Bibliometric Analysis of the 'Veterinary Clinics of North America: Equine Practice'

Sonia Bansal


ABSTRACT
This paper presents a bibliometric study of total 197 articles published in journal entitled 'Veterinary Clinics of North America: Equine Practice' from 2007-2011. This study covers the number of articles published, authorship pattern, length of articles and distribution of citations.

Key Terms: Bibliometrics; Authorship pattern; Citation

INTRODUCTION
The word Bibliometrics is made up of two words where 'Biblio' means book and 'Metric' means measurement. It can be described as a science of measurement relating to books and other documents. Oxford dictionary defines bibliometrics as "statistical analysis of books, articles, or other publications". Bibliometrics studies are very helpful for librarians to frame collection development policies and selection of journals for the libraries. Bibliometrics is used in research performance evaluation, especially in university and government labs and also by policymakers, research directors and administrators, information specialists and librarians and researchers themselves (Pendlebury).

Veterinary Clinics of North America: Equine Practice
Veterinary Clinics of North America: Equine Practice (ISSN 0749-0739) is published three times in a year by Elsevier. This journal provides the most current information on the treatment of horses and updates on the latest advances. Each issue of the journal is devoted to a single topic in equine practice.

LITERATURE REVIEW
Koehler et al. found a number of important differences among the journals regarding frequency of publication, publication size, number of authors, and the finding status of articles. In another study Vijaya Kumar & Naqvi studied the authorship pattern of Azadirachta Indica literature and found that collaborative research is more favoured than the solo research.

Narang revealed that highest number of papers have been written by joint authors. Articles from research journals were most cited documents. At the International level, India was the top contributor followed by China. The growth and popularity of Indian Journal of Pure & Applied Mathematics was found to be showing an upward trend.

Tiew conducted a bibliometric study to explore the authorship characteristics in LIS journal "Sekitar Perpustakaan." A total of 148 articles published in this journal from 1994-2003 were studied. The findings revealed the dominance of single authors and females in contribution of articles.

Tsay conducted a study to find out the relationship among Journal of American Society for Information Science and Technology (JASIST), and other disciplines by citation analysis. The results of this study revealed that production rate of JASIST literature has doubled and the average number of references cited per paper is also increased 2 to 3 times in a period of about 25 years.

OBJECTIVES
The objective of the present study is to study the authorship pattern, distribution of articles by year, length of articles and distribution of citations.

METHODOLOGY
This study uses bibliometric analysis to study the bibliographic attributes of the articles published in the Veterinary Clinics of North America: Equine Practice from 2007-2011. A total of 197 articles published in vol. 23-27 have been taken up for the study. The collected...
data is analyzed, tabulated and interpreted using %age calculations.

**DATA ANALYSIS**

- **Year Wise Distribution of Articles**

  The above table depicts that a total of 197 research articles were published in the journal from 2007-2011. Vol. no. 26, published in 2010, has contributed highest number of articles. Vol. 27 has contributed minimum number of articles in the year 2011, while vol. 23 and 24 have contributed equal number of articles.

- **Authorship Pattern**

  This table reveals that majority of the articles (62.94%) have been contributed by single authors. This is followed by two authors 28.43%, five authors 4.7%, more than five authors 0.51% of total articles published. To calculate the degree of collaboration, the formula given by Subramanyam is used:

  \[ C = \frac{N_m}{N_m + N_s} \]

  Here C is degree of collaboration, Nm number of multiple authored research papers and Ns number of single authored research papers.

- **Articles Length**

  This table shows that majority of the articles (66.33%) have length of 11-15 pages. About 34 articles (27.42%) are 16-20 pages in length followed by 37(18.78) articles with 6-10 pages. Only two articles (1.01%) have length of 36-40 pages.

**Citation Analysis**

This table provides details of references appearing at the end of articles published in the Veterinary Clinics of North America: Equine Practice from 2007-2011. The number of papers with 30-39 citations were 23(12.17%) followed by 21(11.11%) articles having 40-49 citations, 20(10.58%) between 20-29 and 18 (9.52%) articles were having citations between 10-19 and 70-79. Only 2(1.06%) articles have citations between 140-149 and 150-159.

**Conclusions**

It is clear from the above table that Vol. 26 has the highest number of citations i.e. 2530 (27.72%) and Vol. 27 has least number of citations i.e. 551 (6.03%).

**References**


