Scientific evaluation on substance abuse research through Web of Science over the 2008-2012 period

David Melero-Fuentes\(^a\), Remedios Aguilar-Moya\(^b\), Juan-Carlos Valderrama-Zuríán\(^c\), Francisco Bueno-Cañigral\(^d\), Rafael Aleixandre-Benavent\(^e\), José-Carlos Pérez-de-los-Cobos\(^f\)

\(^a\) Instituto de Documentación y Tecnologías de la Información, Universidad Católica de Valencia “San Vicente Mártir”, Spain. \(^b\) Departamento de Ciencias de la Educación, Universidad Católica de Valencia “San Vicente Mártir”, Spain. \(^c\) Departamento de Historia de la Ciencia y Documentación, Universidad de Valencia, Valencia, Spain. \(^d\) Plan Municipal de Drogodependencias, Ayuntamiento de Valencia, Spain. \(^e\) Ingenio (CSIC-UPV), URV SYSTEM-Universidad de Valencia, Spain. \(^f\) Servicio de Psiquiatría, Hospital de la Santa Creu i Santa Pau, Spain.

Background

Identify and analyze scientific production and studied drugs on specific and not specific substance abuse journals.

Methods

Design of search strategy, treat the bibliographic information, classification of articles regard to drugs studied, bibliometric analysis, identify research groups altogether and by each drug studied was the method used.

Results

44,822 articles have been evaluated (Figure 1), the 26.88% have been published in journals (1.08%) of Web of Science (WoS) Category Substance Abuse (CSA), while the rest of works were published in 3,382 journals belonging to 95 WoS categories of Health Sciences and Social Sciences (Figure 2 and 3). The 67.02% of the articles only study 1 drug; while that alcohol, tobacco and cannabis, and on the other hand cocaine and amphetamines are the drugs most studied jointly (Figure 4). The 27% of the authors (n=35,223) have published more than 1 paper (Figure 5). Collaborations between 2 or more authors made up 95.18% of documents (Figure 6), with a collaboration index of 5.24.

Conclusions

A growth in productivity of scientific research on substance abuse has been identified. The most productive journals that do not belong to WoS CSA accumulate a 0.42% more of papers that these. The multidisciplinary character of this research field is reflected in the wide range of journals as well as the collaboration index and index of transient authors, as has been noted in other studies of Biomedicine and Social Sciences. Although USA, UK, Canada and Australia great producers dominate the consolidated research groups, main producers of not English speaking countries of European Union have the highest international collaboration indexes.

Conflict of interest: None of the authors have any conflicts of interest.

Supported by: Plan Municipal de Drogodependencias, Concejalía de Sanidad, Ayuntamiento de Valencia, Spain.

Presented by: Rafael Aleixandre-Benavent
Plaza Cisneros 4, 46003, Valencia, Spain
+34 96-392-6229
rafael.aleixandre@uv.es