

Research Article



Awareness among Indian Medical Professionals towards Scientific Publications in Indexed Journals - a Questionnaire Based Study

Harrita S*, Vishnu Priya V

Saveetha Dental College, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India.

*Corresponding author's E-mail: harritasivakumar19@gmail.com

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to evaluate the awareness among Indian medical professionals towards scientific publications in indexed journals. This study is done to evaluate and create awareness among medical professionals about scientific publications and concept of plagiarism through a framed questionnaire. Due to competitiveness and academic benefits most medical professionals feel the need to increase their publications. Thus this study was conducted to evaluate their awareness towards the same. Research publication and academic excellence go hand in hand. Thus this study aims to evaluate the awareness about scientific publications in indexed journals among Indian medical professionals.

Keywords: research, medical professionals, indexed journals.

INTRODUCTION

In order to promote research work and academic development, the medical council of India brought about the criteria to award specified points to Medical professionals based on the nature of their scientific publications. This has attracted the medical professionals toward free and fee charging journals since the number of scientific articles published by the medical professionals is an important criterion for promotion and salary increment. This might lead to unfair practices of publishing their works in various distinguished journals.¹⁻⁴ Thus this study aims to evaluate and create awareness among medical professionals towards publications of their work in an indexed journals through a framed questionnaire.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

This study was conducted with 100 medical professionals from various medical colleges in Chennai. The Designed

questionnaire was sent to the medical professionals directly or by mail using Google forms. They were requested to send the filled up questionnaire within 2 days. A questionnaire with close ended questions were created.

The questionnaire includes questions about the doctor's publication and their knowledge about plagiarism. The data collected was tabulated and subjected to statistical analysis using SPSS software.

RESULTS

The survey showed that about 83.3% doctors had only less than 10 publications and publication as main authors were comparatively very less. It would be better if doctors who look and treat patients involve more in research work and publish them which would ease the prognosis of the disease.

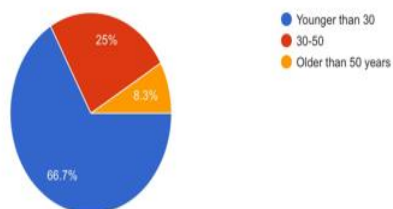
Table 1: Overall Results

S. No.	Question	Option	Percentage
1.	Age	Younger than 30 years	66.7%
		30-50 years	25%
		Older than 50 years	8.3%
2.	Qualification	MBBS	16.7%
		MD	41.7%
		MS	16.7%
		PhD	25%
3.	Total number of publication	Less than 10	83.3%
		10-40	-

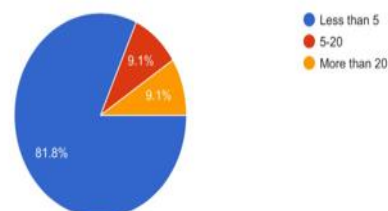


		More than 40	16.7%
4.	Publication as main author	Less than 5	81.8%
		5-20	9.1%
		More than 20	9.1%
		Less than 15	83.3%
5.	Publication as co-author	15-40	16.7%
		More than 40	-
		Less than 20	91.7%
6.	Number of article published in open access journals	More than 20	8.3%
		Less than 20	83.3%
7.	Number of article published in non-open access journals	More than 20	16.7%
		Self funding	58.3%
8.	What was your mode of payment in an open access journal	Funding agency	-
		Not applicable	41.7%
		Yes	75%
9.	Are you aware of plagiarism	No	25%
		Yes	58.3%
10.	Are you aware of the ethics of publication	No	41.7%
		Yes	91.7%
11.	Should publication be included as a criteria to evaluate students	No	8.3%

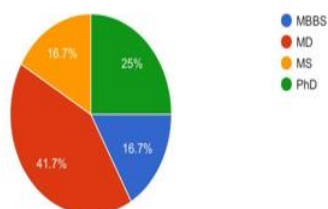
Age



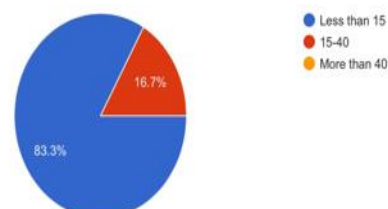
Publication as main author



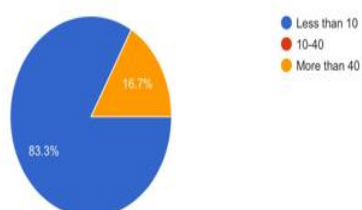
Qualification



Publications as co-author



Total number of publication



Number of articles published in open access journals

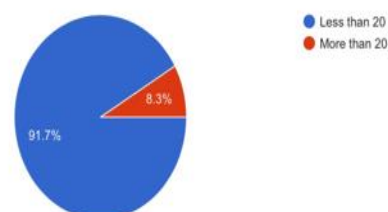
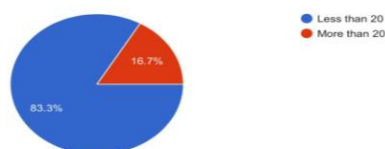


Image 1

Image 2

Number of articles published in non-open access journals

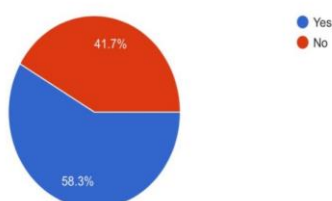


If you have published in non-open access journal, what was your mode of payment



Image 3

Are you aware of the ethics of publications?



Do you think publications must be included in academic as a criteria to evaluate the students?

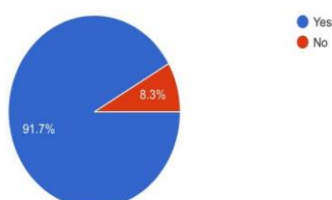


Image 4

DISCUSSION

Scientific Publications indicate the increase in knowledge and academic excellence of the doctors however they do to publish them for academic jobs and promotion.⁴

The study shows that the upcoming generation are more into scientific publication. The number of publications is less than 10 for many doctors and most doctors tend to be co-authors rather than main authors.

Also in a study conducted among dental professionals the number of dentist being main authors are less. This shows the need for doctors and dentist who are busy with their practice must spend some time on publishing their work to ease the prognosis of the treatment.

The quality of the journal is known from its indexation. Indexed journals may be more value the nonindexed journals.⁴⁻⁶

Also the author gets more points than the coauthor of a research work.^{4,7}

Some journals charge fee for the article to be published in their journals, there seems to be more submission of work in those journals in order to publish the works easily and quickly.

It is also seen that the number of publication increases with higher educational qualification.

CONCLUSION

The number of publications seems to increase with higher degree of medical professionals.

Knowledge and awareness about plagiarism must be increased and inclusion of research in academics has received a positive response.

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