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Letter

Citation classics and top-cited authors of psoriasis in five high-impact general medical journals, 1970-2012

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Abstract

Psoriasis is a relevant topic for publication in general medical journals. We conducted a search of the Thomson Reuters' Science Citation using the search term of "psoriasis" in five high-impact general medical journals. All citation classics from 1970 to 2012 were included and each author's total number of citations was summated. A total of 51 citation classics were collected. The most common topic of publication was psoriasis treatment (37), especially biologic agents (16). A total of 1037 authors of psoriasis articles were identified in our study and the top 25 most-cited authors were compiled. We hope our citation analysis provides a historical perspective and highlights the work of our colleagues and predecessors.

II. Introduction

It is estimated that 60% of cutaneous diagnoses are made by non-dermatologists [1]. With a prevalence of 2-3%, psoriasis is one skin disease likely to be encountered by family practitioners and internists [2]. In general medicine, the five high-impact journals (*New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM)*, *The Lancet*, the *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)*, *British Medical Journal*, and *Annals of Internal Medicine*) are considered to be preeminent. We performed a citation analysis of psoriasis articles published in these journals, with the hope of highlighting the citation classics and top-cited authors of psoriasis from 1970 to 2012.

III. Methods

We conducted a search of the Science Citation Index from 1970 to 2012, evaluating the five high-impact general medical journals. Our search was limited to the subject category of "psoriasis." Every article that had 100 or more citations, considered citation classics, was reviewed by two independent investigators and included if the topic of psoriasis was met. The citation classics were further analyzed for the first author's country and institution of origin, study type, and study topic. For every author of each article published between 1970 and 2012, the number of citations was recorded and the sum was calculated to reveal the authors' total number of citations.

IV. Results

Austria	Universität Innsbruck	1
	TOTAL	1
Canada	Probity Medical Research, Inc.	1
	TOTAL	1
Denmark	Marselisborg Hospital	1
	TOTAL	1
Finland	National Public Health Institute	1
	TOTAL	1
France	Hôpital Edouard Herriot	1
	TOTAL	1
Germany	University of Würzburg	1
	University of Munich	1
	University of Ulm	1
	TOTAL	3
Netherlands	University of Amsterdam	1
	TOTAL	1
North Ireland	Royal Victoria Hospital	1
	TOTAL	1
Switzerland	University Hospital Basel	1
	TOTAL	1
United Kingdom	Guy's Hospital	1
	King's College London	1
	Royal Hallamshire Hospital	1
	Royal Victoria Infirmary	3
	St. John's Hospital	1
	St. Mary's Hospital	1
	St. Thomas' Hospital	1
	University of Manchester	4
	Westminster Hospital	1
	TOTAL	14
United States	Duke University	2
	Harvard University	6
	Loyola University	1
	Marquette University	1
	Minor & James Medical	1
	Mount Sinai School of Medicine	2
	Northwestern University	2
	Tufts University	1
	University of California at Los Angeles	1
	University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey	2
	University of Michigan	2
	University of Pennsylvania	1
	University of Texas	2
University of Utah	2	
TOTAL	26	

Table 1. Country and institution of origin for citation classics in psoriasis from five high-impact general medical journals

A total of 51 citation classics in psoriasis were collected. Most of the articles were original articles (35), followed by review articles (7), letters to the editor (6), and case reports (3). The most common topic of publication was psoriasis treatment (37), with biologic agents the leading focus (16). Twenty-two of the citation classics were published in *The Lancet*, 20 in *NEJM*, 5 in *BMJ*, 4 in *JAMA*, and 0 in *Annals of Internal Medicine*. The majority of the citation classics (26) were published in the United States, with Harvard University producing 5 of these articles. The United Kingdom produced 14 of the citation classics, four from the University of Manchester and 3 from the Royal Victoria Infirmary.

Author	Total Citations
Lebwohl, MG*	1847
Parrish, JA*	1820
Guzzo, CA	1725
Dooley, LT	1722
Fitzpatrick, TB	1697
Gottlieb, AB	1645
Leonardi, CL*	1610
Papp, KA*	1600
Kreuger, GG*	1593
Gordon, KB*	1396
Li, S	1361
Menter, A	1335
Goffe, BS*	1317
Stern, RS*	1302
Yeilding, N	1202
Pathak, MA	1158
Tanenbaum, L	1158
Ellis, CN	1127
Griffiths, CE*	1061
Wang, Y	1010
Barker, JN	957
Kimball, AB	913
Wang, A	821
Zitnik, R	821
Langley, RG	818
* Top 25 most cited as first authors	

Table 2. Top 25 most-cited authors of psoriasis articles in five high-impact general medical journals

We identified a total of 1037 authors of psoriasis articles in our study. The top 25 most-cited authors are listed. We also separately analyzed the number of citations received as a first author. Of the top 25 most-cited authors, these 9 authors were also in the top 25 most-cited first authors: Lebwohl MG, Parrish JA, Leonardi CL, Papp KA, Kreuger GG, Gordon KB, Goffe BS, Stern RS, and Griffiths CE.

V. Conclusions

Citation analysis provides a method of determining the impact of an article on the scientific community. We performed a citation analysis of psoriasis articles published in five high-impact general medical journals from 1970 to 2012. It is not surprising that the majority of citation classics were original articles, contributing novel information to the field. The most common topic was psoriasis therapy, in particular, biologic agents. The 21st century has seen a surge in research into biologic agents; they have demonstrated remarkable efficacy in the treatment of psoriasis [3,4]. Most of the citation classics were published in the premier institutions of the United States and United Kingdom. Finally, as noted by Dubin et al. [5], another purpose of citation analysis is to highlight the work of colleagues and predecessors, which we hope was achieved through the recognition of the most-cited authors in our study. We acknowledge that our search term of “psoriasis” may have been limiting, but we believe it is unlikely that we neglected any citation classics or highly cited authors.

VI. References

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