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

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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. We made a scientometric analysis of the articles published in World Journal of Clinical Cases in the past 5 years and presented the data to the readers.

INTRODUCTION

To the editor

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. The 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 is made using CiteSpace software.^[3]

PUBLICATION VOLUME

The journal published 2792 articles between 2017-2021. 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.

Figure 1 here

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

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

Peoples Republic of China contributed to 71% (1982) of the total publications in the past 5 years followed by South Korea (160), USA (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. 731 journals were cited in the 31,774 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 accounts 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 were represented in the Figure 2.

Figure 2 here

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

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.

Figure 3 here

Figure 3 Timeline analysis of research publication trend

CITATION ANALYSIS

The 2792 articles published in past 5 years accumulated a total citation count of 5285 (as of June 6th 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 6th 2022). The article by Ren *et al* titled “Fear can be more harmful than the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 in controlling the corona virus disease 2019 epidemic” is the most cited article of the journal with 134 citations (as of June 6th 2022). The rate of publication and the citation frequency is given in Figure 4. The journal demonstrates Journal Impact Factor of 1.337 based on Journal Citation Reports and Journal Article Influence Index of 1.89.^[2]

Figure 4 here

Figure 4 Relationship between annual publications and citations

CONCLUSION

We demonstrated that the journal has been growing with time with appropriate publication standards as per the COPE guidelines.^[4] 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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