

# Critical Review of "Frontiers in Cardiovascular Medicine"

## □ Journal Overview

- **Publisher:** Frontiers Media SA (Switzerland)
- **First published:** 2014
- **Open access:** Yes (CC-BY license)
- **Indexing:** PubMed, Scopus, Web of Science, DOAJ
- **Recent metrics:**
  - Impact Factor (2023): ~2.8 (dropped from ~5.3 in 2022)
  - CiteScore: ~5.5
  - SJR: ~0.86 (Q2 in cardiology)

## □ Strengths

- **Broad scope:** covers basic, clinical, translational, and neuro-cardiology.
- **Immediate access:** all articles are free to read and reuse.
- **Rapid review process:** first decision typically in ~77 days.
- **Ethical framework:** COPE member; promotes transparency and data reproducibility.

## □ Criticisms

- **Editorial independence issues:**

2015 resignations over editorial decisions overridden by Frontiers staff.

- **Questionable peer review past:**

Historic concerns about reviewer limitations and rejection mechanisms.

- **Predatory label controversy:**

Previously listed in Beall's List (now defunct); still viewed as "grey-zone" by some institutions.

- **High volume, variable quality:**

Massive growth in special issues and output may dilute editorial standards.

- **Volatile impact factor:**

Sharp drop in IF suggests instability and potential loss of citation influence.

## Final Assessment

Area	Evaluation
Accessibility & Indexing	☑ Strong visibility and indexing
Peer Review & Editorial Standards	⚠ Mixed history; improved structure, but past concerns remain
Prestige & Reputation	☑ Controversial; varies by institution
Publication Strategy	☑ Good for mid-tier research needing reach; not ideal for top-impact work

## Conclusion

Frontiers in Cardiovascular Medicine offers excellent exposure and open-access publishing, but carries historical baggage regarding editorial integrity and quality control. Recommended with caution for standard work; **not ideal for high-impact, cutting-edge research.**

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Last update:

**2025/06/18 15:58**

