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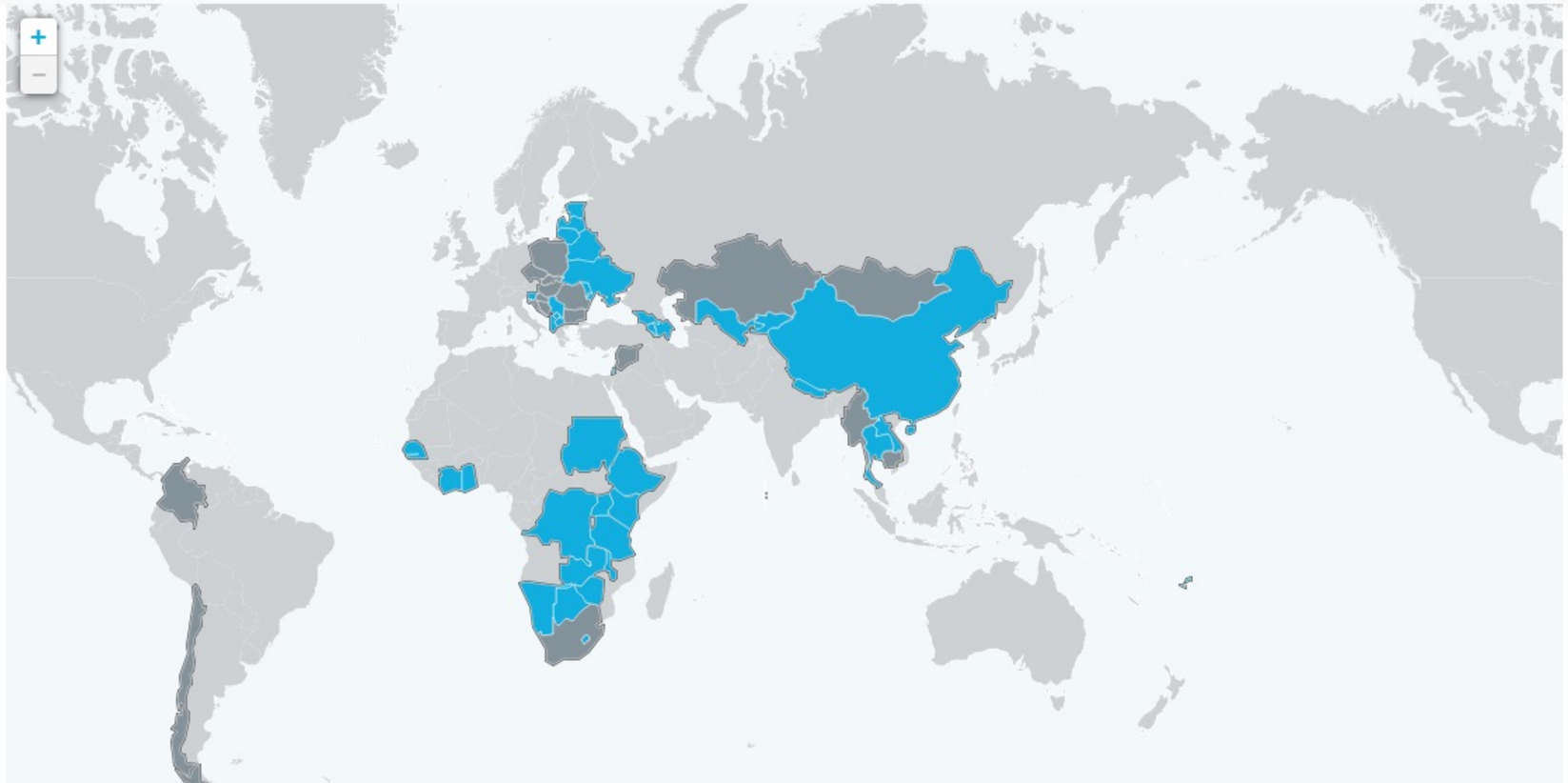


eifl KNOWLEDGE WITHOUT BOUNDARIES

Three lessons learned on open science from the pandemic

The **growth of preprints**, setting **best practice standards for reporting research posted as preprints**

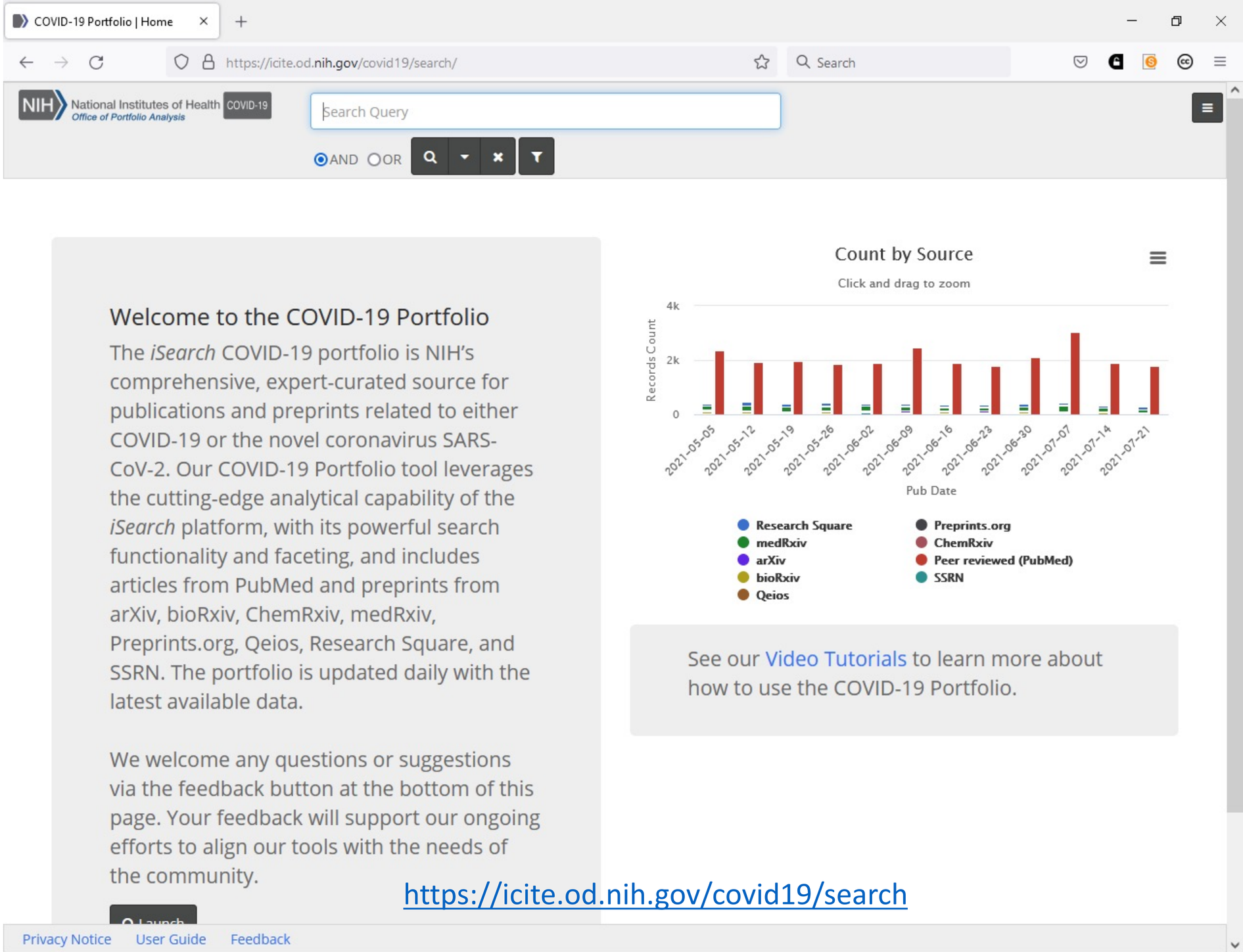
Data sharing and calls for **sharing the benefits of research and sustainable open science infrastructure funding**

Local open access journals play an important role in sharing COVID-19 research that addresses the local needs

eifl KNOWLEDGE WITHOUT BOUNDARIES

Make research findings available via preprint servers before journal publication, or via platforms that make publications openly accessible before peer-review. Include clear statements regarding the availability of underlying data.

[Horizon 2020 projects working on the 2019 coronavirus disease (COVID-19), the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), and related topics: Guidelines for open access to publications, data and other research outputs]



https://icite.od.nih.gov/covid19/search

("2019-nCoV" OR "2019nCoV" C

https://europepmc.org/search?query=("2019-nCoV" OR "2019nCoV" OR "COVID-19" C

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Search worldwide, life-sciences literature

("2019-nCoV" OR "2019nCoV" OR "COVID-19" OR "SARS-CoV-2" OR "COVID19" OR "COVID" OR "SARS-nCoV" OR ("wuhan" AND "cor

Search | Advanced Search

Coronavirus articles and preprints Search examples: "breast cancer" Smith J

Recent history | Saved searches

Search only

Type

- Research articles (0)
- Reviews (0)
- Preprints (41,044)

Free full text

- Free to read (21,319)
- Free to read & use (20,810)

Date

- 2021 (15,120)
- 2020 (25,804)
- 2019 (53)

Custom date range

1-25 of **41,044** results

Sort by: Date received

1 2 3 4 5 Next ...

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Export citations

Legal Issues in Mutual Aid Operations: A Preliminary Guide
Haber M
SSRN, 12 Jun 2020
Cited by: 0 articles | PPR: PPR372890
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Preprint

Lenders' Pricing Strategy: Do Neighborhood Risks Matter?
Agarwal S, Deng Y, He J, Wang Y
SSRN, 28 May 2020
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Preprint

Post-Vaccination Symptomatic SARS-CoV-2 Infections are Minimal and Non-Serious: An Observational Multicenter Indian Cohort Study of 28342 Healthcare Workers
Vaishya R, Sibal A, Malani A, Kar S, K HP, SV K, Reddy S, Kamineni S, Reddy S, Reddy PA, Redddy PC
SSRN, 20 Jul 2021
Cited by: 0 articles | PPR: PPR372888
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Preprint

Preprints in the public eye – ASA

https://asapbio.org/public

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https://asapbio.org/public

Project Overview

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, preprints are being shared, reported on, and used to shape government policy, all at unprecedented rates and journalists are now regularly citing preprints in their pandemic coverage. As well as putting preprints squarely in the public eye as never before, presenting a unique opportunity to educate researchers and the public about their value, the rise in reporting of research posted as preprints has also brought into focus the question of how research is scrutinized and validated. Traditional journal peer review has its shortcomings and the number of ways research can be evaluated is expanding. This can be a problem for journalists and non-specialist readers who sometimes don't fully understand the difference between preprints, peer-reviewed articles, and different forms of peer review. Media coverage can result in the sharing of information which may later not stand up to scientific scrutiny, leading to misunderstanding, misinformation and the risk of damaging the public perception of preprints and the scientific process.

Tweets by @ASAPbio_

ASAPbio
@ASAPbio_

We are pleased to announce the Preprint Reviewer Recruitment Network, an initiative to allow researchers to showcase their preprint review activity to be considered for reviewer or editor roles at journals, supported by 30 journals@jessicapolka#FeedbackASAP

Researchers

ASAPbio

Guiding principles for researchers to aid the responsible media reporting of research posted as preprints

ASAPbio.org

Preprints In the public eye

Part of the Preprints In The Public Eye Project supported by the Open Society Foundations

ASAPbio

Guiding principles for researchers to aid the responsible media reporting of research posted as preprints

When communicating about their work in social media, blogs or with journalists, researchers should be mindful of the potential for misinterpretation of their findings and:

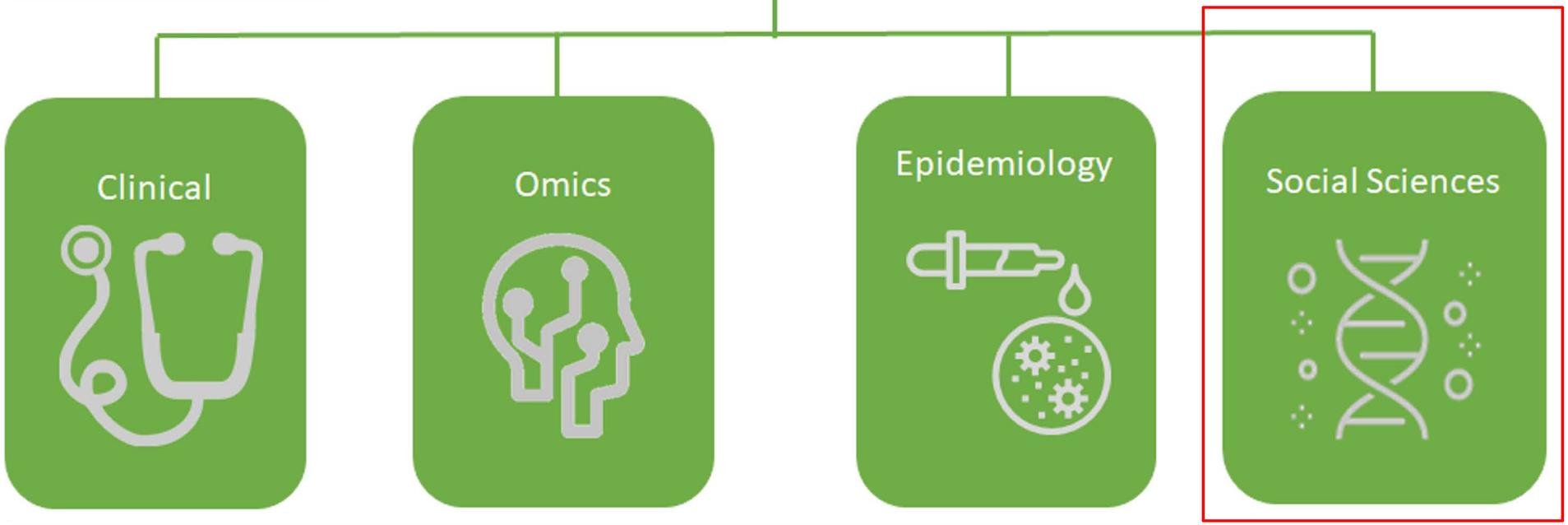
1. Label the research as a preprint (where that is the case).
2. Prominently state whether or not it has undergone peer review.
3. Prominently highlight the limitations of the work.
4. Provide narrow interpretations that are unlikely to be exaggerated or misconstrued when communicating research findings to a lay audience.
5. Make every effort to ensure that the research is presented so that non-experts can understand it with minimal room for misinterpretation.
6. Make every effort to anticipate the potential for their research to be propagated in ways that are far from the original intent.
7. Avoid overhyping the significance of the research findings.
8. Consider using a structured format, similar to that recommended by the UK Academy of Medical Sciences for press releases. For example, in biomedical fields, structured information to be included in social media post(s) might include the following.
   a) Brief lay summary
   b) Type of research: [Observational/interventional etc]
   c) Model system: [Humans/mice/in vitro biochemistry]
   d) Sample size: [Number of patients, etc]
   e) Peer review status [Preprint/(open) peer review etc]
   f) Other caveats/limitations
9. Be familiar with any guidelines provided by their institution on the responsible use of social media. Guiding principles for institutions to aid the responsible media reporting of research can be found at asapbio.org/public.
10. Work in collaboration with their institutional press office if approached by the media to comment on research they have carried out at the institution, regardless of whether or not the research is actively promoted by the institution.

From Tackling the Pandemic to Addressing Climate Change Recommendation

Make research findings available via preprint servers before journal publication and clearly label them as non-peer reviewed research

RDA COVID-19 Guidelines and Recommendations

RDA COVID-19 Working Group. (2020, June 30). http://doi.org/10.15497/rda00052



Community Participation for Data Sharing under COVID-19

Indigenous Data under COVID-19

Legal and Ethical Considerations under COVID-19

Research Software and Data Sharing under COVID-19

- April 1st through June 30th, 2020
- Weekly update webinar and writing sprint
- Over 600 data professional experts
- 4 Research domains and 4 cross cutting areas

Key Recommendations

1. Coordinate cross-jurisdictional efforts to foster global **Open Science** through policy and investment.
2. Incentivise early publication and release of data and software outputs.
3. Invest in state-of-the-art IT, data management systems **infrastructure, economies of scale, and people**.
4. Data, software and models should be **timely and FAIR**: Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable.
5. Require the use of **Data Management Plans**.
6. Use common generic as well as domain-specific **metadata standards**, and **persistent identifiers**.
7. Provide **documentation** of context, methodologies used to define, construct, and compile data, data cleaning and quality checks, data imputation, and data provenance.
8. Use **Trustworthy Data Repositories** committed to the long-term preservation and sustained access to their data holdings.
9. **Expedite** article and data review processes, **prioritising** and **fast-tracking data** at all stages.
10. **Balance ethics and privacy**, taking into account public interests and benefits while addressing the health crisis.
11. Access should be as **open as possible** and as **closed as necessary.**
12. Seek **technical solutions** that ensure anonymisation, encryption, privacy protection, and de-identification to **increase trust** in data sharing.
13. Provide **legal frameworks that promote sharing** of surveillance data across jurisdictions and sectors.

Key Recommendations

Coordinated, cross-jurisdictional efforts to foster global open science: Governments, research funders, and research or research-supporting institutions around the world must coordinate with one another, and support and promote Open Science through policy and investment to streamline the flow of data between local entities, and across international jurisdictions.

Incentivize the early publication/release of data outputs and the software used to produce them and design appropriate governance: There are motivational barriers to making data outputs available rapidly. There is a need for incentivizing the early publication/release of data outputs and the software used to produce them. The early publication/release of data outputs and the tools used to create them should be encouraged by building trust, providing incentives for sharing data and providing appropriate governance.

Key Recommendations

Infrastructure Investment and Economies of Scale: There is a need to **invest in state-of-the-art information technology and data management systems infrastructure**. The **investment should also be directed towards people and skills** to fully utilize the potential of large-scale infrastructure. The minimum required infrastructure for in terms of technology, skills, people and frameworks should be accessible to all jurisdictions/sectors. **Funders should require data sharing and provide support for infrastructure for data archiving and preservation**. This includes striving for funding models that are applied equitably across projects, researchers, and countries. **This is also a mandate for covering costs for infrastructure in the broadest sense (e.g. ensuring open access to data, curation services, research data management costs across the lifecycle, and long-term preservation, among others)**.

Key Recommendations

Enable interoperable cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural data collection, data use and collaboration for managing data during emergencies.

Encourage public involvement throughout the data management lifecycle from research question to final data sharing and usage.

Article Text
Article info
Citation Tools
Share
Rapid Responses
Article metrics
Alerts

Original research

A bibliometric analysis of COVID-19 research in Africa

https://gh.bmj.com/content/6/5/e005690

Fatuma Hassan Guleid [1], Robinson Oyando [2], Evelyn Kabia [2], Audrey Mumbi [2], Samuel Akech [3], Edwine Barasa [2, 4]
Correspondence to Prof. Edwine Barasa; EBarasa@kemri-wellcome.org

Abstract

Background The COVID-19 pandemic has led to an unprecedented global research effort to build a body of knowledge that can inform mitigation strategies. We carried out a bibliometric analysis to describe the COVID-19 research output in Africa in terms of setting, study design, research themes and author affiliation.

Methods We searched for articles published between 1 December 2019 and 3 January 2021 from various databases including PubMed, African Journals Online, medRxiv, Collabovid, the WHO global research database and Google. All article types and study design were included.

Results A total of 1296 articles were retrieved. 46.6% were primary research articles, 48.6% were editorial-type articles while 4.6% were secondary research articles. 20.3% articles used the entire continent of Africa as their study setting while South Africa (15.4%) was the most common country-focused setting. The most common research topics include 'country preparedness and response' (24.9%) and 'the direct and indirect health impacts of the pandemic' (21.6%). However, only 1.0% of articles focus on therapeutics and vaccines. 90.3% of the articles had at least one African researcher as author, 78.5% had an African researcher as first author, while 63.5% had an African researcher as last author. The University of Cape Town leads with the greatest number of first and last authors. 13% of the articles were published in medRxiv and of the studies that declared funding, the Wellcome Trust was the top funding body.

Conclusions This study highlights Africa's COVID-19 research and the continent's existing capacity to carry out research that addresses local problems. However, more studies focused on vaccines and therapeutics are needed to inform local development. In addition, the uneven distribution of research productivity among African countries emphasises the need for increased investment where needed.

Table 4

Top 15 journals in which COVID-19 research in Africa was published

Journal	Studies (n)
medRxiv preprint	174
Pan African Medical Journal	77
South African Medical Journal	59
The American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene	31
International Journal of Infectious Diseases	27
Journal of Global Health	22
African Journal of Primary Health Care & Family Medicine	21
PLOS One	18
BMJ Global Health	15
Lancet Global Health	12
Clinical Infectious Diseases	12
BMJ	11
Lancet	11
Risk Management and Healthcare Policy	11
Travel Medicine and Infectious Disease	11

"over 13% were **preprints** and for **journal articles** three African journals featured in the top 15 journals publishing COVID-19 articles in Africa: **Pan African Medical Journal, South African Medical Journal and African Journal of Primary Health Care & Family Medicine**"

From Tackling the Pandemic to Addressing Climate Change Recommendation

Encourage publishing in local open access journals and do not discriminate against such publications at tenure and promotion exercises.

Journals should undergo an expedited review process for climate change related research.

Thank you!

Contact: iryna.kuchma@eifl.net
@irynakuchma

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