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Introduction

The Indian Subcontinent countries included in this study were India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka, as other three countries of this region (Afghanistan, Bhutan, and Maldives) have made very small contributions. We have divided the above 5 coun- tries in two groups: “India” and four “Select Indian Sub- continent countries” (Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka). Since India's contribution is much higher than the combined output of other four other Indian Subcontinent countries, we separated it as a single coun- try for comparison with the “Select Indian Subcontinent countries” in this study for analysis and presentation. Any bibliometric study on the Indian Subcontinent generally highlights the core contribution and major players (orga- nizations, authors, journals and keywords) in any ■eld. India being the dominating country in publication output is, therefore, likely to be highlighted. In this study, we shall highlight the contribution of both the groups

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Indian Subcontinent” 219 (18.7%) papers. There has been a pro- gressive increase in the number of publications from the Indian Subcontinent (Figure 1). The Indian Subconti- nent's (i) annual contribution increased from 1 in 2001 to 192 papers in 2022, registering the 28.95% annual average growth rate and (ii) cumulative contribution increased from 145 during 2001–12 to 908 papers during 2013–22, registering 526.21% absolute growth (Supple- ment 1). Within Indian Subcontinent, (i) India's contribu- tion increased from 5 in 2004 to 192 papers in 2022,

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their research areas and to collaborate closely with each other. All these 50 authors have 455 links and 1135 TLS. Signi■cant Keywords It is generally observed through other bibliometric studies11 that keywords independently or in combination with other keywords represent important concepts and their co-occurrence helps us to understand important areas of research. Among 1053 Indian Subcontinent's publications on NAFLD research, 2365 authors' keywords appeared which have frequency of occurrences varying from 1 to 933. From these author keywords, we have identi■ed 50 most signi■- cant keywords, with frequency of occurrences ranging from 49 to 933 (Supplement 3). The leading keywords by their frequency of co-occurrence were NAFLD (933), NAFLD (371), obesity (340), liver cirrhosis (289), alanine aminotransferase (279), body mass (248), fatty liver (247), aspartate aminotransferase (238), NASH, (234), diabetes mellitus (217), insulin resistance (199), liver ■brosis

Summary

This bibliometric study analyzes the research output on Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD) from the Indian Subcontinent, utilizing the Scopus database. Despite a high prevalence of NAFLD in the region, the research output constitutes a low 3.43% of the

global share. Regional cooperation and research collaboration among countries within the Indian Subcontinent are identified as poor. India leads in publications, contributing 81.3% of the total. The number of Healthcare Professionals (HCPs) from the Indian Subcontinent involved in NAFLD research is also low (3.61%).

The study highlights the need for increased regional and international collaboration, as well as external funding, to enhance both the quantity and quality of research and publications related to NAFLD in the Indian Subcontinent.

Key institutions contributing to NAFLD research include the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh (10.64%), All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, and the Institute of Liver &BS;), New Delhi (7.03% each). Several organizations demonstrated a citation per publication (CPP) and relative citation index (RCI) above the group average, with the University of Delhi, G.B. Pant Hospital, Delhi, and Indraprastha Apollo Hospital, New Delhi, leading in these metrics.

Analysis of publication and citation data from 2001-2022 reveals that India produced 856 papers with 22,465 citations, resulting in 26.44 citations per paper. The Indian Subcontinent as a whole produced 1053 papers with 24,695 citations, resulting in 22.59 citations per paper.

Collaborative linkages among authors are strongest within the same institutions, such as PGIMER-Chandigarh, ILBS-ND, and AIIMS-ND. The study acknowledges a limitation in its reliance on a single database (Scopus) and suggests that future research should incorporate other databases like Web of Science, Dimensions, and PubMed for a more comprehensive analysis. The findings emphasize the importance of conducting research within the Indian Subcontinent to ensure that findings and recommendations are effectively applicable to patients in these countries.