

Editorial

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I welcome you all to the third issue of the “Journal of Scientometric Research” (www.jscires.org). I hope you will find this issue useful and interesting. The issue covers eleven articles; brief highlights of each article are given below. Some salient aspects of research activity in applied domains, structure of the scientific community, productivity determinants are some of the topics addressed by the articles. Going beyond traditional boundaries of scientometrics, the issue exposes the readers to some of the new scientometric approaches.

The first article “some determinants of publication performance: A study of Turkish economics academicians” by Murat Cokgenzen is an analytical examination of the determinants of research productivity, drawing from publication activity of Turkish economics academicians. The impact of determinants (determinants specified as gender, academic origin, academic inbreeding, institutional control, and age) on the publication performance is examined based on a regression model. The study underscores which determinants have played an influential role in enhancing publication performance of the research community examined.

The second article “the bibliometric community as reflected by its own methodology” by Dirk and Julia investigates the structure of bibliometric research community through their publication activity. Shows the changes in a community’s network structure; highlighting how the community has grown not only reflected in the number of papers

published, but also in the number of authors dealing with the topic and the degree of interaction between them.

Raj Kumar, Sri Ram and Shikha article “Vitiligo: A quantitative analysis of the world research output during 2001–2012” draws attention to research activity in Vitiligo, a major skin disease that effects large number of people globally but still there is no effective cure. The present article is important in this context as it undertakes a detailed publication based analysis to show global landscape of research activity in this field.

Moving away from traditional publication based analysis to assess a country’s assertion in a research field, Vipin and Rashmi “Indian gatekeepers of foreign journals: A preliminary analysis” explores how members of editorial boards of journals (seen as knowledge gatekeepers) provide an indication of a country’s scientific assertion. The study provides some very interesting statistics of the editorial board composition of Top 500 journals such as dominance of advanced Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development countries in the composition of majority of journals. Statistical correlation is observed between board members and scientific output of a country.

Suresh Kumar draws attention to the need of the funding agency to keep track of new emerging specialties. This rationale drives their scientometric study of human computer interaction research in India. Research output of India in in this specialty is analyzed for the period 1987–2011 on several parameters. The study shows that India is making her presence in this field as not only in terms of volume of research output, but also her papers appearing in high impact factor journals.

Indian research trends in psoriasis, a chronic skin disease are analyzed by Shri Ram based on publication analysis. Publication activity by Indian researchers has increased in recent years and also more papers are coming out through International Collaboration Research. The question of attracting global visibility remains. Hari Kumar, Arvinda

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and Sanjay have examined Indian publication activity in endocrinology, a branch of medicine that deals with the glands, their hormones, metabolic functions of the body and related disorders. The article shows trends of research activity in different sub-specialties of endocrinology and geographical research concentration which provides important indications for research and policy intervention.

Leeuwen *et al.* extends the boundaries of institutional analysis by examining publication activity of Museums in their study “The changing role of museums in the global scientific landscape.” The study draws attention to the challenge of extending the bibliometric toolbox such as in the particular case when the unit of analysis is not typically defined.

Kheradparvar, Shokrpour and Mirzaee examine academic research networks and the role of literary and network brokers in publication of articles. The work extends the boundaries of bibliometric study by understanding determinants that promote the publication in a case study based approach. The novelty of the study is tracing the network publication histories of four researchers in understanding the publication determinants.

Thorakkal Shamim examines publication trends in forensic

odontology, an emerging field of dentistry, which deals with the proper handling and examination of dental evidence. This type of bibliometric study alerts the funding agencies and research community at large within a discipline to attract needed attention.

Munnolli and Pujar alerts the traditional bibliometric practitioners to altmetrics (alternative to metrics) as the new bibliometric toolbox for capturing communication behavior in the virtual world. They argue that altmetrics looks beyond the conventional metric tools based on citation counts as it overcomes among others the considerable time to compute the controlled measurable data to evaluate the impact of a research, which is particularly useful in a dynamic system such as web based research communication.

We wish you a happy reading of the third issue!

Note: J Scientometric Research will be expanding its editorial board during the year 2014. Active reviewers will be now included in various capacities in the journal. Interested authors can write to us along with their brief profile for possible inclusion (journals@scibiomed.org).

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