

appear in other journals ranked by ISI in their annual Science Citation Index. Currently, only 31 nursing journals are ranked according to the number of citations of articles published in *NO* that appear in articles published in other ISI-ranked journals. Last year, *Nursing Outlook* was ranked 19 of 31 nursing journals ranked by ISI; this year, the ranking rose to 3 of 31, indicating the widespread dissemination of findings, concepts, and ideas published in *Nursing Outlook*. Although the good news here is being ranked 3 of 31, the bad news is that only 31 nursing journals are even ranked by ISI. This topic was one focus of the International Nurse Authors and Editors

(INANE) conference in 2004. Many of the INANE editors signed off on a persuasive proposal developed by Margaret Freda, EdD, RN, CHES, FAAN (editor of *MCN The American Journal of Maternal-Child Nursing*) which was sent to ISI this past fall outlining issues related to their tradition of only ranking 31 of the many outstanding nursing journals. Recently, Dr. Freda has talked with the ISI editors about the proposal and believes the editors for Clinical Medicine and Social Science are looking more actively at many nursing journals and considering them for inclusion. This is very good news for the many nursing journals that are not currently

ranked and that publish very scientifically-sound and relevant articles.

In summary, I believe *Nursing Outlook* is in very good shape, although your suggestions for improvements are always welcome. This year, we will add some additional features I hope readers will find useful. I appreciate all the positive feedback, proposals for special issues and ideas for features many of you have provided. It is also very exciting to receive (and publish) letters to the editor about some of the published articles. Authors find it very rewarding to hear from you, as do I, so please continue to communicate with us!!

MISSION STATEMENT

Nursing Outlook, the official journal of the American Academy of Nursing, provides critical and timely analyses of emerging professional and health care issues of importance to all nurses. The primarily editorial goals of the Journal are to:

1. Publish innovative, original articles that stimulate thoughtful discussion and scholarly debate and policy implications among nurses and other health care professionals.
2. Inform readers about the diversity of opinion on controversial professional and health care and health policy matters affecting nursing and the health of the public.
3. Provide a multidisciplinary forum for the dissemination of information derived from the synthesis of extant knowledge of current and future clinical practice and health policy alternatives.
4. Disseminate information about creative, alternative, and forward-looking models of education and clinical practice as they relate to changing systems of health care.
5. Promote the synthesis and use of scientific knowledge in a timely fashion by nurses and other health care professionals to enhance the quality and efficiency of health care.
6. Provide the American Academy of Nursing with a medium for communicating important policy issues and organizational activities.
7. Increase critical awareness of technologies, products, and services that have the potential for increasing the effectiveness of nurses in all settings.