



Robert G. Edwards Prize Paper Award

The annual Robert G. Edwards Prize Paper Award was established by Elsevier in 2010 to recognize excellence in our field of study. All original research articles published in *RBMO* each calendar year are eligible to be considered for the prize for that year.

The winning author(s) receive a certificate of recognition, 1000 Euros, and a complimentary 12-month ScienceDirect Ambassador Account. SD Ambassadors receive full access to the entire library of books and journals published by Elsevier. In addition, the prize-winning paper will be made open access. Where the prize goes to a multi-author paper, the more junior of the main authors receives the one-year subscription to the entire Elsevier ScienceDirect database. All names will appear on the award certificate. The authors of the winning paper, and those of the next two best papers, will be invited to present their work at a session showcasing the best of *RBMO* at the annual COGI meeting.

The winning paper is selected by a panel consisting of the Chief Editor and the Editors (the Selection Panel). A long list of papers is first compiled by the Selection Panel taking into consideration data provided by Elsevier concerning downloads and Scopus citations of the eligible papers. The Section Editors then vote on this long list, as a result of which the Selection Panel then produce a short list. In doing so they use the criterion that any paper receiving at least two first-place nominations is considered. In their deliberations, the Section Editors and the Selection Panel declare whether any long- or short-listed papers present for them a possible conflict of interest and, if so, disqualify themselves from further comment on and consideration of that paper.

The short-listed papers are checked for textual originality, and are subjected to a confirmatory analysis for statistical validity and for confirming to ethical standards. In reaching their decision on the winner, the Selection Panel consider the average number of citations and downloads per month since publication, the distribution of first-, second- and third-place votes by the Section Editors and the seniority of the first authors. The Selection Panel's decision is final.

March 2020