

Appendix A

The bibliometric analysis was carried out by conducting a detailed search in the Scopus database. Scopus database is the most widely used for carrying out bibliometric analysis which provides a broader scope, provides citation dataset, and a broad range of citation metrics. The dataset is downloaded in BibTeX format which is the suitable format to carry out bibliometric analysis in the Biblioshiny Web-based tool.

The most influential or impactful authors are determined by analyzing the h-index, g-index, and m-index. The author's h-index means that an index of "h" has written "h" papers, each of which has cited at least "h" times. This helps to assess the author's productivity and influence of their citation.^[8] In case of a g-index, the highly cited publication is given more weight.^[9] The m-index is the ratio of the h-index and duration of the active period of an author. It helps to determine the duration of the career of an author.^[8]

Lotka's law was given by Alfred Lotka in the year 1926. This law indicates the number of publications by the authors in the given field. It simply states that "the number (of authors) making "n" contributions are about $1/n^2$ of those making one and the proportion of all contributors making a single contribution. This helps us to understand the skewed nature of the distribution of data based on academic disciplines. This generally suggests that only a small proportion of authors are responsible for as many publications in any given affiliation or any discipline.^[10]

Appendix B

The bibliometric data analysis was carried out for all the articles in this journal published between the years 1941 and 2024. Significant growth in the publications was seen over the period. The mean total citation per article was 39.95 in the year 2002 followed by 35.37 in the year 2007. This helps us to understand the journal's quality rather than quantity [Table S2, Figure 1a and Figure 2a].

Appendix C

In bibliometric analysis, locally cited articles indicate that articles were published in a particular journal which is mostly cited by the authors of that respective journal. This helps us to understand the relationship between literature works and how knowledge flows within the respective domain. Globally cited articles indicate the most cited works in the broader scientific literature beyond the analyzed dataset [Tables S8 and S9]. Most cited reference means that a particular publication has received a greater number of citations which helps understand the most impactful domain among the study being analyzed.^[19]

Appendix D

The three-field plot or Sankey's plot represents the association between authors, affiliated institute, and keywords [Figure S4]. The Sankey's plot consists of rectangles of different heights and various colors which is used to depict the relevant elements in the diagram. This helps us to understand the flow of information between the set of numbers which is shown as the thickness of connections.^[20]

Appendix E

The network map of keywords shows the co-occurrence of terms. The Nodes (circles) represent the keywords or terms that were extracted from the dataset. The size of the node shows the frequency of occurrence of that keyword. If the nodes are larger, it corresponds to the most frequently occurring terms. The lines between the nodes show its co-occurrence relationship which means how often the two keywords occur together in the same publications. The thicker the line indicates how stronger the relationship between the co-occurring keywords. The different color-coded clusters represent the different research themes in the dataset pertaining to the journal [Figure S6].

Appendix F

The thematic map is divided into four quadrants. The upper right quadrant is known as motor themes which represents the journal's fundamental area of research. The basic themes (lower right quadrant) indicate the broader range of research which is based on the motor themes which is beyond the focus area but still contributes to the existing knowledge. The specialized/niche theme (upper-left quadrant) is a unique area of research areas which shows the narrow topic that has its origin in the basic themes. This significantly highlights the research areas where the research efforts have been concentrated. The emerging or declining themes (lower-left quadrant) represent the area of research that is gaining importance or trends in declining interest in the particular topic. It includes topics that range from the most innovative topics to previously popular and extensively researched topics, but there was a decline in research and interest [Figure 5b].

The topic dendrogram is a hierarchical clustering of topics that is used to identify the relationship between keywords, documents, or researched topics. The dendrogram is a visual representation of how different keywords are related to a particular area of research based on their co-occurrence. The horizontal labels in red (x-axis) show the keywords that are being analyzed. The height of branches (y-axis) represents the distance between the clusters. If the height is lower and appears close, it means that the grouped items show stronger association between one another. The leftmost clusters with keywords such as "public health services," "dental care," and "preventive dentistry" indicate that this group mainly focuses on public health-related research works. The middle cluster contains keywords such as "dental procedures," "health care delivery," and "dentists" which indicates that the topic is on human health and dentistry. The rightmost cluster contains keywords such as "fluoride," "fluoridation," and "health survey." This indicates its focus on dental caries prevention [Figure S7].