Web of Science, Book Citation Index (BKCI), and the Book Evaluation Process

Web of Science is a globally recognized research platform that provides extensive citation data across various academic disciplines through access to multiple specialized databases. One of its key components, the **Book Citation Index (BKCI)**, is a curated database that indexes scholarly books in the fields of science, technology, medicine, arts, and the social sciences. BKCI currently includes more than 128,000 books from over 5,000 publishers, with approximately 10,000 new titles added each year. Since 2005, books indexed in BKCI have received over 53 million citations, reflecting the platform's significant impact on academic visibility and influence.

In this context, **MediHealth Academy** has decided to submit its English-language publications to the Web of Science platform starting in 2025 for inclusion in the BKCI.

However, books seeking inclusion must undergo a rigorous, transparent, and multi-tiered editorial evaluation process established by the **Web of Science Core Collection™**. This process is conducted independently by in-house editorial experts with no affiliations to publishers or academic institutions, thereby minimizing conflicts of interest and bias. Each submission is assessed based on a standardized set of 18 criteria designed to reflect best practices in academic publishing. Books that fail to meet these criteria at any stage of the review process will not be accepted into the BKCI.

The Book Evaluation Process

The evaluation process for books submitted to BKCI consists of three primary stages: Initial Triage, Editorial Triage, and Editorial Evaluation.

1. Initial Triage

At this stage, the submitted book is examined for fundamental bibliographic and administrative information. Key elements reviewed include the ISBN (International Standard Book Number), title, publisher name, year of publication, access to content, and editorial contact details. The ISBN serves as a unique identifier indicating the intent to publish a formal book. Titles and publisher information must be clearly stated and verifiable; publishers must also provide a physical mailing address (not a P.O. Box). The publication year should be explicitly stated, and full access to the content must be granted—either through IP recognition, login credentials, or access to a digitized version. Editorial contact information must also be supplied. If issues identified at this stage are resolvable, the book may be resubmitted without embargo.

2. Editorial Triage

This phase involves assessing whether the book possesses scholarly merit, includes complete front matter (e.g., table of contents, preface), presents a clear statement of purpose, and meets language requirements. Books are expected to include identifiers such as DOIs, article numbers, or sequential pagination. Preference is given to recent publications, and the authors' and editors' institutional affiliations must be accurately presented. The content should be based on original research and be suitable for an advanced academic audience (e.g., postgraduate, doctoral, or professional researchers). The introduction or preface should clearly outline the aims of the author(s)/editor(s), the

central thesis, and the methodological approach. English-language submissions are prioritized. Books that fail at this stage are not eligible for reconsideration.

3. Editorial Evaluation

The final stage assesses the academic quality, coherence, and originality of the work. The expertise of editors and authors, as well as their publication records and alignment with the stated scope of the book, are carefully reviewed. Language must be clear and accessible to an international scholarly readership. There should be a logical consistency between the book's title and its content, and the work must exhibit a cohesive academic focus. Furthermore, books must contribute original insights and include appropriate references to the relevant literature. Works that lack citations or do not demonstrate originality will be excluded from BKCI consideration.

Evaluation Outcomes and Resubmission Policy

Books that successfully pass through each stage—initial triage, editorial triage, and editorial evaluation—will be accepted into the BKCI. However, books that fail at any stage may face different outcomes. If deficiencies are identified during the initial triage and are considered fixable, the book may be resubmitted. In contrast, books rejected during the editorial triage or editorial evaluation stages will not be reconsidered for inclusion in the BKCI.

Submission and Preparation Guidelines for Book Projects under MediHealth Academy

To ensure compliance with international publishing standards and to enhance the eligibility of book submissions for the BKCI, authors and editors involved in MediHealth Academy book projects are expected to adhere to the following guidelines:

- The chief editor of each book must have an H-index of at least 10.
- An associate editor may assist the chief editor; however, this individual should also hold a competitive H-index, indicating appropriate academic qualifications.
- Each chapter of the book must be overseen by a dedicated section editor, responsible for editorial management of that section.
- Authors are required to submit their manuscripts first to the assigned section editors, who will review, revise, and approve the content prior to submission to the chief editor.
- Each book should consist of 4 to 6 sections, and each section should contain 4 to 6 chapter titles.
- All submitted content must be original. AI-generated or AI-assisted content is strictly prohibited. A special artificial intelligence system is used to monitor the content in this respect.
- When uploading manuscripts to the platform, authors must include a cover page on the first page of the document, clearly stating their title, full name, institutional affiliation, email address, and ORCID ID.
- During the submission process, authors are required to upload both a Copyright Transfer Agreement and a Plagiarism Report as supporting documents
- Inclusion in BKCI is not guaranteed for any submission. The Web of Science BKCI operates as an independent and highly selective index, and final decisions are made at the sole discretion of their editorial board.