



Leaning in the Publishing of Articles in Scientific Journals during the COVID-19 Pandemic

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Scientific papers are valuable sources of information for scientific study. Apart from the main text, their content holds a notable amount of information. Recently, COVID-19 and related papers have attracted much attention between academic researchers, non-academic people, and diverse social media. These papers can reveal different aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Publication criteria are changing rapidly for science-related coronavirus pandemic, as scientists worldwide conduct research at breakneck speeds to tackle this pandemic(1). During the last pandemic, we dived into the scientific literature to reflect on the COVID-19 pandemic. Researchers have created so much about COVID-19 related information that has been necessary for public health responses and the speedy development of therapeutic protocols and effective vaccines(2). To date, different therapeutic theories have been presented for treating and preventing COVID-19(3–6). However, the COVID-19 pandemic has severely discouraged people's lifestyle and economic situation. Therefore, many people, including lawmakers and directors from different agencies, have turned to the scientific society for answers regarding

actions that need to be taken to control and treat the COVID-19(2). Nevertheless, many scientific studies published concerning the COVID-19; even those reported by prestigious journals fall short on experimental evidence to support their conclusions. Tremendous pressure existed to immediately know more about COVID-19 and how to stop this pandemic. Hence, the aforementioned situation created a unique atmosphere that led editors and reviewers to accept manuscripts that would have never been considered for publication under different conditions. During this pandemic, the piece of unreliable information was reported in journal papers. Some of these journals are prestigious with considerable scientific impact factors. However, publishing this erroneous information was a negative point for these journals and their authors. Still, this erroneous information compared to shared inaccurate information in different electronic media, primarily virtual media, was debatable and valuable. In virtual media, many fortune-tellers were reputed due to sharing different predictions of the future of this pandemic. Many virtual channels shared their false profitable information.

Understanding developing areas of a multidisciplinary research field is critical for managing the COVID-19 pandemic. After the emerging COVID-19 pandemic, many multidisciplinary researchers focused on COVID-19 treatment and its impositions. Different medicine and biotechnology branches are mobilized to provide the best therapeutic approach for treating COVID-19 patients. In addition to traditional protocols, modern emerging fields such as cell-based therapy and personalized medicine also entered into this area(7,8). Hence, many studies began, and then many papers published in this regard. However, it is often

difficult to understand their validity and efficacy with the vast amount of available online papers. This letter presents a brief analysis to interpret and visualize published papers related to COVID-19 during the last two years. Based on released information of the national center for biotechnology information (NCBI), 139114 journal manuscripts in Pub Med and 157482 journal manuscripts in PMC have been indexed (Figure-1)(9). Currently, the total number of published paper related to COVID-19 are increasing. However, publishing academic papers is one of the critical roles of academic societies that can present many advances in improving public health knowledge.

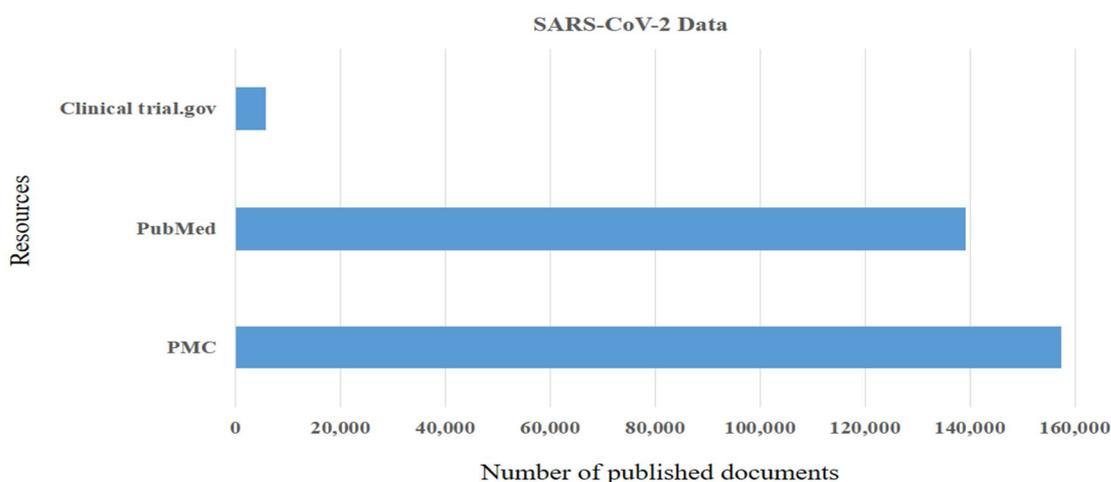


Fig 1: The chart of COVID-19 published data during the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic (to date: 5/30/2021)

Conflict of interest

The authors have no conflict of interest in this study.

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