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Trends in Mental Health Research during Covid-19

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Abstract. In the course of the Covid-19 epidemic, over a thousand separate pieces of research on this subject have been published in scholarly journals. In light of this, the purpose of the current study was to review and analyze the publishing trends in mental health literature, including the most frequently cited documents, productive countries, institutions, journals, authorship and collaboration, the most frequently used keywords, and funding bodies. It was decided to conduct a bibliometric study, and data were obtained from the Scopus database. The relevant data was collected on November 31, 2022, and 330 relevant records were imported. Bibliometric software known as VOS viewer was utilized in order to conduct the data analysis. The majority of the publications published about mental health care and Covid-19 were in the fields of medicine and nursing, according to the research conducted as a whole. This study is the first bibliometric investigation of its kind to be conducted in the field of mental health treatment in relation to Covid-19.

Keywords: Covid-19, Mental Health, Resilience, Nursing, Psychology.

1 Introduction

The author has the chance to persuade the reader (including editors and reviewers) that the research that the author has mastered has relevance or adds to the subject of study when they write the introduction. The question "What do you/others do?" may be found in the introduction. Why on the 31st of December 2019, Chinese health authorities verified the outbreak of a new respiratory virus known as Covid-19, which is known to be particularly lethal. In the annals of the disease's documented past, this epidemic marked the commencement of the first known incidence of Covid-19 being spread from person to person [1]. Since that time, the sickness has spread to other regions all over the world. The migration of persons who were infected with Covid-19 was thought to be the cause of its propagation. In addition to having a terrible effect on people in the form of a high death rate, the pandemic has also created psychological turmoil and mental disaster on a global scale [2]. To some, "mental health" simply refers to the absence of mental illness. One key component of mental health that helps people weather difficult times is their capacity for meaningful social roles and relationships. Nevertheless, psychosis,

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eating disorders, self-harm, body-image issues, and poor health may all come from disturbances in these interdependencies [3]. Anxiety, depression, schizophrenia, stress, and eating disorders are just a few of the most often encountered mental health issues.

During a normal pandemic, the toll taken on people's psychological well-being is higher than that of the disease itself [4]. People who are infected or who are suspected of having the virus display extreme emotional and behavioral responses, including rage, fear, boredom, loneliness, anxiety, eating disorders, and sleeplessness [5]. Negative effects on the population mental health resulted from self-isolation, quarantine, and lockdowns [6]. Recent studies have indicated that being placed in quarantine may cause a range of negative feelings in people, including stress, melancholy, irritability, inability to sleep, worry, bewilderment, fury, aggravation, boredom, and stigma. Some of these feelings can persist even after the quarantine is lifted [7]. As a consequence of interactions with other individuals, such as those that take place at Wuhan, China's airports, restaurants, trains, and buses [8].

More individuals are likely to be impacted by issues with their mental health than their physical health pandemic or the infection itself [4]. People who have the virus or are believed to have the virus exhibit extreme emotional and behavioral responses, including rage, fear, and boredom problems with social isolation, anxiety, eating, and sleeping [5]. Recent studies have shown that being isolated can have a variety of negative effects on an individual's mental health, including stress, melancholy, irritability, inability to sleep, dread, perplexity, rage, annoyance, boredom, and stigma, some of which can persist even after the individual is no longer subjected to the quarantine [9], [10].

Little bibliometric research on mental health care was found among the over a thousand publications culled from the two primary databases used in the present investigation, Web of Science (WoS) and Scopus. Several synthesis studies were available, along with a literature data exploration [11], [12]. However, knowing the amount of mental health research, prolific authors, organizations, partnerships, and nations is crucial. Knowing which mental health subareas were researched is also important. Subareas are significant since Covid-19 may induce mental health concerns. This study will be used as a citation in future bibliometric studies of mental health care literature pertaining to Covid-19.

Considerations:

- a. Which countries and colleges are more productive?
- b. Which journals do Covid mental health researchers prefer?
- c. The purpose of this research is to provide an explanation for the first bibliometric inquiry of its sort to be carried out in the area of mental health therapy in connection with Covid-19.

2 Method

Bibliometric data were extracted from Scopus databases, the leading global database of peer-reviewed literature, in order to conduct research on the most recent trends and patterns in mental health research connected to the Covid-19 pandemic. This research

was done in order to study the most recent trends and patterns in mental health research connected to the pandemic.

The following search query was executed in the Scopus advanced search title and author keyword fields: nursing and research and covid 19 and mental and health. In a number of the tables' columns are abbreviations and keywords that are used in the process of data analysis. For example, "TP" stands for "total publication," "TC" stands for "total citation," "IF" stands for "impact factor," and "Q" stands for "journal quartile." The term "citation impact" refers to the typical number of times a work is cited by other researchers. In this study, the citation impact (CI) was computed by dividing the total number of publications by the total number of citations received for a given piece of research. This provides an indication of the typical number of citations that a certain article has received. The analysis of the data was carried out with the assistance of Microsoft Excel, VOSviewer, and Biblioshiny.

3 Result and Discussion

These records/articles were published by 330 journals, authored by 1805 writers connected with 1195 institutions across 74 countries, and distributed by 195 journals (Fig. 1). These papers were cited 330 times. 277 articles received 330 citations in 2022. This demonstrates that the pandemic of Covid-19 has received extraordinary attention from mental health researchers throughout the globe. Top ten highly publishing Countries and document type shown in Fig. 3 and Fig. 4.

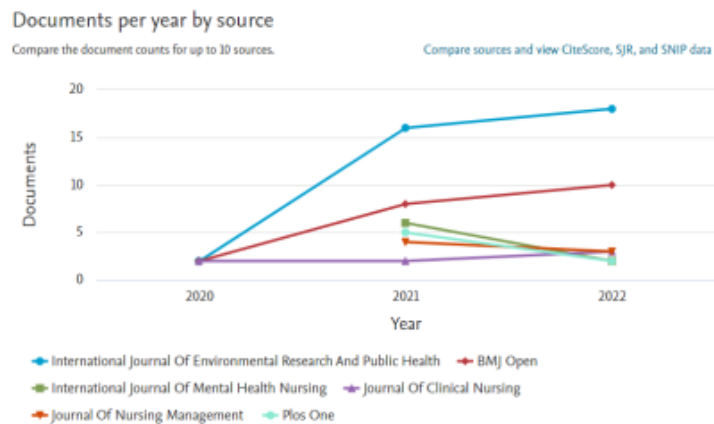


Fig. 1. Source impact

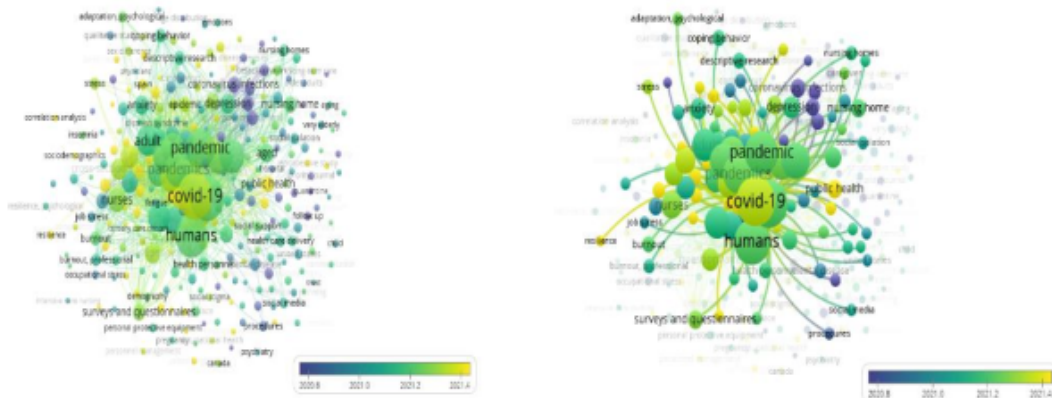


Fig. 2. The co-occurrence of author keywords (min. number of occurrences is 5)

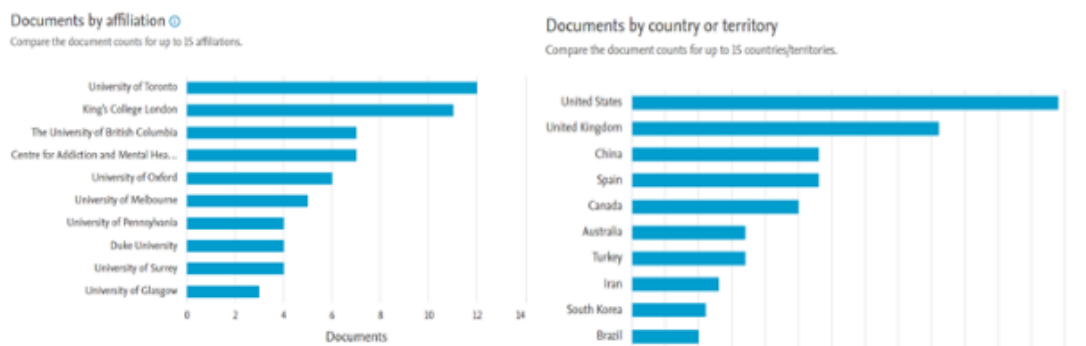


Fig. 3. Top ten highly publishing Countries

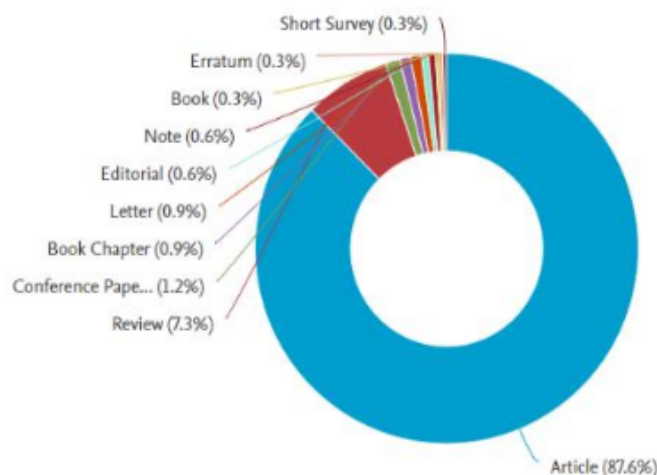


Fig. 4. Document type

3.1 Most productive countries and organizations

The top 10 most influential countries each contributed over 330 entries to the encyclopedia. The authors of each of these works exhibit a concern for the mental health of

persons during Covid-19 via their own works. Nonetheless, China is the most influential country and has the highest CI, despite the fact that the United States has the most publications among these articles (Citation Impact). The Huazhong University of Science and Technology in China holds the number one spot on the list of the top 10 most prolific companies. They have produced a total of 12 publications and have a Citation Impact of 4.42. It is possible that China's attitude might be attributed to the earliest outbreaks of the virus, which suggest a need for therapies and access to patient populations [13]. Similar to bibliometric analyses undertaken by Bonilla-Aldana [14], According to the findings of our investigation, the United States of America and China were the countries that made the most contributions to Covid-19-related research.

3.2 Influential Research Journals

Fig. 3. describes the top ten academic publications that concentrate on Covid patients' mental health. Fig. 2 describes a network showing the co-occurrence of author keywords (minimum number of occurrences: Five). More than five publications were published by five different journals, however only one journal produced more than 10 publications. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health (IF=2.849, Q1) beat out Brain, Behavior, and Immunity (IF=6.333, Q1) by 17 articles and more than 79 citations (Fig. 1). It is essential to take into account the fact that nine out of ten journals have an impact factor, with the middle two quartiles accounting for fifty percent of the total. Brain, Behavior, and Immunity is the publication with the greatest impact factor (6.333). The majority of the journals belonged to the United States (13), and United Kingdom (9), Brazil, and the South Korea each had two publications.

This highlights the importance of taking necessary precautions and adhering to safety guidelines to prevent the spread of Covid-19 [15]. It also emphasizes the impact that individual actions can have on not only personal health but also the health of others [17]. Additionally, women who are trying to conceive should avoid smoking or using nicotine products to ensure healthy oocyte maturation [16].

4 Conclusion

According to the findings of the study that was carried out in its entirety, the disciplines of medicine and nursing were responsible for the production of the vast majority of the papers that were written regarding mental health care and Covid-19. This examination is the first bibliometric inquiry of its sort to be carried out in the area of mental health therapy in regard to Covid-19, and it is the focus of this particular study.

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