

The Scientometrics analysis on the research landscape of Epigenetics in Diabetes research

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Abstract:

In recent years, there has been a surge of interest in the field of epigenetics and its potential implications for understanding and treating diseases, including diabetes. Epigenetics is the study of how people's behaviours and environment can impact the way their genes function. It plays an important role in the development and progression of diabetes. This study aims to find the year-wise distribution of papers published on epigenetics in diabetes and to find the most productive authors, top funding agencies, countries, and journals contributing to the research relating to epigenetics in diabetes. The study found that a lot of research was published in the form of articles and that the number of papers being published on Epigenetics in Diabetes has been increasing year after year. The highest number of records published was in the year 2021 with 365 records. The study also found that the USA was a highly productive country and India stands at 10th position in terms of research publication outcome.

Keywords: *Epigenetics, Diabetes, Scientometrics, Bibliometrics, Medical science*

Introduction

In recent years, there has been a surge of interest in the field of epigenetics and its potential implications for understanding and treating diseases, including diabetes. Epigenetics refers to changes in gene expression that occur without altering the underlying DNA sequence. By studying these epigenetic modifications, researchers hope to gain insights into the molecular mechanisms that contribute to the

development and progression of diseases like diabetes. In this article, we will explore the research landscape of epigenetics in diabetes research and uncover the latest advancements in this fascinating field. A scientometric analysis of epigenetics in diabetes research has the ability to provide valuable insights into the intricate relationship between gene expression and disease pathogenesis. By mapping the scientific landscape and identifying hotspots and knowledge gaps, scientists can focus their efforts on groundbreaking research avenues. As epigenetics continues to unravel the complexities of diabetes, we stand poised to unlock new diagnostic tools, therapeutic strategies, and ultimately, the prevention and cure of this global health burden.

Objectives

The main objectives of this study are:

- To show the year-wise distribution of research growth between the years (1993 – 2023).
- To investigate the distribution of research findings in the chosen field by journals.
- To discover the most productive authors.
- To determine the distribution of publications by institutional grouping.
- To discover the top countries and funding agencies that contributed to the chosen topic.

Materials and Methods

The researcher has explored the premier indexing database Web of Science as a source for data accumulation of the research indexed on epigenetics, with special emphasis on diabetes. The researcher used the keyword “Epigenetic in diabetes” as a phrase search and the records found from the year 1993 have been retrieved and organized into Histcite. VOSViewer is the analytical tool used for mapping the research outcome. The study aimed at analysing the citation and impact of the research outcome, the funding pattern, the source publication, the growth pattern and collaborative pattern.

Analysis and Interpretation

Table 1: Year wise Distribution

| S.N | Publicati | Rec | TLC | TGC | S.N | Publicati | Rec | TLC | TGC |
|-----|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|-----|------|-------|
| o | on Year | s | S | S | o | on Year | s | S | S |
| 1 | 1993 | 1 | 2 | 264 | 16 | 2009 | 53 | 522 | 5805 |
| 2 | 1994 | 1 | 15 | 227 | 17 | 2010 | 77 | 938 | 12458 |
| 3 | 1996 | 1 | 0 | 242 | 18 | 2011 | 98 | 991 | 8894 |
| 4 | 1997 | 2 | 3 | 155 | 19 | 2012 | 136 | 1029 | 9661 |
| 5 | 1998 | 1 | 0 | 94 | 20 | 2013 | 177 | 951 | 20701 |
| 6 | 1999 | 4 | 0 | 242 | 21 | 2014 | 183 | 1077 | 11924 |
| 7 | 2000 | 2 | 1 | 14 | 22 | 2015 | 239 | 1221 | 17397 |
| 8 | 2001 | 4 | 18 | 129 | 23 | 2016 | 214 | 772 | 11407 |
| 9 | 2002 | 6 | 34 | 378 | 24 | 2017 | 287 | 724 | 16409 |
| 10 | 2003 | 2 | 9 | 194 | 25 | 2018 | 268 | 722 | 10047 |
| 11 | 2004 | 8 | 16 | 832 | 26 | 2019 | 322 | 559 | 12242 |

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|----|------|----|-----|------|----|------|-----|-----|------|
| 12 | 2005 | 22 | 113 | 3503 | 27 | 2020 | 319 | 240 | 9646 |
| 13 | 2006 | 24 | 83 | 2642 | 28 | 2021 | 365 | 128 | 5069 |
| 14 | 2007 | 45 | 302 | 3395 | 29 | 2022 | 347 | 53 | 1551 |
| 15 | 2008 | 50 | 737 | 6931 | 30 | 2023 | 225 | 0 | 188 |

The above table shows the year-wise distribution of papers published on Epigenetics in Diabetes from the year 1993 to 2023. The highest number of records published was in the year 2021 with 365 records which have 128 TLCS and 5069 TGCS, followed by the year 2022 with 347 records which have 52 TLCS and 1551 TGCS, the year 2019 with 322 records having 559 TLCS and 12242 TGCS, the year 2020 with 319 records published which have 240 TLCS and 9646 TGCS, and so on. The years 1993, 1994, 1996, and 1998 had the least number of publications having 1 publication each respectively. From the table, it can be inferred that the number of papers being published on Epigenetics in Diabetes has been increasing year after year.

The various document types in which the research related to Epigenetics in Diabetes. A lot of research is published in the form of 1863 articles followed by 1392 reviews, 70 meeting abstracts, 61 proceeding papers, 36 editorial materials, and so on.

Table 2: Prolific Journal wise Distribution

| S.No | Journal | Recs | TLCS | TGCS |
|------|---|------|------|------|
| 1 | International Journal Of Molecular Sciences | 103 | 22 | 2924 |
| 2 | Frontiers In Endocrinology | 84 | 0 | 1519 |
| 3 | Clinical Epigenetics | 78 | 0 | 2520 |
| 4 | Diabetes | 76 | 1448 | 5589 |
| 5 | Diabetologia | 61 | 802 | 3545 |
| 6 | PLOS One | 57 | 0 | 2186 |
| 7 | Nutrients | 45 | 45 | 2346 |
| 8 | Scientific Reports | 45 | 0 | 1232 |

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|----|-------------|----|---|------|
| 9 | Epigenetics | 39 | 355 | 1720 |
| 10 | Epigenomics | 39 | Social factors of suicides in Sri Lanka | 796 |

The above table shows the top 10 prolific journal-wise distribution of articles. The International Journal of Molecular Sciences has the highest number of publications with 103 articles published, followed by Frontiers in Endocrinology with 84 articles, Clinical Epigenetics with 78 articles, Diabetes with 76 articles, and so on.

Table 3: Prolific Author wise Distribution

| S.No | Author | Recs | TLC S | TGC S | S.No | Author | Recs | TLC S | TGC S |
|------|-------------|------|-------|-------|------|---------------|------|-------|-------|
| 1 | Ling C | 61 | 1283 | 5943 | 11 | Beguinet F | 20 | 52 | 324 |
| 2 | Natarajan R | 41 | 962 | 3152 | 12 | Saffery R | 20 | 54 | 823 |
| 3 | Kowluru RA | 35 | 496 | 2057 | 13 | Chakrabarti S | 19 | 103 | 938 |
| 4 | El-Osta A | 27 | 459 | 2466 | 14 | Hivert MF | 19 | 280 | 971 |
| 5 | Vaag A | 27 | 480 | 1964 | 15 | Perfilyev A | 19 | 300 | 1071 |
| 6 | Ronn T | 26 | 715 | 3291 | 16 | Volkov P | 19 | 337 | 2265 |
| 7 | Groop L | 24 | 552 | 2624 | 17 | Paneni F | 18 | 136 | 1193 |
| 8 | Ozanne SE | 24 | 155 | 1917 | 18 | Simmons RA | 18 | 374 | 1428 |
| 9 | Nilsson E | 21 | 472 | 2517 | 19 | Cosentino F | 17 | 128 | 1286 |
| 10 | Zhang Y | 21 | 75 | 487 | 20 | Costantino S | 17 | 116 | 498 |

The table shows the top 20 list of prolific authors who have contributed articles on Epigenetics in Diabetes. Author Ling C is on the top of the list with 61 articles with a total of 1283 TLCS and 5943 TGCS followed by Natarajan R with 41 articles with a total of 962 TLCS and 3152 TGCS,

Kowluru RA with 35 articles with a total of 496 TLCS and 2057 TGCS, El-Osta A with 27 articles with a total of 459 TLCS and 2466 TGCS, Vaag A with 27 articles with a total of 480 TLCS and 1964 TGCS and so on.

Table 4: Country wise Distribution

| S.No | Country | Recs | TLCS | TGCS |
|------|-----------------|------|------|-------|
| 1 | USA | 1138 | 5411 | 68592 |
| 2 | Peoples R China | 527 | 980 | 14532 |
| 3 | UK | 339 | 1486 | 35290 |
| 4 | Italy | 279 | 940 | 15021 |
| 5 | Germany | 208 | 493 | 16942 |
| 6 | Australia | 203 | 1035 | 16421 |
| 7 | Sweden | 184 | 1791 | 12083 |
| 8 | Canada | 172 | 946 | 9793 |
| 9 | Spain | 160 | 349 | 17722 |
| 10 | India | 153 | 245 | 5026 |

The above table shows the list of the top 10 countries that contributed to Epigenetics in Diabetes. USA is on top of the list with 1138 articles published with a total of 5411 TLCS and 68592 TGCS. The USA is followed by the People's Republic of China in the 2nd place with 527 articles with a total of 980 TLCS and 14532 TGCS followed by the UK, Italy, and Germany in the 3rd, 4th, and 5th positions respectively. India is in 10th position on the list with 153 articles published with a total of 245 TLCS and 5026 TGCS.

Table 5: Institution wise Distribution

| S.No | Institution | Recs | TLCS | TGCS |
|------|--------------------------|------|------|------|
| 1 | Lund University | 86 | 1202 | 6629 |
| 2 | University of Copenhagen | 67 | 493 | 4504 |
| 3 | University of Penn | 65 | 730 | 5130 |
| 4 | University of Melbourne | 61 | 297 | 2387 |
| 5 | Karolinska Institute | 54 | 398 | 3572 |
| 6 | Harvard Med School | 53 | 112 | 3007 |
| 7 | University of Cambridge | 52 | 427 | 5561 |
| 8 | Monash University | 49 | 246 | 1745 |
| 9 | University Michigan | 47 | 120 | 2251 |
| 10 | University Southampton | 45 | 397 | 5647 |

The above table shows the top 10 list of institutions that contributed to Epigenetics in Diabetes. Among the top 10 institutions, Lund University is at the top of the list with 86 articles with a total of 1202 TLCS and 6629 TGCS followed by the University of Copenhagen with 67 articles with a total of 493 TLCS and 4504 TGCS, the University of Pennsylvania with 65 articles with a total of 730 TLCS and 5130 TGCS, University of Melbourne with 61 articles with a total of 297 TLCS and 2387 TGCS and so on.

Table 6: Keyword analysis

| S.No | Word | Recs | TLCs | TGCs | S.No | Word | Recs | TLCs | TGCs |
|------|-------------|------|------|-------|------|------------|------|------|-------|
| 1 | Diabetes | 978 | 4283 | 42317 | 11 | Obesity | 234 | 794 | 12748 |
| 2 | Epigenetic | 823 | 4353 | 33675 | 12 | Human | 229 | 1177 | 14459 |
| 3 | Type | 499 | 2879 | 25721 | 13 | Mellitus | 222 | 728 | 9882 |
| 4 | Methylation | 434 | 2706 | 18478 | 14 | Associated | 219 | 1122 | 8496 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|-----------|-----|------|-------|----|-------------|-----|------|------|
| 5 | Dna | 368 | 2187 | 15038 | 15 | Regulation | 208 | 773 | 8631 |
| 6 | Diabetic | 366 | 2222 | 18466 | 16 | Maternal | 199 | 780 | 8594 |
| 7 | Disease | 341 | 710 | 20014 | 17 | Expression | 193 | 1146 | 9501 |
| 8 | Metabolic | 292 | 1427 | 16028 | 18 | Gene | 193 | 1228 | 9665 |
| 9 | Role | 251 | 736 | 9892 | 19 | Cell | 185 | 454 | 6191 |
| 10 | Cells | 235 | 557 | 6268 | 20 | Epigenetics | 182 | 981 | 9722 |

The above table lists the top 20 words that have been frequently used. The word diabetes has been used 978 times followed by the word epigenetic 823 times, the word type 499 times, Methylation 434 times, DNA 368 times, and so on.

Table 7: Funding Agencies (3797)

| S.no | Funding Agencies | Record Count | % |
|------|--|--------------|-------|
| 1 | United States Department of Health Human Services | 672 | 19.43 |
| 2 | National Institutes of Health NIH USA | 670 | 19.37 |
| 3 | National Natural Science Foundation of China NSFC | 321 | 9.28 |
| 4 | European Union EU | 132 | 3.82 |
| 5 | NIH National Institute of Diabetes Digestive Kidney Diseases Niddk | 131 | 3.79 |
| 6 | Uk Research Innovation UKRI | 128 | 3.70 |
| 7 | Medical Research Council UK MRC | 115 | 3.33 |
| 8 | Novo Nordisk Foundation | 107 | 3.09 |
| 9 | Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation | 100 | 2.89 |
| 10 | Spanish Government | 93 | 2.69 |

The above table shows the top 10 list of funding agencies that funded the research on Epigenetics in Diabetes. Out of the top 10 funding agencies, the United States Department of Health and Human Services

funded a total of 672 articles placing it in 1st place followed by the National Institutes Of Health, USA funded 670 articles, the National Natural Science Foundation Of China Nsfsc funded 321 articles, European Union Eu 132 articles, Nih National Institute Of Diabetes Digestive Kidney Diseases Niddk with 131 articles and so on.

Results and Discussion

A lot of research is published in the form of an article with 1863 articles followed by 1392 reviews, 70 meeting abstracts, 61 proceeding papers, 36 editorial materials, and so on. It can be inferred that the number of papers being published on Epigenetics in Diabetes has been increasing year after year. The highest number of records published was in the year 2021 with 365 records which have 128 TLCS and 5069 TGCS, followed by the year 2022 with 347 records which have 52 TLCS and 1551 TGCS. It was found that the present research outcome on epigenetics does not adhere to Bradford's law of proliferation of research in journals as the top 20 journals could contribute less research outcome during the study period. The USA is a highly productive country and India stands at 10th position in terms of research publication outcome.

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