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Independent Study of Orthopaedic Journals Ranks *The American Journal of Sports Medicine* as Highest Quality

Thousand Oaks, CA, USA (January 19, 2006) – In an article published in the December 2005 American edition of *The Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery*, *The American Journal of Sports Medicine* (AJSM), which is the official publication of the [American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine \(AOSSM\)](#), was recognized for publishing the most articles based on studies with higher “level-of-evidence” ratings.

According to Obremskey, Pappas, Attallah-Wasif, Tornetta, and Bhandari’s article “Level of Evidence in Orthopaedic Journals” in *The Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery*, “studies with higher level-of-evidence ratings (Level I or II) are generally more reproducible for general application to patient care than are those with lower ratings” (2005, p. 2632). Randomized controlled trials are categorized as Level I or II.

The authors studied nine major orthopaedic surgery journals and found that AJSM “had the highest percentage (31.4%) of Level-I or II articles.” and the highest impact factor. They also found that the “percentage of articles that were rated Level I or II increased in accordance with the 2003 journal impact factors for the individual journals [studied]” (p. 2634).

They added that “the frequency with which a particular journal publishes studies with high level evidence correlates with the size of that journal’s readership and the overall perception of its quality” (p. 2637).

The authors evaluated articles published between January and June 2003. AJSM is included in the 2004 Thomson Scientific Journal Citation Reports® with an Impact Factor of **2.402**. This is a significant increase from its 2003 Impact Factor of **2.063**.

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About *The American Journal of Sports Medicine*:

The American Journal of Sports Medicine is a peer-reviewed scientific journal, first published in 1974. It is the official publication of the [American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine \(AOSSM\)](#), and is ranked 4th out of 71 Sports Sciences journals in the 2004 Thomson Scientific Journal Citation Reports®, with an Impact Factor of 2.402. Visit the journal’s homepage at www.ajsm.org for more information.

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