

## A ten year bibliometric analysis of Ceylon Medical Journal

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### Abstract

Medical journals aim to promote scholarly communication among clinical researchers worldwide. Ceylon Medical Journal (CMJ) is the oldest medical journal in Australasia having commenced publication in 1887. It is a peer reviewed journal published quarterly by the Sri Lanka Medical Association. CMJ (ISSN: 0009 0875) is indexed in MEDLINE, Scopus, EMBASE, CABI and BIOSIS previews. Bibliometric studies are useful to identify the research trend in a subject and the publication trend of a particular journal. They were conducted to analyze various aspects such as nations' research output; institutional research productivity etc. The present study could enable to focus on the contribution of CMJ during the study span. The main objective of the study was to conduct a bibliometric analysis of the Ceylon medical journal during the period 2003 to 2012. The research sought to identify the trends and patterns of CMJ, national and international strength, author's productivity, co-authorship pattern and institutional productivity during the study period. The data of publications, authors and their institutional affiliations with other countries from 2003 to 2012 were retrieved from Scopus database. The retrieved data was analyzed using Microsoft excel 2007 and BibExcel in terms of bibliometric parameters. The research method of this study was a bibliometric analytical method that adopts detailed analysis of secondary data using a range of bibliometric laws, tools, techniques and formulae along with statistical techniques. Findings of the analysis revealed that the average number of articles per year was 59. Majority of the publications was contributed by multiple authors. Three author contributions ranked the highest; Degree of collaboration progressively increased over the study span. In respect to the country productivity, majority of the contributions were from Sri Lanka. Only 9% of the authors were from foreign countries. Authors from academic institutions contributed most of the articles with 65% frequency followed by hospitals (30%). The most prolific author contributed 18 papers. Majority of the authors (75%) published articles only once during the study period. The most productive institution was University of Colombo, Sri Lanka followed by National hospital, Sri Lanka. The geographic distribution of authors showed that the journal reflected the research and views of scientists mainly from Sri Lanka. It is suggested that more international collaborations in research be accommodated, in order to help to increase the journal's citation and impact factor.

**Keywords:** *Bibliometrics, Scholarly Communication, Ceylon Medical Journal, Sri Lanka, Authorship Pattern, Single Journal study*