

Review of: "Bibliometric analysis and current status of Leishmaniasis research indexed in Scopus, 2010 -2023"

Mario D'Incau¹

¹ Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Lombardia e dell'Emilia Romagna "Bruno Ubertini"

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The paper has the aim to analyse, by bibliometry, the status of the research on leishmaniasis and, particularly, research themes, and future trends.

The abstract explains the goal of the research and some of the main findings.

The title recalls the aim of the study, and the references are partially recent.

The introduction briefly summarizes the current general knowledge about the disease: it is supported by a number of references giving a general overview of what is known about the topic.

The authors clearly define the purpose of the research when they state that their objective is to analyse the main statistical characteristics and cooperation networks in leishmaniasis research, considering that, at the moment, network mapping among authors, organizational affiliations, and countries is still pending.

Considering that the article is based on bibliometric analysis, the authors report and describe the data source (Scopus), the search strategies, and the data analysis. The research includes a wide range of sources, and it evaluates what is present in terms of research and knowledge on leishmaniasis. Epidemiological data on a global overview is also considered.

Where the authors state "Data analysis during screening limited time span to include the years, which contained at least 30 articles perform statistics like the average citation per item in the past two decades," they should explain better what they mean and what they did.

The data are presented appropriately: figures are clear, with titles labelled correctly and clearly. The text summarizes briefly the contents of the tables but is not repetitive.

There are some minor mistakes (inconsistency between text and figures/tables):

- 1) page 8/32: figure 3 is cited but actually the text refers to table 1;
- 2) page 13/32: table 2 caption: 2000 is actually 2010;
- 3) page 18/32: where figures of used keywords are cited, cluster 5 has got 5 keywords and not 4 as indicated;
- 4) page 19/32 (author analysis): Jr. probably is not an author: check this data. There are also citation mistakes: "Sundar S.; and Saudagar., Chakravarty J." should actually be "Sundar S.; Chakravarty J. and Sasidharan S.; Saudagar P.";
- 5) page 23/32: "India (2), Switzerland (3)". Invert the order.

The discussion effectively gives the essential findings of the study and provides the main implications for Leishmaniasis

research and global health. In particular, it points out the growing interest in leishmaniasis research and, through the analysis of the keywords, try to understand which are the current trends and relationship among topics in leishmaniasis research.

An interesting part is dedicated to the cooperation between different geographical regions: this topic deserve to be explored further, but the authors are aware of the limit of their study when they state that it has not been possible to evaluate documents resulted from international collaborations.

Overall strengths of the article:

1. Large number of publications included in the study
2. Use of effective tools for the analysis

Minor points:

1. Page 4/32, line 3: missed bracket after “Europe”
2. Page 5/32, line 10: “were retrieved” is repeated
3. Page 12/32, last line: maybe the sentence should be corrected as “[...] Tunisia, Cyprus, Sudan and Nepal. (full stop missed in original) Tunisia, Ethiopia, Sudan and Kenya were the most productive calculating the ratio of [...]”
4. Page 19/32, last line: “[...] research (Figure 9). While [...] has to be changed in “[...] research (Figure 9) while [...]”
5. Page 25/32, lines 2 and 4: add references
6. Page 25/35, line 12: “constitutes” has to be changed in “constituents”
7. Page 27/32, line 13: “Institute of Tropical Medicine (Belgium)” is repeated
8. Reference 54 is the same as reference 53