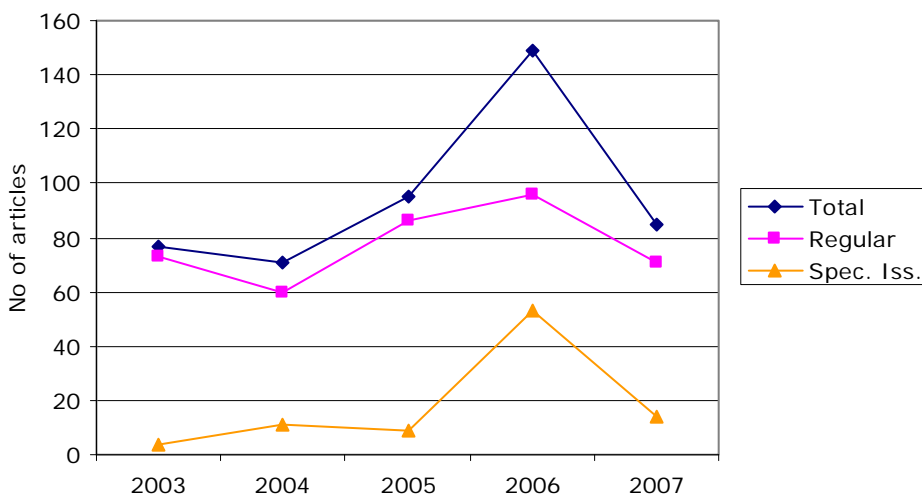
Measurements per 19 May 2008

*Regular/special issue articles*

Overview of articles for publication in regular or special issues. (proceedings, topical issues, etc.) The count of S.I. articles is based on articles registered in our systems as 'grouped'. Such articles must be published together as a group. Primarily this is used for special issues or theme issues, but it can also refer to linked items in a regular issue, such as Letters to the editor and Replies, or Editorial comment to a specific article. Therefore the number of S.I. articles may be over-estimated.

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008 YTD
<b>Total</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>48</b>
Regular	73	60	86	96	71	42
Spec. Iss.	4	11	9	53	14	6

Measurements per 19 May 2008



**3. Geographical breakdown**

**3.1 Countries**

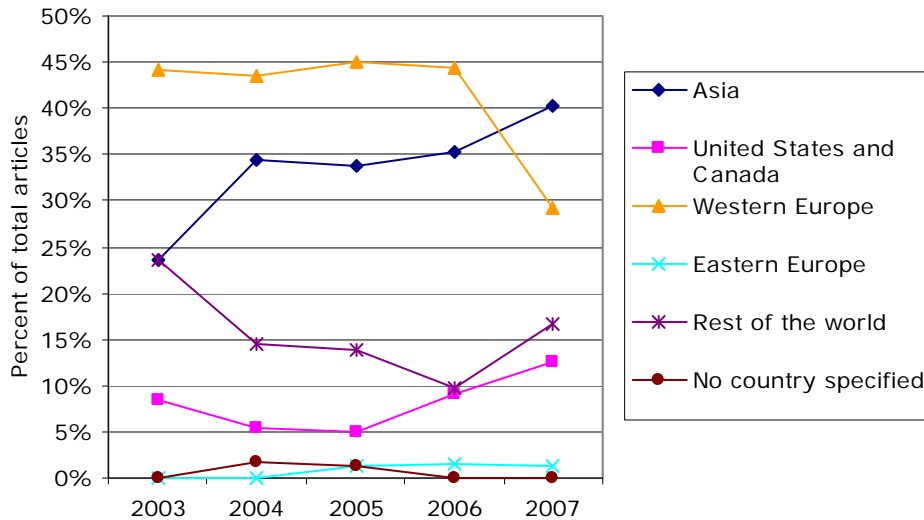
Overview of countries of corresponding authors in numbers of articles per country summary (2007).

Most accepted papers		Largest increase*		Largest decrease*	
India	15	New Zealand	+2	United Kingdom	-23
United Kingdom	9	Switzerland	+2	India	-5
United States	9	Ireland	+1	Canada	-4

Measurements per 05 Jan 2008

**3.2 World regions**

Regional breakdown of corresponding authors (2007).



## 4. Issue Progress

### 4.1 Published issues

Issues that have been sent to the subscribers as of the start of the year.

Vol/iss	Cover date	Mailed	Spec / reg	Special issue title	Pages	Edit. pages
14/1	01 Jan 07	15 Jan 07	R		68	60
14/2	01 Feb 07	05 Feb 07	R		64	60
14/3	01 Apr 07	20 Mar 07	R		68	63
14/4	01 May 07	27 Apr 07	R		64	58
14/5	01 Jul 07	26 Jun 07	R		72	67
14/6	01 Aug 07	31 Jul 07	R		84	78
14/7	01 Oct 07	12 Sep 07	R		68	62
14/8	01 Nov 07	09 Nov 07	S	Pediatric Forensic Medicine	72	66
<b>Total (2007)</b>	<b>8 issues</b>				<b>560</b>	<b>514</b>
15/1	01 Jan 08	11 Jan 08	R		80	73
15/2	01 Feb 08	06 Feb 08	R		64	59
15/3	01 Apr 08	17 Mar 08	R		76	70
<b>Total (2008)</b>	<b>3 issues</b>				<b>220</b>	<b>202</b>

### 4.2 Issues in production

Issues being processed at typesetter, printer or being despatched.

Vol/iss	Cover date	Spec / reg	Special issue title	Pages	Edit. pages
15/4	01 May 08	R		80	75
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>			<b>80</b>	<b>75</b>

Measurements per 19 May 2008

### 4.3 Articles not yet assigned to an issue

Articles in the process of being typeset or proof being checked by the author. The top entry refers to regular issue articles. Articles designated for special issues are listed separately. The count of S.I. articles is based on articles registered in our systems as 'grouped'. Such articles must be published together as a group. Primarily this is used for special issues or theme issues, but it can also refer to linked items in a regular issue, such as Letters to the editor and Replies, or Editorial comment to a specific article. Therefore the number of S.I. articles may be over-estimated.

Regular articles or articles for listed special issues	No. of articles	No. of pages

Regular articles	58	230
Special Issue: Safer Detention in Custody	1	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>239</b>

Measurements per 19 May 2008

## 5. Publication speed

### 5.1 All articles

Measurements in weeks. Editorial time is defined as time between first submission and arrival at the Elsevier offices; Production time as the time between arrival at the Elsevier offices and (1) web publication of the article in final version on ScienceDirect, (2) web publication of the complete journal issue on ScienceDirect, and (3) despatch of the printed issue from the warehouse; and finally the total publication time as the time from submission to despatch of the issue from the warehouse.

#### Publication speed (2008):

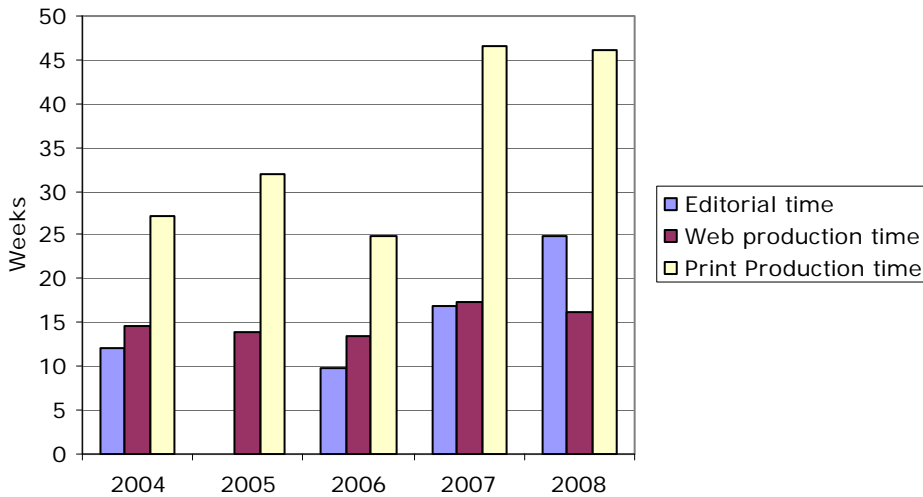
Issue type	No. of articles	Editorial time	Production time			Publication time		
			Article in final version on web	Complete issue on web	Printed issue	On web	Printed issue	
<b>All issues</b>								
15/1	R	13	20		59.9		81.5	
15/2	R	9	33.1	15.9	41.2	44	49	77.2
15/3	R	13	22	14.7	31	33.8	37.7	57.9
15/4	R	15	26.4	17.3	32.5		41.8	
<b>Total</b>		<b>50</b>	<b>24.8</b>	<b>16.1</b>	<b>34.1</b>	<b>46.1</b>	<b>42.2</b>	<b>71.6</b>

#### Publication speed (2007):

Issue type	No. of articles	Editorial time	Production time			Total Publication time		
			E-production	Complete issue on web	Printed issue	On web	Printed issue	
<b>All issues</b>								
14/1	R	12	12	22.6	58.1	59.6	37.4	72.3
14/2	R	11	11.4	19.9	51	53.3	28.7	65.1
14/3	R	12	13.4	19.8	45	47	33.9	62.7
14/4	R	12	18	18.2	43.3	45.3	36.2	63.3
14/5	R	13	18.1	13.3	44	46.8	32.3	64.9
14/6	R	14	20.2	15.9	39	41.6	36.1	61.8
14/7	R	10	22.8	15.8	29.8	32.5	37.3	54
<b>Total R</b>		<b>84</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>44.5</b>	<b>46.8</b>	<b>34.7</b>	<b>63.6</b>
14/8	S	8	17.8	16.1	43.7	44.7	33.8	62.5
<b>Total</b>		<b>92</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>44.4</b>	<b>46.5</b>	<b>34.6</b>	<b>63.5</b>

### 5.2 Previous years

Graphical presentation of average publication time of printed issues over previous years.



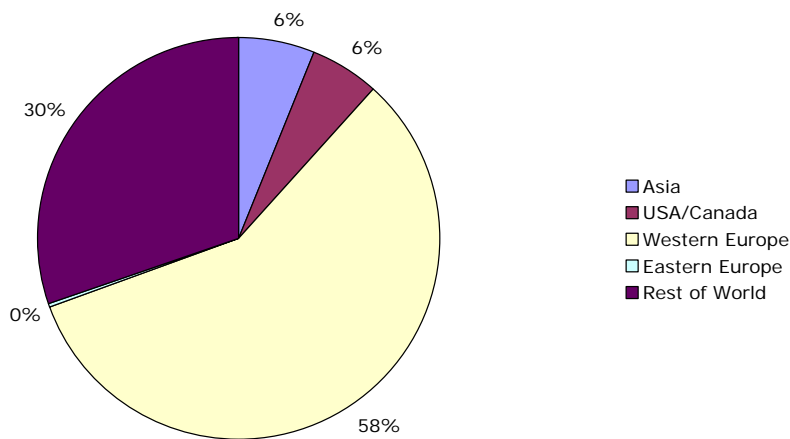
## 6. Subscriptions

### 6.1 Totals current year

Number of subscribers (end of 2007)

Collection	No. of subscriptions
Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine	1,055

### Geographical spread of subscriptions



## 7. ScienceDirect usage

Counts of downloaded article files (usage) from ScienceDirect during the indicated period. This is for Full text all access types.

### 7.1 Usage per year

Downloads per month (2008)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
- Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine	2,962	2,956	3,662	9,580
- Journal of Clinical and Forensic	3,887	3,243	3,590	10,720

Medicine														
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,849</b>	<b>6,199</b>	<b>7,252</b>											<b>20,300</b>
<b>Downloads per month (2007)</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Total</b>	
- Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine	446	557	791	1,168	1,505	1,353	1,493	1,724	1,843	2,304	2,913	2,443	17,857	
- Journal of Clinical and Forensic Medicine	3,352	3,297	5,135	3,421	3,546	2,806	2,832	2,246	2,002	3,035	3,347	2,393	37,028	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,798</b>	<b>3,854</b>	<b>5,926</b>	<b>4,589</b>	<b>5,051</b>	<b>4,159</b>	<b>4,325</b>	<b>3,970</b>	<b>3,845</b>	<b>5,339</b>	<b>6,260</b>	<b>4,836</b>	<b>54,885</b>	
<b>Downloads per month (2006)</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Total</b>	
- Journal of Clinical and Forensic Medicine	3,364	4,814	5,043	4,807	4,109	3,657	2,553	3,587	3,310	5,349	5,094	2,664	48,351	

#### Listing of most viewed articles on ScienceDirect (October-December 2007)

Downloads	Article title	Vol./iss.	Publication date
217	<b>Alcohol concentration and carbonation of drinks: The effect on blood alcohol levels</b> Roberts, C.; Robinson, S.P.	14/7	Oct-2007
179	<b>Changing times: DNA resequencing and the "nearly normal autopsy"</b> Karch, S.B.	14/7	Oct-2007
171	<b>Female victims of torture</b> Edston, E.; Olsson, C.	14/6	Aug-2007
143	<b>Forensic issues in Down syndrome fatalities</b> Byard, R.W.	14/8	Nov-2007
136	<b>What is the evidence for non-sexual transmission of gonorrhoea in children after the neonatal period? A systematic review</b> Goodyear-Smith, F.	14/8	Nov-2007
135	<b>An evaluation of confirmatory medical opinion given to English courts in 14 cases of alleged child sexual abuse</b> Pillai, M.	14/8	Nov-2007
132	<b>Interpretation of anogenital findings in the living child: Implications for the paediatric forensic autopsy</b> Elder, D.E.	14/8	Nov-2007
116	<b>An audit of the use of definitions of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS)</b> Byard, R.W.; Marshall, D.	14/8	Nov-2007
114	<b>Estimation of stature by foot length</b> Agnihotri, A.K.; Purwar, B.; Googoolye, K.; Agnihotri, S.; Jeebun, N.	14/5	Jul-2007
111	<b>More about the developing of invisible lipstick-contaminated lipmarks on human skin: The usefulness of fluorescent dyes</b> Navarro, E.; Castello, A.; Lopez-Alfaro, J.A.; Verdu, F.	14/6	Aug-2007
109	<b>Aggression and violence towards health care providers - A problem in Turkey?</b> Erkol, H.; Gokdogan, M.R.; Erkol, Z.; Boz, B.	14/7	Oct-2007
105	<b>Suicidal hanging: Fatalities in Istanbul Retrospective analysis of 761 autopsy cases</b> Uzun, I.; Buyuk, Y.; Gurpinar, K.	14/7	Oct-2007
103	<b>Bovvered? A legal perspective on the ASBO</b> Hewitt, D.	14/6	Aug-2007
96	<b>Suicidal and homicidal deaths: A comparative and circumstantial approach</b> Ambade, V.N.; Godbole, H.V.; Kukde, H.G.	14/5	Jul-2007
91	<b>What do the X and Y chromosomes tell us about sex and gender in forensic case analysis?</b> von Wurmb-Schwark, N.; Bosinski, H.; Ritz-Timme, S.	14/1	Jan-2007
87	<b>Characterization of the gunshot suicides</b> Balci, Y.; Canogullari, G.; Ulupinar, E.	14/4	May-2007
79	<b>Sexing of human hip bones of Indian origin by discriminant function analysis</b> Dixit, S.G.; Kakar, S.; Agarwal, S.; Choudhry, R.	14/7	Oct-2007
78	<b>Unclassified sudden infant death associated with pulmonary intra-alveolar hemosiderosis and hemorrhage</b> Masoumi, H.; Chadwick, A.E.; Haas, E.A.; Stanley, C.; Krous, H.F.	14/8	Nov-2007
78	<b>Rape trauma syndrome - Time to open the floodgates?</b> Keogh, A.	14/4	May-2007
77	<b>Estimation of stature from dimensions of hands and feet in a North Indian population</b> Krishan, K.; Sharma, A.	14/6	Aug-2007
76	<b>Severity of injuries among sexual assault victims</b> Alempijevic, D.; Savic, S.; Pavlekic, S.; Jecmenica, D.	14/5	Jul-2007
74	<b>Determining prognosis after spinal cord injury</b> Vazquez, X.M.; Rodriguez, M.S.; Penaranda, J.M.S.; Concheiro, L.; Barus, J.I.M.	15/1	Jan-2008
70	<b>Hemoglobin F in sudden infant death syndrome: A San Diego SIDS/SUDC Research Project report</b> Krous, H.F.; Haas, E.A.; Chadwick, A.E.; Masoumi, H.; Stanley, C.; Perry, G.W.	14/8	Nov-2007
66	<b>Blood stain pattern interpretation in cases of fatal haemorrhage from ruptured varicose veins</b> Byard, R.W.; Veldhoen, D.; Manock, C.; Gilbert, J.D.	14/3	Apr-2007
65	<b>Pulmonary intra-alveolar hemorrhage in SIDS and suffocation</b> Krous, H.F.; Chadwick, A.E.; Haas, E.A.; Stanley, C.	14/8	Nov-2007

## 8. Marketing

Descriptions of the various marketing activities for the *Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine* are given per marketing objective. The marketing objectives for the journal are:

## 8.1 Branding and awareness

### Conferences

The main reason for Elsevier's presence at congresses is maintaining the visibility and awareness of our publications. The *Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine* is sent to all the relevant large and medium-sized conferences attended by Elsevier. If a larger conference is not attended by Elsevier, we make a journal selection via Blackwell or WisePress to make sure the *Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine* does get displayed at the regarding conference. The purpose of displaying the *Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine* at conferences is to enable those among the audience who are not yet familiar with the journal to become acquainted with it.

The journal has been, or will be, promoted at the following conferences:

- International Congress of Toxicology, 15 – 19 Jul 2007, Montreal, Canada
- International Society of Forensic Genetics 22nd Congress, 21 – 25 Aug 2007, Copenhagen, Denmark
- Ontario Association of Pathologists Annual Meeting, 28 – 30 Sep 2007, Ontario, Canada
- British Division of the Int. Academy of Pathology Symposium, 23 – 24 Nov 2007, London, UK
- American Academy of Forensic Sciences, 18 - 23 Feb 2008, Washington DC
- St. Mary's Sexual Assault Referral Centre Conference 2008, 27 - 28 Feb 2008, Manchester, UK: Delegate insert of the January 2008 Special Issue on the topic of Paediatric Forensic Medicine
- Japanese Society of Legal Medicine, 23 - 25 Apr 2008, Nagasaki, Japan
- The Faculty of Forensic and Legal Medicine Annual Conference, 4 - 6 June 2008, Kent UK
- International Association of Forensic Sciences, 21 - 26 July 2008, New Orleans LA

The Editor or Faculty representatives may possibly attend different conferences and symposia, where Elsevier is not present. We are always happy to send sample copies and/or promotional material to your office, or to your hotel room, for you to take to these events. To ensure that we have all requested materials ready in time, please give 4-6 week's notice.

### Promotional material

The *Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine* is included in Elsevier's 2008 Forensic Products brochure, featuring the aims and scopes, subscription details and the journal website.

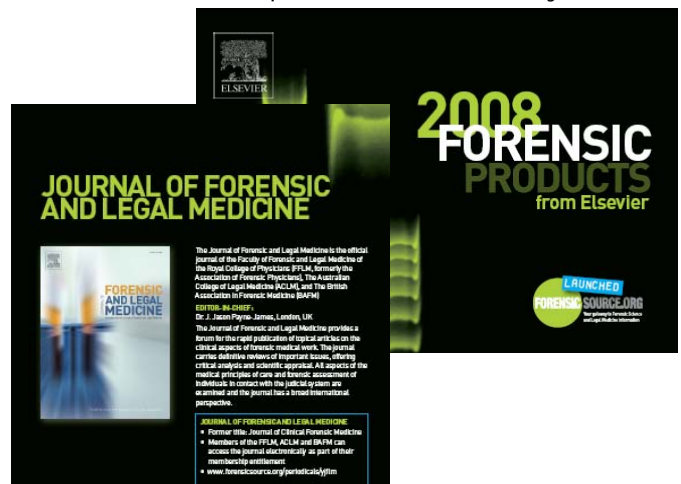
### Advertising

The *Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine* is advertised on a space-available basis in other journals published by Elsevier, including:

- *Forensic Science International*
- *Forensic Science International: Genetics*
- *Legal Medicine*
- *Science & Justice*

## 8.2 Drive online usage

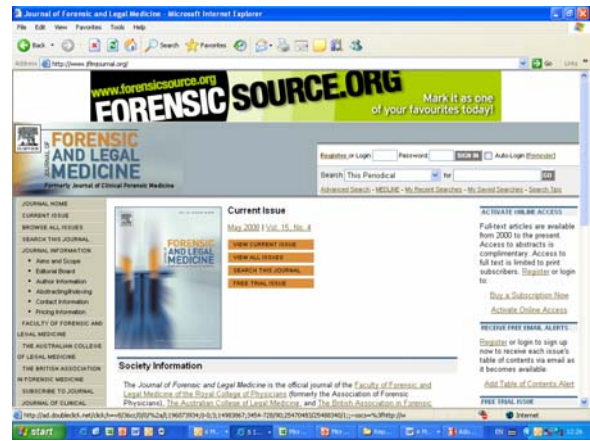
*Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine* receives superior online visibility through several Elsevier website. Each of these websites are designed to meet a specific customer need. This means that the journal is easy to find in the online environment, regardless of the online route that the customer searches for the journal.







Journal page on elsevier.com  
[www.elsevier.com/jflm](http://www.elsevier.com/jflm)



dedicated, branded journal page  
[www.jflmjournal.org/](http://www.jflmjournal.org/)

**ForensicSource.org**


In 2007, a landing page for Elsevier's Forensic Science & Legal Medicine product portfolio has been created, which gives access to journals, books and e-products. *Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine* has its own dedicated page; [www.forensicsource.org/periodicals/jflm](http://www.forensicsource.org/periodicals/jflm). This page is links to the Personal Branded website, targeted at personal and member subscribers. The portal page is promoted via advertisements in other journals, banner advertisements on journal pages and in the Forensic products brochure. Furthermore, demonstrations of the portal page are given during Elsevier attended conferences.


**Forensic e-package**

*Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine* is part of Elsevier's Forensic Science & Legal Medicine e-package. A subscription to the e-package grants online access to the full-text articles of five journals: *Forensic Science International*, *Forensic Science International: Genetics, Science & Justice*, *Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine* and *Legal Medicine*. Currently, the e-package is offered to members of selected societies. There are plans to promote the e-package at the upcoming IAFS conference in New Orleans, and offer attendees of the conference to subscribe to the package as well.

**Author Input**

Authors of *Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine* benefit from the unique, superior services and expertise that Elsevier provide for journal authors. As part of this authors who publish in *Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine* benefit from having maximum profile and visibility of their articles through Elsevier's portfolio of respected and well-known resources:

 Articles are published online via ScienceDirect, Elsevier's leading full-text platform world-wide. Through ScienceDirect all published articles are easily available to be read and are fully citable even before they appear in press.

 Scopus is the largest abstract and citation database of peer-reviewed literature and quality web sources, which offers seamless linking to full-text articles. Features like the Author Identifier and the Citation Tracker have set an industry-wide benchmark for enhanced searching and citation tracking. All articles that are published in *Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine* are searchable on [www.scopus.com](http://www.scopus.com). Using this tool authors can sign up to receive Document Citation Alerts and receive an email to alert them when someone cites their paper in one of the 15,000 peer-reviewed journals from over 4,000 international publishers that Scopus covers.

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Elsevier's market leading systems for providing and tracking journal content through both ScienceDirect and SCOPUS ensures that *Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine* has maximum international availability and is easily searchable in all the key institutions in Forensic and Legal Medicine. In order to maximise usage of *Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine* on ScienceDirect we have dynamic marketing systems and resources to drive subscribers and readers to the journals contents.

#### *e-mail alerting services*

We aim to stimulate online usage of the *Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine* and other journals by means of our e-mail alerting services and e-mail campaigns. Our e-mail alerting services include:

- *Search Alerts*: notify subscribers by e-mail when new documents matching their search criteria become available online.
- *Topic Alerts*: are predefined searches on a specific topic. Topic alerts notify subscribers by e-mail when new documents on a particular topic are available.
- *Volume/Issue Alerts*: notify subscribers by e-mail when a new issue of a particular journal or a new book volume becomes available.
- *Citation Alerts*: notify subscribers by e-mail when a selected document is cited by new documents that have become available on ScienceDirect.
- *SD top hottest articles*: these alerts allows subscribers to see what their peers are reading in Legal Medicine and make sure that they haven't missed out on an article of interest. Subscribers to *Top 25* receive a quarterly email listing the most read articles in Legal Medicine (counted by article downloads on ScienceDirect).
- *RSS Feeds*: Through RSS Feeds, all of the ScienceDirect alerts for Legal Medicine can be sent to a subscriber in one simple format. This facility provides subscriber with updates on their desktop of all the newly loaded content matching their RSS feed criteria.

### **8.3 Market research**

In order to have an idea of our customer's information needs, we will perform an extensive market research during 2008. An e-survey is being developed, which will hopefully teach us about who our customers are and how we can help them best. *Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine* will equally benefit from the knowledge we will obtain.

### **8.4 Subscription marketing**

To counteract attrition of existing non-member subscribers, we carry out several mailings to lapsed subscribers at the end of the summer. Subscribers who do not renew receive up to 6 customized letters, reminding them of the benefits of subscribing to *Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine*.