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**Evolution of *World Journal of Clinical Cases* over the past 5 years**

Muthu S. Evolution of *World J Clinical Cases*

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**Abstract**

Analysis of the articles published in any journal is necessary to ascertain the performance of the journal in the academia. The author made a scientometric analysis of the articles published in the *World Journal of Clinical Cases* in the past 5 years and present the data to the readers.

**Key Words:** *World Journal of Clinical Cases*; Scientific journal; Research publication; Keywords; Scientometrics; Trend analysis

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**Core Tip:** We analysed the articles published in the *World Journal of Clinical Cases* to illustrate the journal performance in the past 5 years. The author demonstrated that the journal has been growing with time with appropriate publication standards as per the COPE guidelines. The journal has a wide spectrum of published articles covering various domains of medicine to meet the aims and scope of the journal.

**INTRODUCTION**

The *World Journal of Clinical Cases* started out publishing high-quality peer-reviewed articles since 2013[1]. In this letter I would like to present a short summary of the performance of the journal in the past 5 years. A scientometric analysis was performed using the metadata of the articles published in the journal and indexed in Web of Science and Reference Citation Analysis[2] database over the past 5 years (2017-2021). Visualisation of the data was made using CiteSpace software[3].

***Publication volume***

The journal published 2792 articles between 2017 and 2021. The journal experienced three times growth in the number of publications with 12 issues in 2017 covering 452 pages in Volume 5 to 36 issues in 2021 covering 11508 pages in Volume 9. Similarly, the number of published articles rose from 71 in 2017 to 1296 in 2021 as shown in Figure 1.

***Institutional network***

Of the 2792 analysed articles, the top contributors were from Zhejiang University (143), Capital Medical University (129), China Medical University (99), Sichuan University (91), and Jilin University (82).

***Country network***

The People’s Republic of China contributed to 71% (1982) of the total publications in the past 5 years, followed by South Korea (160), United States (127), Japan (111), and Italy (74).

***Cited references***

In order to analyse the self-citation policy, analysis was made on the journals of the cited references from the included publications in the past 5 years. A total of 731 journals were cited in the 31774 references analysed. The top cited journals were *New England Journal of Medicine* (622), *Lancet* (538), *World Journal of Gastroenterology* (518), *Medicine* (460), and *PLOS One* (416). This proves that the journal was adherent to the self-citation policy with only 122 self-citations, which account for 0.3% of the total references analysed.

***Keyword cluster analysis***

On analysing the keywords of the included articles, clustering of the keywords was made to represent the subject of the included articles. The top clusters in the included articles were #0 case report, #1 colorectal cancer, #2 inflammatory bowel disease, #3 hepatocellular carcinoma, #4 neoadjuvant chemoradiotherapy, and #5 coronavirus disease. Network of the included clusters is represented in Figure 2.

***Publication trend analysis***

On analysing the timeline of the keywords among the top clusters we noted that the recent publication trends revolved around the research domains like oncology, chemoradiotherapy, and coronavirus disease as shown in Figure 3.

***Citation Analysis***

The 2792 articles published in past 5 years accumulated a total citation count of 5285 (as of June 6, 2022). Average citation per article was 1.89. Based on the articles published in the past 5 years, the H-index of the journal was 22 (as of June 6, 2022). The article by Ren *et al*[4] titled “Fear can be more harmful than the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 in controlling the coronavirus disease 2019 epidemic” is the most cited article of the journal with 134 citations (as of June 6, 2022). The rate of publication and the citation frequency are given in Figure 4. The journal demonstrates a Journal Impact Factor of 1.534 based on Journal Citation Reports 2022 and Journal Article Influence Index of 1.89[2] ranking 135 among 172 journals in the category of Medicine, General and Internal[5].

**CONCLUSION**

We demonstrated that the journal has been growing with time with appropriate publication standards as per the COPE guidelines[6]. The journal has a wide spectrum of published articles covering various domains of medicine to meet the aims and scope of the journal.

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3 **Chen C.** CiteSpace: A Practical Guide for Mapping Scientific Literature.

4 **Ren SY**, Gao RD, Chen YL. Fear can be more harmful than the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 in controlling the corona virus disease 2019 epidemic. *World J Clin Cases* 2020; **8:** 652-657 [PMID: 32149049 DOI: 10.12998/wjcc.v8.i4.652]

5 2022 Journal Impact Factor, *Journal Citation Reports (Clarivate, 2022)* Available from: https://clarivate.com/webofsciencegroup/solutions/journal-citation-reports/

6 COPE: Committee on Publication Ethics. COPE: Committee on Publication Ethics. Available from: https://publicationethics.org/

**Footnotes**

**Conflict-of-interest statement:** The author is an editorial board member of the *World Journal of Clinical Cases*.

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**Provenance and peer review:** Invited article; Externally peer reviewed.

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Peer-review started:** June 7, 2022

**First decision:** June 27, 2022

**Article in press:**

**Specialty type:** Scientific journal

**Country/Territory of origin:** India

**Peer-review report’s scientific quality classification**

Grade A (Excellent): A

Grade B (Very good): B

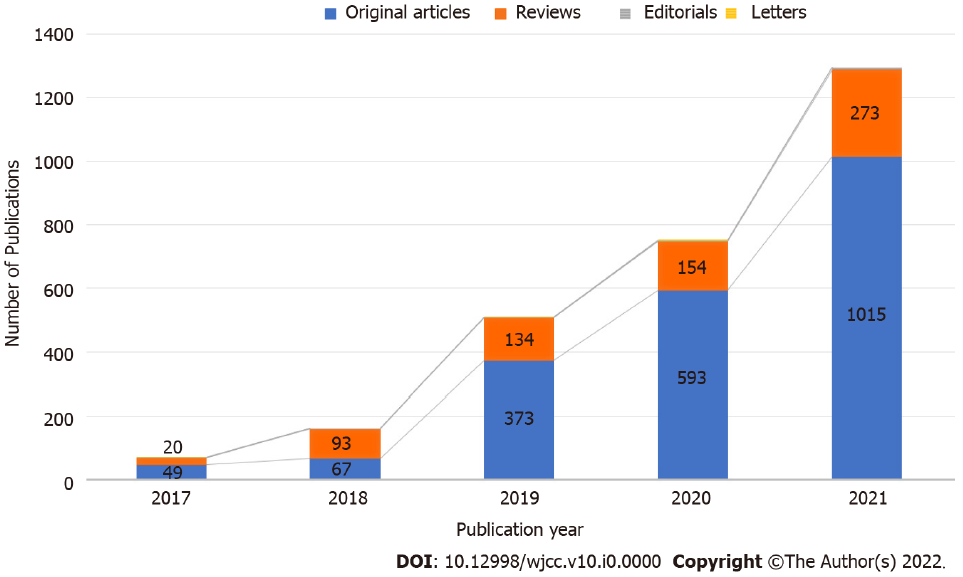
Grade C (Good): 0

Grade D (Fair): 0

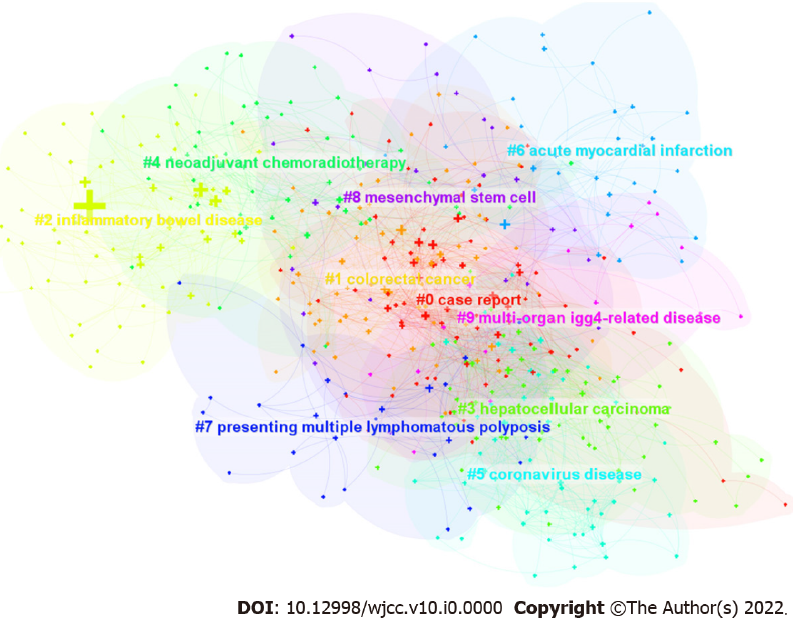
Grade E (Poor): 0

**P-Reviewer:** Wu CC, Taiwan; Tan X, China **S-Editor:** Liu JH **L-Editor:** Wang TQ **P-Editor:**

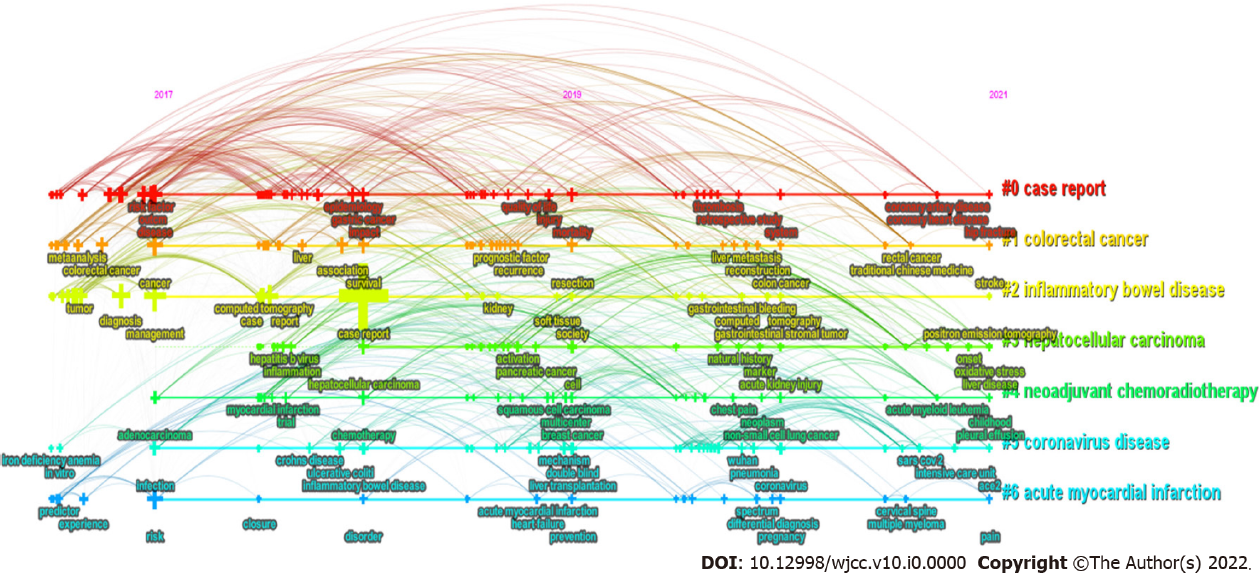
**Figure Legends**



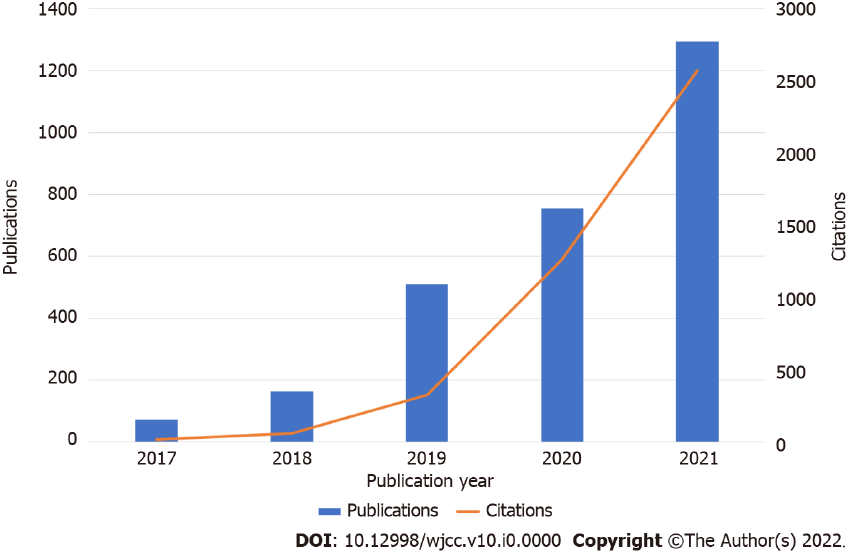
**Figure 1 Trend of growth in the number of publications in the past 5 years.**



**Figure 2 Network map of keyword clusters of the publication in the past 5 years.**



**Figure 3 Timeline analysis of research publication trend.**



**Figure 4 Relationship between annual publications and citations.**