Editorial

In this late issue of IRBM in 2013, we would like to present a short review of this year. First of all, six issues have been published, containing a total of 52 papers. Among them, three special issues: Digital Technologies For Healthcare (with invited papers from recognized experts in these research fields), Technologies for Health and Autonomy summarizing the projects granted by the French National Research Agency, and the Research in Imaging and Health Technologies issue with selected papers from the RITS congress held in Bordeaux (France) in 2013.

This year was also marked by the beginning of a new policy: English only publications. Even if it is too early to evaluate its benefits, we can notice the increased number of submissions (88 in 2013 vs. 67 in 2012) and citations (IF 2012 = 0.4 vs. IF 2011 = 0.3). Lately, with the increasing number of submitted papers, the rate of rejected papers has grown to 35%. This fact reflects the growth of publications of highly valuable papers, which is expected to increase further next year.

Besides, several new special issues are intended to be published next year. The first one will be dedicated to variational and statistical approaches in medical images segmentation and the following ones will include selected papers from TAIMA 2013 (Hammamet, Tunisia) and IEEE HealthCom 2013 (Lisbon, Portugal).

Finally, this last issue of 2013 gives me the opportunity to thank all the members of the editorial board and all the reviewers of IRBM. They have done a remarkable work on upgrading the scientific content of the journal and shortening the duration of paper handling (8 weeks in the average from submission to final disposition in 2013 vs. 12.5 weeks in 2012).

M. Vermandel

Université Lille Nord de France, 59000 Lille, France
E-mail address: m-vermandel@chru-lille.fr