

Journal of family medicine and primary care- A five year bibliometric analysis from 2016 to 2020

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ABSTRACT

Aim: To conduct a five-year bibliometric analysis of the *Journal of Family Medicine and Primary Care (J Family Med Prim Care)* between 2016 and 2020. **Setting and Design:** This retrospective secondary data analysis was conducted in the Department of Conservative, Endodontics and Aesthetic Dentistry, Dental Institute, Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences, Ranchi, Jharkhand and Rohilkhand Medical College and Hospital, Bareilly, UP. **Material and Methods:** The data of publications including research articles, review and case reports excluding editorials and letters to the editor, commentaries and invited articles published in the *J Family Med Prim Care* between 2016 and 2020 were downloaded from the journal website and analysed in terms of the bibliometric parameters. **Results:** The results revealed that the journal gave equal weightage to all types of articles. The total number of articles published between 2016 and 2020 was 2,426 out of which 1,666 articles were published from India and the remaining from other parts of the world. In India, the state of Delhi had the maximum publications while speciality Preventive and Social Medicine (22.42%) and General Medicine (23.12%) had the maximum articles. Moreover, between 2016 and 2020, *J Family Med Prim Care* had 2,132 citations of published articles and had 65 publications in 2020 about the Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic. **Conclusion:** The issue numbers per year for *J Family Med Prim Care* has gradually increased over time. The publication is open for all fields of medical, dental sciences and allied sciences.

Keywords: Articles, bibliometric analysis, journal, publication

Introduction

Rapid evolution in medical sciences is making it increasingly difficult for clinicians to update their knowledge about technological advances.^[1] Hence, they are dependent on the literature to help them keep updated. In today's time, especially with pandemics like the COVID, it is essential that high quality

of clinical data should be available that provides us with online medical information that can potentially improve clinical decision making by increasing information availability.^[2-4]

Bibliometric analysis or scientometrics is a method for assessing information availability. It is used to optimize scientific productivity. This science with its various indexes is a recognised method for assessing the level of development of the scientific activity.^[5,6] The term bibliometrics was first introduced by Prichard in 1969 and is defined as the organisation, classification and quantitative evaluation of the publication pattern of all macro- and micro-communications, along with their authorships by mathematical and statistical calculus.^[7-9]

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The Journal of Family Medicine and Primary Care (*J Family Med Prim Care*) (ISSN- Print: 2249-4863, Online: 2278-7135) is an open-access journal. It is the official publication of the Family Medicine and Primary Care Trust. The journal was launched in January 2012 as an online and print biannual issue, and from 2019, the journal is published monthly; both online as well as in print form. The journal covers a broad spectrum of clinical topical catering to the academic needs of family physicians, urban General Practitioners (GPs), rural physicians, National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) doctors, community surgeons, community health workers, and providers of community obstetrical and paediatric care, emergency physicians, occupational physicians and public health specialists.

Scientific journals are an important source of information, instruction and inspiration for young researchers to explore more in the respective fields. They provide a knowledge bank, help in the transfer of information and validate the quality of research.^[10,11] Many medical journal analyses have been conducted in western countries to evaluate the progress and leading trends in the field of research involving medical journals.^[1,5,7,9,10] Developing countries lag far behind as far as bibliometric analysis of medical journals is concerned because of impaired scrutiny of the published data and low participation of developing country researchers.

This journal attracts a wide viewership and multidisciplinary authorship involving various fields of basic and clinical sciences. We conducted this study to provide the bibliometric analysis of the *J Family Med Prim Care* from 2016 to 2020 which is an authenticated and well-reputed journal. There has been no bibliometric review of the journal in the literature to the best of the author's knowledge and information.

Materials and Methods

This retrospective secondary data analysis was conducted in the Department of Conservative, Endodontics and Aesthetic Dentistry, Dental Institute, Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences, Ranchi, Jharkhand and Rohailkhand Medical College and Hospital, Bareilly, UP.

Data regarding the publications (original articles, review articles and case reports) excluding editorials, commentary, narrative essay, book review, invited and guest articles, evidence-based summary and letters to the editor in the *Journal of Family Medicine and Primary Care (J Family Med Prim Care)* from 2016 to 2020 were downloaded from the journal website for analysis as the full text is available in a portable document format (PDF) version for free. Data regarding the type and year of publication, authorship pattern, range and number of citations per article, subject of the article and demographic location of the corresponding author were noted in the data collection form. Data were selected by systematic sampling technique. The collected data were tabulated and entered into the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 18.0 and analysed through its statistical package.

Results

The present bibliometric analysis was conducted to evaluate the *J Family Med Prim Care* which involves various fields of basic and clinical sciences from 2016 to 2020. The number of issues of this journal is summarised in Table 1.

It can be observed that the journal is fast evolving and showing a rapid increase in its accessibility and circulation. Hence, we can observe an increase in the number of issues.

Tables 2 and 3 summarise the year-wise comparison of different sections of the journal. In Table 2, the data were subjected to the Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) analysis and it was observed that the mean number of articles was different for the original article, letter and review article section. In Table 3, the data were analysed using the *post hoc* analysis using the Tukey *post hoc* analysis. It was observed that in the year 2020, the mean of articles were

Table 1: Number of issues of J Family Med Prim Care from 2016 to 2020

Year	Issues
2016	4
2017	4
2018	6
2019	12
2020	12

Table 2: Year-wise comparison of different sections of the journal

	ANOVA				
	Sum of squares	df	Mean square	F	Sig.
Editorial					
Between Groups	0.180	4	0.045	0.574	0.683
Within Groups	2.583	33	0.078		
Total	2.763	37			
Original article					
Between Groups	8680.228	4	2170.057	7.385	0.000
Within Groups	9697.167	33	293.854		
Total	18377.395	37			
Case report					
Between Groups	110.425	4	27.606	0.679	0.611
Within Groups	1341.917	33	40.664		
Total	1452.342	37			
Letter to Editor					
Between Groups	190.868	4	47.717	3.547	0.016
Within Groups	444.000	33	13.455		
Total	634.868	37			
Commentary					
Between Groups	2.877	4	0.719	0.414	0.797
Within Groups	57.333	33	1.737		
Total	60.211	37			
Review article					
Between Groups	228.627	4	57.157	12.123	0.000
Within Groups	155.583	33	4.715		
Total	384.211	37			

Table 3: Year-wise multiple comparisons of different sections of the journal

Dependent variable	Multiple Comparisons						
	Tukey HSD						
	(I) year	(J) year	Mean difference (I-J)	Std. error	Sig.	95% Confidence Interval	
						Lower Bound	Upper Bound
Editorial	2016	2017	0.000	0.198	1.000	-0.57	0.57
		2018	0.000	0.181	1.000	-0.52	0.52
		2019	-0.167	0.162	0.839	-0.63	0.30
		2020	-0.083	0.162	0.985	-0.55	0.38
	2017	2016	0.000	0.198	1.000	-0.57	0.57
		2018	0.000	0.181	1.000	-0.52	0.52
		2019	-0.167	0.162	0.839	-0.63	0.30
		2020	-0.083	0.162	0.985	-0.55	0.38
	2018	2016	0.000	0.181	1.000	-0.52	0.52
		2017	0.000	0.181	1.000	-0.52	0.52
		2019	-0.167	0.140	0.756	-0.57	0.24
		2020	-0.083	0.140	0.975	-0.49	0.32
	2019	2016	0.167	0.162	0.839	-0.30	0.63
		2017	0.167	0.162	0.839	-0.30	0.63
		2018	0.167	0.140	0.756	-0.24	0.57
		2020	0.083	0.114	0.948	-0.25	0.41
	2020	2016	0.083	0.162	0.985	-0.38	0.55
		2017	0.083	0.162	0.985	-0.38	0.55
		2018	0.083	0.140	0.975	-0.32	0.49
		2019	-0.083	0.114	0.948	-0.41	0.25
Original article	2016	2017	-5.750	12.121	0.989	-40.71	29.21
		2018	-10.000	11.065	0.893	-41.92	21.92
		2019	-20.583	9.897	0.253	-49.13	7.96
		2020	-42.000*	9.897	0.001	-70.55	-13.45
	2017	2016	5.750	12.121	0.989	-29.21	40.71
		2018	-4.250	11.065	0.995	-36.17	27.67
		2019	-14.833	9.897	0.571	-43.38	13.71
		2020	-36.250*	9.897	0.007	-64.80	-7.70
	2018	2016	10.000	11.065	0.893	-21.92	41.92
		2017	4.250	11.065	0.995	-27.67	36.17
		2019	-10.583	8.571	0.731	-35.31	14.14
		2020	-32.000*	8.571	0.006	-56.72	-7.28
	2019	2016	20.583	9.897	0.253	-7.96	49.13
		2017	14.833	9.897	0.571	-13.71	43.38
		2018	10.583	8.571	0.731	-14.14	35.31
		2020	-21.417*	6.998	0.033	-41.60	-1.23
	2020	2016	42.000*	9.897	0.001	13.45	70.55
		2017	36.250*	9.897	0.007	7.70	64.80
		2018	32.000*	8.571	0.006	7.28	56.72
		2019	21.417*	6.998	0.033	1.23	41.60
Case report	2016	2017	3.250	4.509	0.950	-9.76	16.26
		2018	4.667	4.116	0.788	-7.21	16.54
		2019	2.417	3.682	0.964	-8.20	13.04
		2020	0.083	3.682	1.000	-10.54	10.70
	2017	2016	-3.250	4.509	0.950	-16.26	9.76
		2018	1.417	4.116	0.997	-10.46	13.29
		2019	-0.833	3.682	0.999	-11.45	9.79
		2020	-3.167	3.682	0.909	-13.79	7.45
	2018	2016	-4.667	4.116	0.788	-16.54	7.21
		2017	-1.417	4.116	0.997	-13.29	10.46
		2019	-2.250	3.188	0.954	-11.45	6.95
		2020	-4.583	3.188	0.609	-13.78	4.61
2019	2016	-2.417	3.682	0.964	-13.04	8.20	

Contd...

Table 3: Contd...

Multiple Comparisons							
Tukey HSD							
Dependent variable	(I) year	(J) year	Mean difference (I-J)	Std. error	Sig.	95% Confidence Interval	
						Lower Bound	Upper Bound
Letter	2020	2017	0.833	3.682	0.999	-9.79	11.45
		2018	2.250	3.188	0.954	-6.95	11.45
		2020	-2.333	2.603	0.896	-9.84	5.18
		2016	-0.083	3.682	1.000	-10.70	10.54
		2017	3.167	3.682	0.909	-7.45	13.79
		2018	4.583	3.188	0.609	-4.61	13.78
	2016	2019	2.333	2.603	0.896	-5.18	9.84
		2017	3.500	2.594	0.663	-3.98	10.98
		2018	2.917	2.368	0.733	-3.91	9.75
		2019	4.417	2.118	0.250	-1.69	10.52
		2020	-0.750	2.118	0.996	-6.86	5.36
		2017	-3.500	2.594	0.663	-10.98	3.98
	2017	2018	-0.583	2.368	0.999	-7.41	6.25
		2019	0.917	2.118	0.992	-5.19	7.02
		2020	-4.250	2.118	0.285	-10.36	1.86
		2016	-2.917	2.368	0.733	-9.75	3.91
		2017	0.583	2.368	0.999	-6.25	7.41
		2019	1.500	1.834	0.923	-3.79	6.79
	2018	2020	-3.667	1.834	0.289	-8.96	1.62
		2016	-4.417	2.118	0.250	-10.52	1.69
		2017	-0.917	2.118	0.992	-7.02	5.19
		2018	-1.500	1.834	0.923	-6.79	3.79
		2020	-5.167*	1.497	0.013	-9.49	-0.85
		2016	0.750	2.118	0.996	-5.36	6.86
Commentary	2020	2017	4.250	2.118	0.285	-1.86	10.36
		2018	3.667	1.834	0.289	-1.62	8.96
		2019	5.167*	1.497	0.013	0.85	9.49
		2016	-0.750	0.932	0.927	-3.44	1.94
		2018	0.000	0.851	1.000	-2.45	2.45
		2019	-0.167	0.761	0.999	-2.36	2.03
	2016	2020	-0.583	0.761	0.938	-2.78	1.61
		2017	0.750	0.932	0.927	-1.94	3.44
		2018	0.750	0.851	0.902	-1.70	3.20
		2019	0.583	0.761	0.938	-1.61	2.78
		2020	0.167	0.761	0.999	-2.03	2.36
		2017	0.000	0.851	1.000	-2.45	2.45
	2017	2018	-0.750	0.851	0.902	-3.20	1.70
		2019	-0.167	0.659	0.999	-2.07	1.73
		2020	-0.583	0.659	0.900	-2.48	1.32
		2016	0.167	0.761	0.999	-2.03	2.36
		2017	-0.583	0.761	0.938	-2.78	1.61
		2018	0.167	0.659	0.999	-1.73	2.07
	2018	2020	-0.417	0.538	0.936	-1.97	1.14
		2016	0.583	0.761	0.938	-1.61	2.78
		2017	-0.167	0.761	0.999	-2.36	2.03
		2018	0.583	0.659	0.900	-1.32	2.48
		2019	0.417	0.538	0.936	-1.14	1.97
		2016	2.000	1.535	0.691	-2.43	6.43
Review article	2016	2017	1.417	1.402	0.849	-2.63	5.46
		2018	-0.250	1.254	1.000	-3.87	3.37
		2019	-4.500*	1.254	0.009	-8.12	-0.88
		2020	-2.000	1.535	0.691	-6.43	2.43
	2017	2016	-2.000	1.535	0.691	-6.43	2.43
		2018	-0.583	1.402	0.993	-4.63	3.46

Contd...

Table 3: Contd...

Dependent variable	(I) year	(J) year	Mean difference (I-J)	Std. error	Sig.	95% Confidence Interval	
						Lower Bound	Upper Bound
						Tukey HSD	
		2019	-2.250	1.254	0.394	-5.87	1.37
		2020	-6.500*	1.254	0.000	-10.12	-2.88
	2018	2016	-1.417	1.402	0.849	-5.46	2.63
		2017	0.583	1.402	0.993	-3.46	4.63
		2019	-1.667	1.086	0.548	-4.80	1.46
		2020	-5.917*	1.086	0.000	-9.05	-2.79
	2019	2016	0.250	1.254	1.000	-3.37	3.87
		2017	2.250	1.254	0.394	-1.37	5.87
		2018	1.667	1.086	0.548	-1.46	4.80
		2020	-4.250*	0.886	0.000	-6.81	-1.69
	2020	2016	4.500*	1.254	0.009	0.88	8.12
		2017	6.500*	1.254	0.000	2.88	10.12
		2018	5.917*	1.086	0.000	2.79	9.05
		2019	4.250*	0.886	0.000	1.69	6.81

*The mean difference is significant at the 0.05 level.

Table 4: Issue-wise comparison of different sections of the journal

ANOVA					
	Sum of squares	df	Mean square	F	Sig.
Editorial					
Between Groups	1.096	11	0.100	1.555	0.172
Within Groups	1.667	26	0.064		
Total	2.763	37			
Original article					
Between Groups	5219.528	11	474.503	0.938	0.522
Within Groups	13157.867	26	506.072		
Total	18377.395	37			
Case report					
Between Groups	635.809	11	57.801	1.840	0.098
Within Groups	816.533	26	31.405		
Total	1452.342	37			
Letter					
Between Groups	185.802	11	16.891	0.978	0.490
Within Groups	449.067	26	17.272		
Total	634.868	37			
Commentary					
Between Groups	23.344	11	2.122	1.497	0.192
Within Groups	36.867	26	1.418		
Total	60.211	37			
Review article					
Between Groups	125.244	11	11.386	1.143	0.370
Within Groups	258.967	26	9.960		
Total	384.211	37			

statistically higher from the previous years in the case of the original article, letter and review article section.

Table 4 shows the issue-wise comparison of different sections of the journal. It was observed that the composition of all the issues was the same, that is, the weightage to each section was kept in all the issues. Table 5 shows the speciality-wise representation of

the articles in the *J Family Med Prim Care*. A total of 2,426 research articles, case reports and review articles were published between 2016 and 2020. It was seen that although most of the specialities were included in this multispecialty journal yet Preventive and Social Medicine (22.42%) and General Medicine (23.12%) had the maximum articles.

Tables 6 and 7 summarise the state-wise and nation-wise representation of the articles in the *J Family Med Prim Care*. It was observed that between 2016 and 2020, Delhi, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh had maximum publications at 10.68, 9.78 and 8.70%, respectively, while amongst the nations after India, Saudi Arabia had the maximum contribution through the manuscript at 12%. India contributed 68.67% of the total manuscripts.

The citations per year are tabulated in Table 8. It was observed that this journal had significant citations per year in relation to research, review and case reports. In the year 2020, a few articles related to the COVID pandemic were published in the journal which is summarised in Table 9.

Discussion

In today's era, scientific journals play an important role in providing scientific information to health care professionals. A bibliometric analysis of medical journals is of utmost importance to evaluate the published data and the provided information. It is an important tool to assess the scientific activities published in medical journals. This analysis aids in the consolidation of scientific knowledge and helps in the proper answering of professional questions.^[12-15] It remains one of the key tools to assess the scientific activities published in medical journals.^[14] Bibliometric studies have helped in the betterment of medical and allied specialities.^[16]

Table 5: Speciality-wise representation of articles

Speciality/Subject/Department	Number of articles	Percentage
Anaesthesia	11	0.45%
Anatomy	8	0.32%
Assessment and Evaluation	1	0.04%
Ayurveda	2	0.08%
Academic Affairs	1	0.04%
Advance Research	1	0.04%
Biochemistry	21	0.86%
Biostatistics	5	0.20%
Behavioural Sciences	1	0.04%
Biotherapeutics	1	0.04%
Biotechnology	2	0.08%
Blood Transfusion	1	0.04%
Business Management	1	0.04%
Biomedical Sciences	2	0.08%
Chest and TB	8	0.32%
Conservative Dentistry and Endodontics	13	0.53%
Critical Care	1	0.04%
Cardiology	34	1.40%
Clinical Sciences	3	0.12%
Community Health and Primary Care	5	0.20%
Dermatology	11	0.45%
Distance Education	2	0.08%
Dentistry	24	0.98%
Endocrinology	25	1.03%
Epidemiology	4	0.16%
FMT	8	0.32%
Food Hygiene	2	0.08%
Gastroenterology	18	0.74%
Gynaecology	70	2.88%
Geriatrics	3	0.12%
Health System Studies	4	0.16%
Health Services and Policy Management	3	0.12%
Health Sciences	1	0.04%
Haematology	2	0.08%
Health and Family Welfare	5	0.20%
Health and Infection Management	5	0.20%
Health Infotech	1	0.04%
Hospital Administration	2	0.08%
Healthcare Communication	1	0.04%
Health Education and Promotion	2	0.08%
Health Information Management	1	0.04%
Health Research	1	0.04%
Immunisation and Vaccine Development	1	0.04%
Infectious Diseases	2	0.08%
ICMR	6	0.24%
IIT	1	0.04%
IIM	1	0.04%
Iranian Centre of Ageing	1	0.04%
Integrated Kampo Medicine	1	0.04%
Japanese Oriental Medicine	1	0.04%
Kayachikitsa	1	0.04%
Laboratory Medicine	1	0.04%
Medicine	561	23.12%
Microbiology	63	2.59%
Medical Education	4	0.16%

Contd...

Table 5: Contd...

Speciality/Subject/Department	Number of articles	Percentage
Management Sciences	1	0.04%
Medical Sciences and Scientific Affairs	2	0.08%
Maternal and Child Health	1	0.04%
Mental Health Education	1	0.04%
Medical and Technological Sciences	1	0.04%
Ministry of Health	2	0.08%
Medical Informatics	1	0.04%
Medical Ethics	1	0.04%
Nutrition	7	0.28%
Nephrology	7	0.28%
Nursing and Midwifery	96	3.95%
Neurology	20	0.82%
Neurophysiology	1	0.04%
Non-Communicable Diseases	2	0.08%
Neonatology	1	0.04%
Oral Medicine and Radiology	43	1.77%
Orthopaedics	19	0.78%
Otorhinolaryngology	19	0.78%
Optometry	1	0.04%
Ophthalmology	16	0.65%
Oral Surgery	18	0.74%
Oral Pathology	22	0.90%
Oncology	12	0.49%
Orthodontics	18	0.74%
Periodontics	34	1.40%
Paraclinical Sciences	2	0.08%
Pathology	34	1.40%
Prosthodontics	24	0.98%
Physiotherapy	18	0.74%
Preventive and Social Medicine	544	22.42%
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	1	0.04%
Psychiatry	49	2.01%
Paediatrics	91	3.75%
Public Health Dentistry	58	2.39%
Pharmacology	44	1.81%
Plastic Surgery	7	0.28%
Physiology	33	1.36%
Pulmonology	7	0.28%
Pedodontics	31	1.27%
Psychology	7	0.28%
Public Health	13	0.53%
Preventive Dentistry	3	0.12%
Primary Health Care	3	0.12%
Restorative Dental Sciences	7	0.28%
Rheumatology	6	0.24%
Radiology	41	1.69%
Regional Remote Sensing Centre	1	0.04%
Research Studies	10	0.41%
Radiotherapy	1	0.04%
Surgery	51	2.10%
Social Sciences	1	0.04%
Sports Medicine	1	0.04%
Social and Environmental Health Research	3	0.12%
Scientific Research	2	0.08%
Science and Technology	1	0.04%

Contd...

Table 5: Contd...

Speciality/Subject/Department	Number of articles	Percentage
State Health System Resource Centre	1	0.04%
Scientific Services	1	0.04%
Sleep Medicine	2	0.08%
Trauma	6	0.24%
Urology	9	0.37%
Zoology	1	0.04%
Total	2426	

Table 6: State-wise representation of publications

State/UT	Published Articles	Percentage
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4	0.24%
Andhra Pradesh	32	1.92%
Assam	5	0.30%
Arunachal Pradesh	2	0.12%
Bihar	42	2.52%
Chandigarh	33	1.98%
Chhattisgarh	27	1.62%
Delhi	178	10.68%
Gujarat	55	3.30%
Haryana	59	3.54%
Himachal Pradesh	18	1.08%
Jammu and Kashmir	28	1.68%
Jharkhand	60	3.60%
Kerala	76	4.56%
Karnataka	95	5.70%
Madhya Pradesh	58	3.48%
Maharashtra	120	7.20%
Meghalaya	27	1.62%
Manipur	1	0.06%
Nagaland	1	0.06%
Odisha	57	3.42%
Puducherry	53	3.18%
Punjab	32	1.92%
Rajasthan	82	4.92%
Sikkim	4	0.24%
Tamil Nadu	163	9.78%
Telangana	22	1.32%
Tripura	4	0.24%
Uttarakhand	117	7.02%
Uttar Pradesh	145	8.70%
West Bengal	66	3.96%
Total	1666	

Table 7: Nation-wise representation of publication

Nation	Published Articles	Percentage
Australia	2	0.08%
Argentina	1	0.04%
Angola	1	0.04%
Belgium	1	0.04%
Brazil	2	0.08%
Bangladesh	3	0.12%
China	6	0.24%
Czech Republic	1	0.04%

Contd...

Table 7: Contd...

Nation	Published Articles	Percentage
Canada	4	0.16%
Congo	1	0.04%
Ethiopia	2	0.08%
Egypt	10	0.41%
Finland	1	0.04%
Germany	2	0.08%
Greece	3	0.12%
Indonesia	2	0.08%
India	1666	68.67%
Iraq	7	0.28%
Iran	216	8.90%
Italy	2	0.08%
Japan	9	0.37%
Jordan	1	0.04%
Jamaica	1	0.04%
Kazakhstan	2	0.08%
Kuwait	8	0.32%
Lebanon	3	0.12%
Mexico	1	0.04%
Malta	1	0.04%
Morocco	1	0.04%
Maldives	1	0.04%
Malaysia	5	0.20%
Nigeria	30	1.23%
Nepal	9	0.37%
Pakistan	7	0.28%
Portugal	1	0.04%
Qatar	4	0.16%
Singapore	1	0.04%
Spain	1	0.04%
Sri Lanka	7	0.28%
Saudi Arabia	301	12.40%
South Korea	1	0.04%
Somalia	2	0.08%
Sudan	11	0.45%
Thailand	2	0.08%
Trinidad and Tobago	5	0.20%
Turkey	12	0.49%
USA	43	1.77%
UAE	9	0.37%
UK	12	0.49%
Uganda	1	0.04%
West Indies	1	0.04%
Total	2426	

Very limited bibliometric studies have been conducted in the past in India to explore the importance of the scientific journal and there is a lot of scope to provide dynamic input for improving the research activities.

We conducted a five-year bibliometric analysis of *J Family Med Prim Care* from 2016 to 2020. No such analysis of the respective journal has been conducted in past. In the present study, it was observed that the original articles were given sufficient weightage in the *J Family Med Prim Care*, which coincides with various bibliometric studies.^[10,12-15] Every

Table 8: Total number of citations per year

Year	Original article	Review article	Case reports
2016	329	102	64
2017	223	21	29
2018	348	36	20
2019	614	137	44
2020	115	42	8

Table 9: COVID-related articles

Type of article	n	%
Original article on COVID-19	23	35.38%
Commentaries on COVID-19	10	15.38%
Reviews on COVID-19	27	41.53%
Case reports on COVID-19	5	7.69%

scientific journal aims to prioritise and disseminate the results of research as it aims to improve the quality of service imparted to the patients.

The number of issues in a scientific journal reflects its research capacity by demonstrating the number of papers published over a fixed time.^[17] Data from the present bibliometric study have revealed that the issue numbers, as well as published articles, have been gradually increased for the *J Family Med Prim Care* showing an increasing interest of health professionals in research work. Our findings are in accordance with the work done by Rao *et al.*,^[18] Mishra *et al.*^[19] and Jain *et al.*^[20]

In our study, the articles had ample citation rates between 2016 and 2020, thereby, proving their widespread circulation and acceptance in the medical fraternity. Moreover, in 2020, when the COVID pandemic was at its peak, the *J Family Med Prim Care* had ample articles to provide us with vital information about this new and unknown disease. Sixty-five articles regarding COVID were published alone in the year 2020.

Our study showed that amongst specialities, Preventive and Social Medicine (22.42%) and General Medicine (23.12%) had the maximum articles. The results of our study were in accordance with the works of Ibrahim *et al.*^[21] and Ullah *et al.*^[22] Our study also showed that the *J Family Med Prim Care* is a reputed journal of international acceptance where most of the countries published articles.

Conclusion

Within the limitations of this study, it can be concluded that the journal gave equal weightage to all types of articles. It was also observed that although a majority of the countries contributed manuscripts to the journal yet India had more than 50% of the publications. Preventive and Social Medicine and General Medicine had the maximum articles. It had 65 publications in 2020 about the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since its inception in 2012, the *J Family Med Prim Care* has provided a quick retrieval of publications which are useful in

answering several clinical questions. This multispecialty journal has inspired researchers and academicians to actively participate in research and share their results for clinical implementation. The *J Family Med Prim Care* has shown a positive increase in productivity.

The *J Family Med Prim Care* is comparable to any research journal in all aspects as it aims to provide a bridge to the researchers for the betterment of the patients. This journal has a vast potential to influence the research circle in the future.

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Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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