



Scientometric Study of Diabetes Management by Traditional Herbal Medicines in the Middle East Countries

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::: Background

Prevalence of type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) is increasing worldwide. Traditional herbal medicine is suggested by WHO as accessible, safe, and low-cost option in management and care of diabetes.

::: Aims

The purpose of this bibliometric study is to assess the global scientific production analysis in field of traditional herbal medicines and T2DM in the Middle East countries.

::: Method

Some of search terms were “type 2 diabetes”, “herbs”, “traditional medicine”, in Scopus web database, limited in Middle East countries up to 17 April 2019. Our extracted data were publication year, main journal, geographical distribution, documents’ type, subject area, and h-index of citations. Data was analyzed using analysis tools provided by Scopus database, and SPSS version 11 software.

::: Results

Among 3018 global publications in studied field, more than 90% of the published papers were original articles. A significant time-trend was shown in number of papers ($P < 0.001$) with a highest number of productions in 2016 (383 papers). Subject areas in nearly

82% of papers were medicine followed by pharmacology. The first to third rank in number of publications in the region were belonged to Iran, Egypt and Turkey, respectively with 2506 papers (83% of total papers). The documents were cited totally 44178 times with average citation/article 14.64, and h-index 83. The highest cited paper (534 times) was a review articles from Iran entitled “A review on the role of antioxidants in the management of diabetes and its complications”. The first three top sources were “Journal of Ethnopharmacology”, “Phytotherapy Research” and “Biomedicine and Pharmacotherapy”. Among “key words”, the highest rates was observed for “oxidative stress”, antioxidants”, and “drug effect”.

::: Discussion

Good position of Middle-East countries in producing scientific publications for management of T2DM by herbal medicines especially by antioxidative herbal medicines would be helpful for researchers to conduct better researches and for policy makers to arrive at evidence-based decisions.

::: References

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