

Web of Science Journal Evaluation Process and Selection Criteria

Mireia Guardingo, PhD.

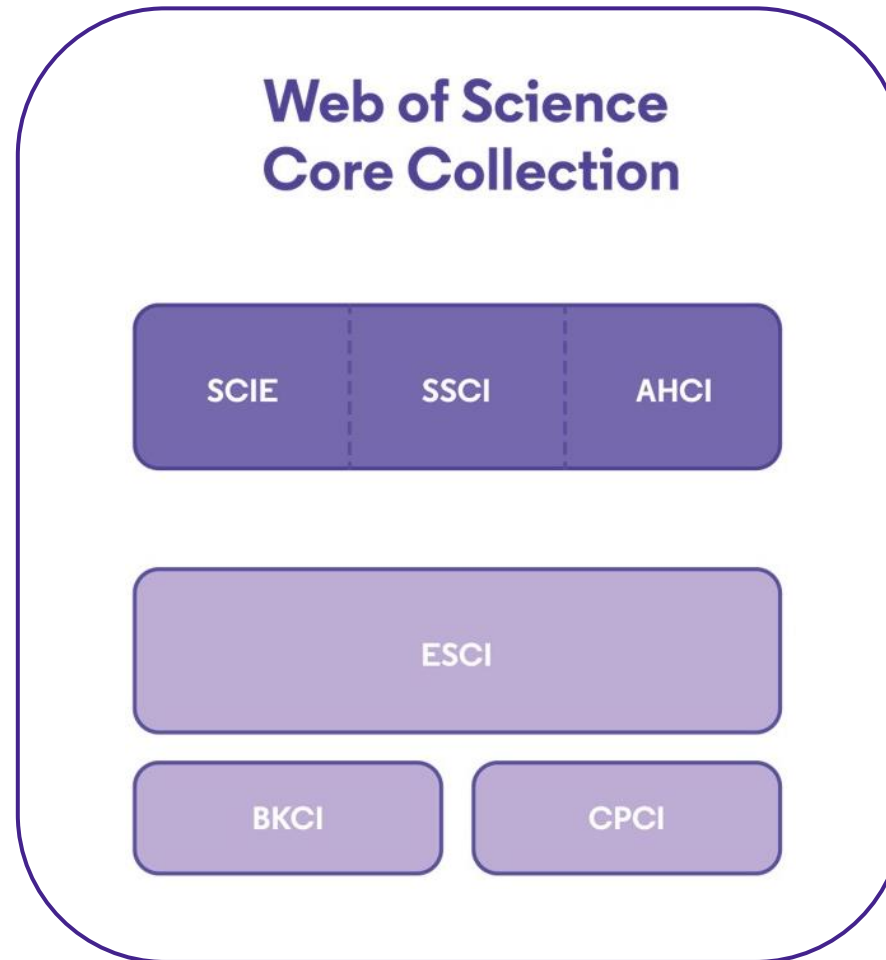
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Web of Science

- Web of Science™ is the world's most trusted publisher-independent global citation database.
- We capture, index and link every piece of metadata for all items in the Web of Science Core Collection.
- We use a uniquely selective and robust evaluation and curation process by a team of expert in-house editors.
- Our principles: **objectivity, selectivity** and **collection dynamics**

The Web of Science Core Collection

At the heart of the Web of
Science platform



Science Citation Index
Expanded (**SCIE**)

Social Sciences Citation Index
(**SSCI**)

Arts & Humanities Citation
Index (**AHCI**)

Emerging Sources Citation
Index (**ESCI**)

Books Citation Index (**BKCI**)

Conference Proceedings
Citation Index (**CPCI**)

Journal Evaluation Process and Selection Criteria

Web of Science Journal Evaluation Process and Selection Criteria

- Conducted by a team of expert in-house editors.
- Not affiliated to publishers or research institutions.
- Each editor focuses on specific subject categories, getting a deep knowledge of the publishing landscape in that field.
- Journal data and information are collected by the editors independently rather than relying on data provided by the publishers.
- We do not use algorithmic approaches or delegate any editorial decisions on the research community.
- All editors use the same set of 24 quality and 4 impact criteria for all the journals.

Web of Science Journal Evaluation Process and Selection Criteria

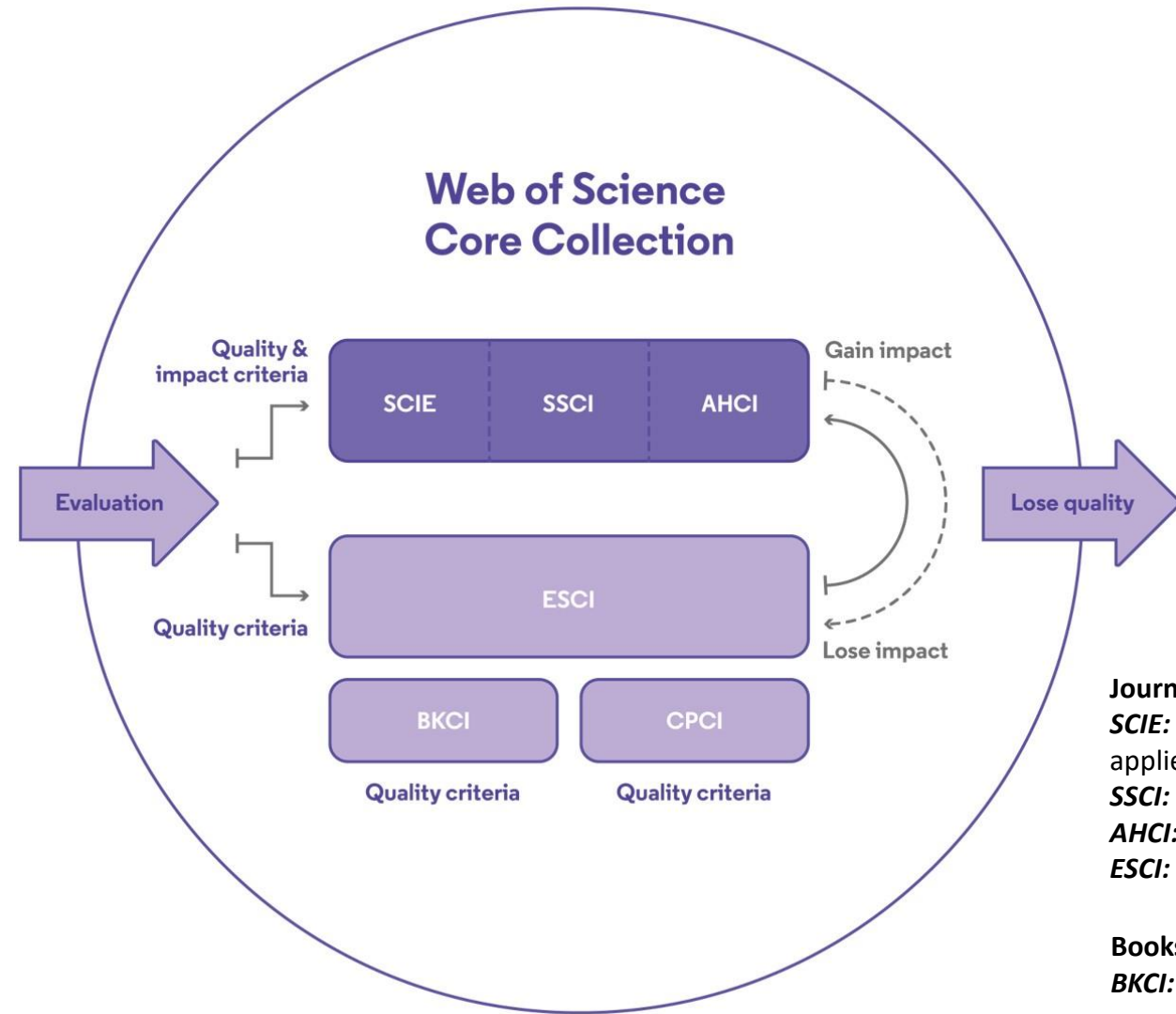
Journals that meet the quality criteria enter ESCI

Journals that meet quality and impact criteria enter SCIE, SSCI or AHCI

ESCI journals that gain impact move to SCIE, SSCI or AHCI

SCIE, SSCI and AHCI journals that decrease in impact move to ESCI

Any journal that fails to meet all quality criteria will be removed from the *Web of Science Core Collection*



Journals

SCIE: clinical, natural and applied sciences
SSCI: social sciences
AHCI: arts & humanities
ESCI: all disciplines

Books

BKCI: all disciplines

Conference Proceedings

CPCI: all disciplines

Journal Evaluation Process

28

selection criteria in total

24

quality criteria to select for editorial rigor and publishing best practice

4

impact criteria to select for the most impactful journals

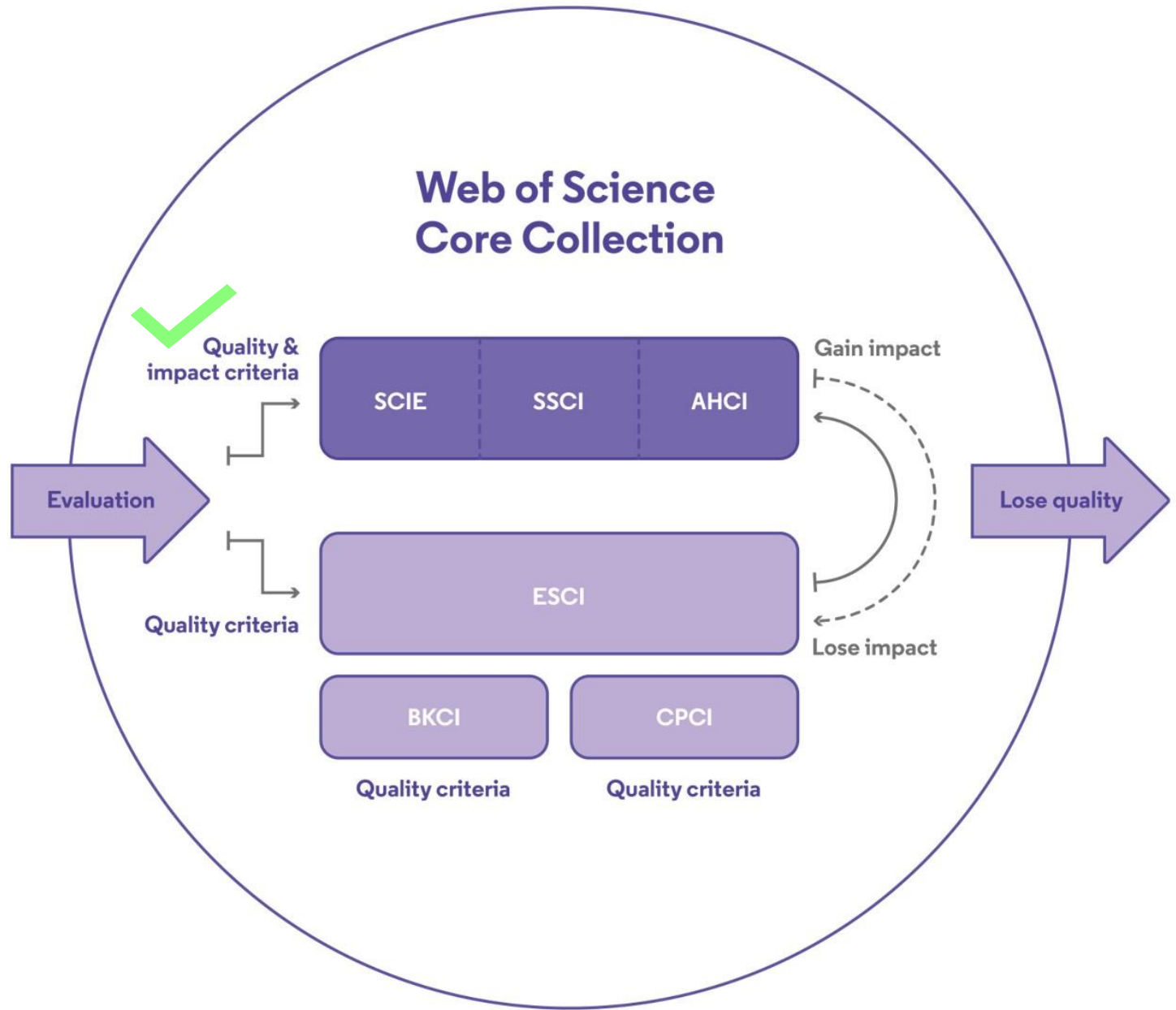
1. Initial triage →		2. Editorial triage →		3. Editorial evaluation →	
Quality Criteria			Impact Criteria		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISSN • Journal title • Journal publisher • URL (online journals) • Content access • Presence of peer review policy • Contact details 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scholarly content • Article titles and article abstracts in English • Bibliographic information in Roman script • Clarity of language • Timeliness and / or publication volume • Website functionality / Journal format • Presence of ethics statements • Editorial affiliation details • Author affiliation details 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Editorial board composition • Validity of statements • Peer review • Content relevance • Grant support details • Adherence to community standards • Author distribution • Appropriate citations to the literature 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparative citation analysis • Author citation analysis • Editorial Board Citation Analysis • Content significance 		

Successful outcomes →			
Starts editorial triage	Starts editorial evaluation	Enters ESCI and is evaluated for impact	Enters SCIE / SSCI / AHCI

Unsuccessful outcomes →			
<p>Failed initial triage</p> <p>Re-submission welcome as soon as issues have been resolved</p>	<p>Failed editorial triage</p> <p>On first evaluation: Re-submission welcome as soon as issues have been resolved</p> <p>On consecutive evaluations: Re-submission subject to embargo of at least one year</p>	<p>Failed editorial quality evaluation</p> <p>Re-submission subject to embargo of at least two years</p>	<p>Failed editorial impact evaluation</p> <p>Entry / continued coverage in ESCI</p> <p>Citation activity is monitored. Re-evaluation subject to journal performance.</p>

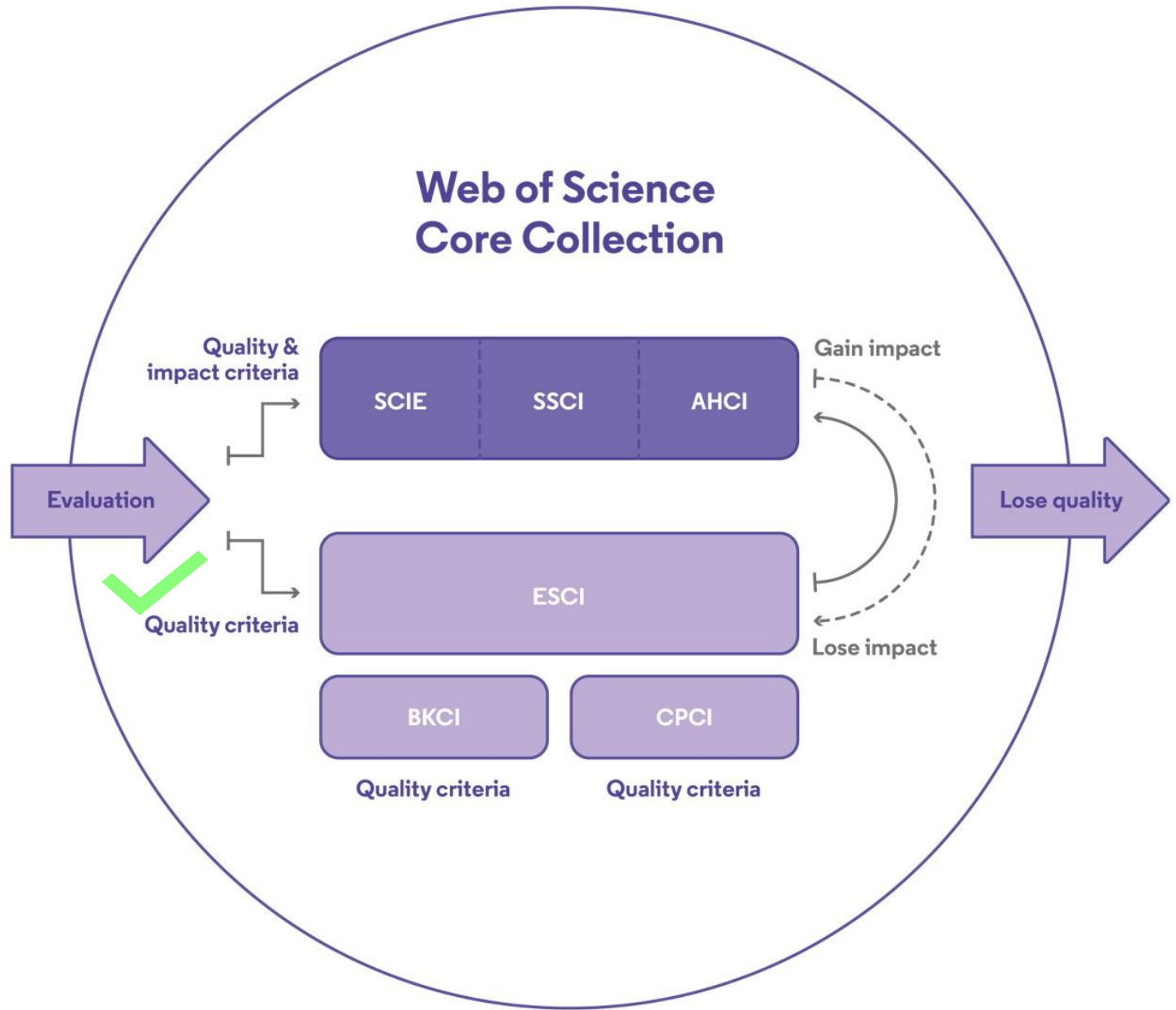
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- Initial Triage ✓
- Editorial Triage ✓
- Editorial Evaluation (Quality) ✓
- Editorial Evaluation (Impact) ✓



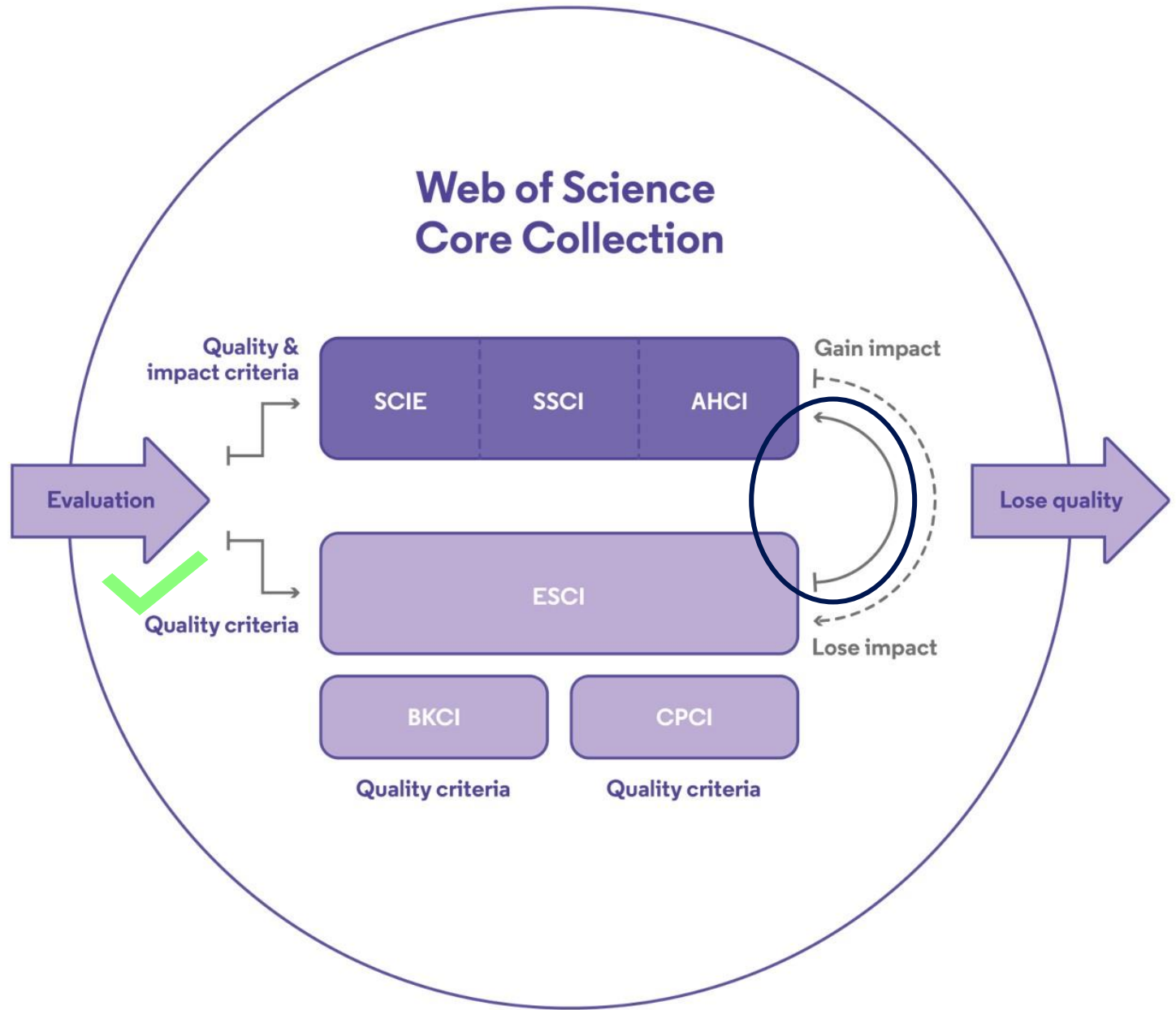
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Collection Dynamics

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Initial Triage

Editorial Triage

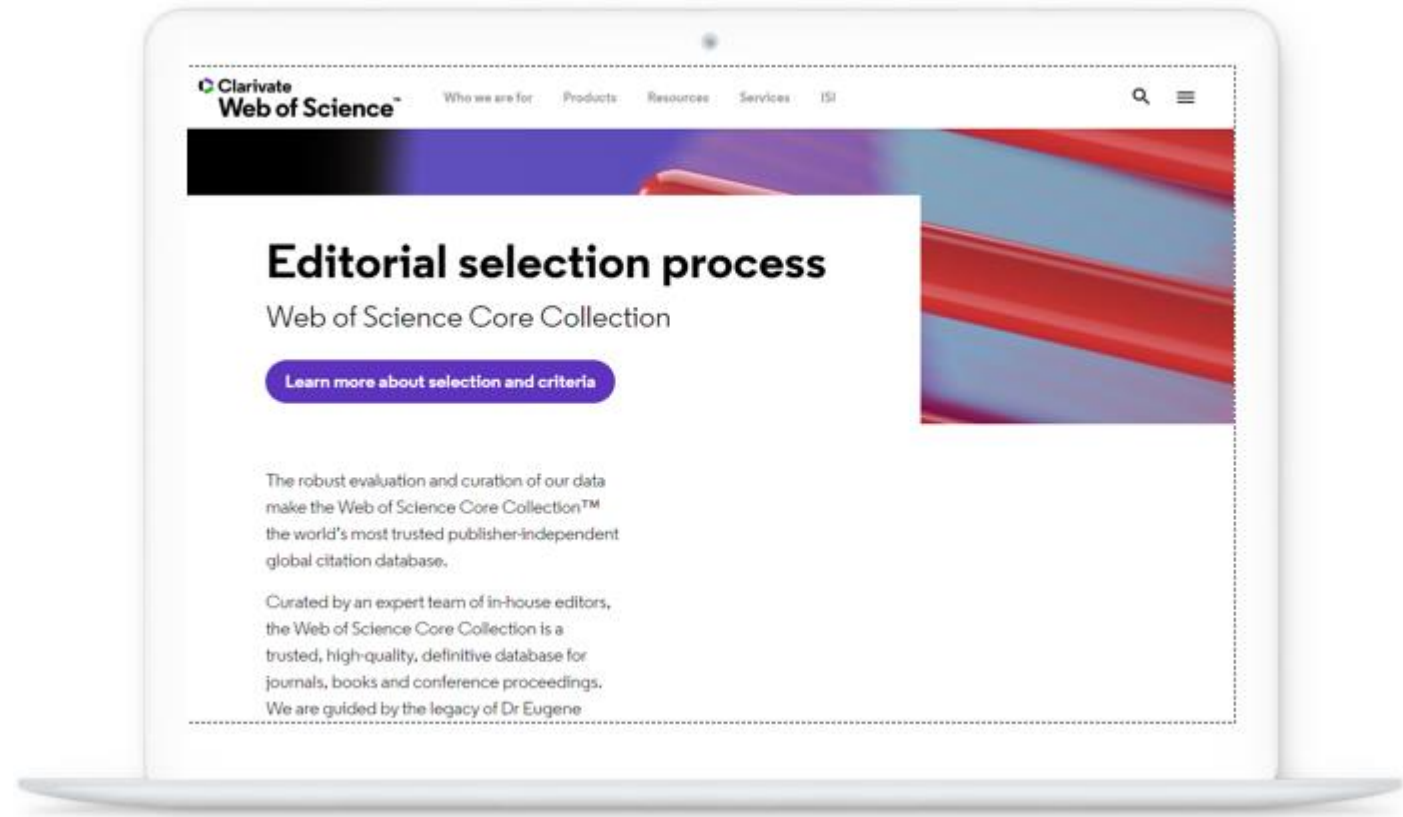
Editorial Evaluation (Quality)

Editorial Evaluation (Impact)

- Re-evaluations are prioritised for journals that display high citation performance.
- We **monitor** the citation performance of **all journals indexed in ESCI** and perform a re-evaluation when indicators show that the impact criteria may be met.
- The re-evaluation process starts at the Editorial Triage stage. Journals are **re-evaluated for Quality** first; **Impact evaluation is subject to quality** being met.
- We continuously evaluate indexed journals for quality.

Web of Science Journal Evaluation Process and Selection Criteria

<https://clarivate.com/webofsciencegroup/journal-evaluation-process-and-selection-criteria/>



Thank you

