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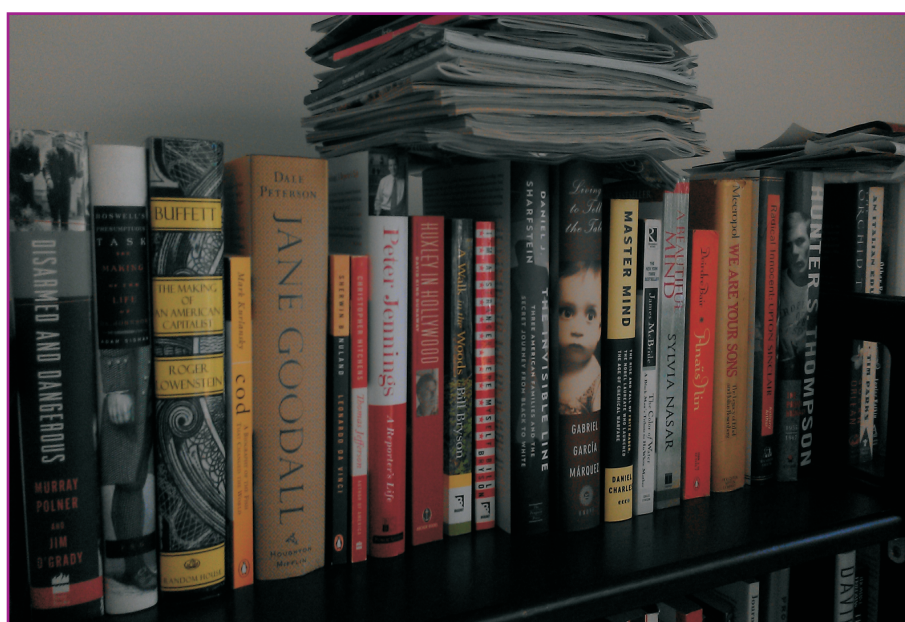


## A BIBLIOMETRIC APPRAISAL OF PAKISTAN JOURNAL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH: 2001 – 2015

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highest single city was Islamabad, Pakistan produced 143 (30.23%) articles 15 volumes. A gender-wise comparison among the contributing authors revealed 1223 (73.05 per cent) were male to be higher than the 797 (47.61 percent) were female out of a total of 473 articles published during 2001-2015.

**Conclusion:** This study confirms that PJMR has been internationally circulated to support research with constant approach of publishing articles to each volume in biomedical, clinical and public health sciences, the vast majority of the publications have been contributed from the host country.

### ABSTRACT

**INTRODUCTION:** Bibliometric study used as a tool by professionals of library information sciences for knowing the growth of scientific research, authors' productivity, affiliation with institute and geographic locations. This study also the gauge the impact of library on teaching, learning and research of an institute, college and university related to any discipline of knowledge.

**METHODOLOGY:** The content analysis work was done during mid-August 2016 to mid-September, 2016. The data for study was downloaded

from websites of e-journal of Pakistan Journal of Medical Research of Pakistan Health Research Council (<http://phrc.org.pk/pjmr.html>) and Pak Medi Net (<http://www.pakmedinet.com/>)

**Results:** PMJR published 15 volumes and 58 issues with 473 articles during 2001 – 2015. The maximum and minimum articles published were 15 and 5 during the years 2005 and 2014. Majority of articles were written by multi authors 423 (89.42%) followed by 50 (10.57%) by single author, one article was Government document published in 2007 considered as multi-authors. The

**KEYWORDS:** Pakistan journal of medical research, Pakistan health research council, bibliometrics, electronic libraries, zameer baladi.

### ABBREVIATIONS:

PHRC: Pakistan Health Research Council.

PJMR: Pakistan Journal of

Medical Research.

MeSH: Medical Subject Headings.

PMDC: Pakistan Medical & Dental Council.

NP: Not published.

## INTRODUCTION

The Pakistan Health Research Council (PHRC) was created under a resolution in 1962 on the recommendation of the Medical Reforms Commission as an autonomous organization under the Federal Ministry of Health (MoH), with the mandate to promote, organize and coordinate medical research in Pakistan. The Pakistan Journal of Medical Research is the official journal of the Pakistan Research Council (PHRC) Islamabad, Pakistan approved by Pakistan Medical & Dental Council (PMDC) with IP/001; it covers Biomedical, clinical and different areas of public health research. Since 1962, the journal has been published regularly and distributed to all major medical institutions and libraries within the countries and broad (Pakistan Health Research Council 2016 <http://phrc.org.pk/pjmr.html>)

Quantitative evaluation of publication and citation data is now used in almost all nations around the globe with a sizeable science enterprise. Bibliometric is used in research performance evaluation, especially in university and government labs, and also by policy makers, research directors and administrators, information specialists and librarians, and researchers themselves (Thomson Reuters, 2008). Bibliometric study is widely used for mapping of scientific research growth, authorship pattern, research collaboration, author's productivity in any discipline of knowledge. It is mainly a best instrument in social science research for systematic analysis of publication output of any subject (Smita S. Patil, 2016). Pradhan and Chandrakar (2011) observed that journals play an important role in scholarly communication of different domain from very past by containing the original thought contents, ideas, views, research works and findings of researchers, scholars and academicians. Citation data can be used in many ways for a variety of purposes. In a competitive environment, it is important for an institution to show how performance supports its mission. The results are a powerful communication tool, indeed. Warraich et al., (2011) reported journals to be important channels for dissemination of research outputs, besides, being indispensable for academics and practitioners, who are active in research. These authors presented a bibliometric analysis of PMLIS from 1995 to 2010 to all 11 issues on the basis of parameters, such as; author productivity, extent of authors' collaboration, authors' institutional affiliation, authors' geographic affiliation, type of publication, language of papers, number of citations used per article, length of papers, and year-wise distribution of papers.

Sethi, et al., (2016) gives a philosophical touch "The examination of the research publication and its contribution is a buzzing area of research in the field of library and information science. Bibliometrics, Scientometrics, Citation Study, and Content analysis are the concepts supplementary and complementary to each other in their respective applications in the domain of research which are most familiar tools extensively used by the scholars, researchers and academics across the globe. Vellaichamy et al., (2015) revealed Bibliometric study as one of the crucial areas of research in the field of Library and Information Science. The authors further reported that research publications are the embodiments of the intellectual thought contents expressed in published literature whose key objective is to transmit innovative ideas or information to any specific field of knowledge towards the further development of a subject.

## METHODOLOGY

The objectives of the study were to explore (1) issue wise publications; (2) contribution of authors in publications with gender wise distribution of the first author; (3) pattern of authorship; (4) most contributing medical subject headings; (5) most contributed cities of Pakistan; and (6) geographic affiliation of authors. The data for the study was downloaded from websites of the respective e-journal of Pakistan Journal of Medical Research (<http://phrc.org.pk/pjmr.html>) with major contribution Pak Medi Net (<http://www.pakmedinet.com/>) a participatory research work for helping in regards references and biostatistics, this link is created by Dr. Osma Ishtiaq, Consultant Endocrinologist and Diabetologist, Shifa

International Hospital, Islamabad, Pakistan.

## RESULTS:

The results of this study (Table 1) showed that PJMR published a total of 473 papers during the years 2001-2015. The year-wise distributions of publications through 4 issues of each year are depicted in table 1. vol. 54, year 2015, 28 publications, max. 8, min. 6; vol. 53, year 2014, 26 publications, max. 9, min. 5; vol. 52, year 2013, 30 publications, max. 9, min. 6; vol. 51, year 2012, 34 publications, max. 10, min. 7; vol. 50, year 2011, 35 publications, max. 11, min. 9; vol. 49, year 2010, 34 publications, max. 11, min. 6; vol. 48, year 2009, 24 publications, max. 7, min. 5; vol. 47, year 2008, 27 publications, max. 8, min. 6; vol. 46, year 2007, 26 publications, max. 8, min. 5; vol. 45, year 2006, 26 publications, max. 8, min. 5; vol. 44, year 2005, 45 publications, max. 15, min. 8; vol. 43, year 2004, 45 publications, max. 14, min. 9; vol. 42, year 2003, 43 publications, max. 14, min. 9; vol. 41, year 2002, 38 publications, max. 11, min. 8; vol. 40, year 2001, 15 publications, max. 8, min. 7; issue 2 & 3 of vol. 40 year 2001 was not published.

**Table 1: Distribution of articles Year, Volume & Issue-Wise from 2001 - 2015 (In revers chronological orders)**

Years	Vol:	Article published in Issue 1	Article published in Issue 2	Article published in Issue 3	Article published in Issue 4	Total Article & %
2015	54	8	7	7	6	28
2014	53	5	9	6	6	26
2013	52	8	7	9	6	30
2012	51	7	7	10	10	34
2011	50	9	11	8	7	35
2010	49	6	7	10	11	34
2009	48	7	5	6	6	24
2008	47	7	6	6	8	27
2007	46	6	7	8	5	26
2006	45	7	8	6	5	26
2005	44	15	11	8	8	42
2004	43	9	11	11	14	45
2003	42	9	10	14	10	43
2002	41	8	9	11	10	38
2001	40	8	NP*	NP*	7	15
Publication per issue & %		119 (25.16%)	115 (24.31%)	120 (25.37%)	119 (25.16%)	473
Total Issues 58		Articles published in per issue 12.26%				

**Figure 1: Distribution of articles Year, Volume & Issue-Wise (In revers chronological orders)**

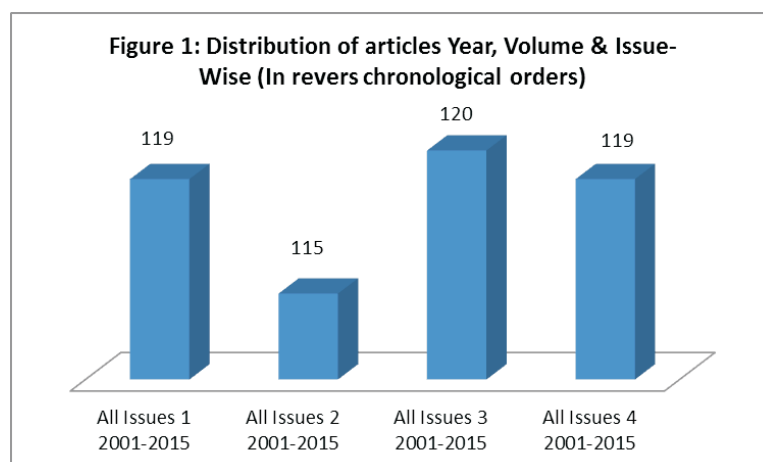


Table 2 showed the contribution of authors for 474 articles published in PMJR during 2001– 2015. The total number of authors who contributed research were 1674 authors. The mean author per article was 3.53. it is revealed that 1223 (73.05) of the authors were male and 797 (47.61) were female for the 473 articles. 318 (67.23) from 473 authors were male as first author. 154 (32.56) from 473 were female as first author.

**Table 2: Authors contribution with gender specification in PJMR from 2001 - 2015**

Total Articles in PJMR 2001 – 2015.	Issues 1	Issues 2	Issues 3	Issues 4	Authors per article %
	119	115	120	119	473
Total Authors	453 (26.26%)	405 (28.39%)	405 (29.62%)	411 (28.95%)	1674 (3.53%)
Male as First Author	85 (71.43%)	73 (63.48%)	84 (70.00%)	76 (63.87%)	318 (67.23%)
Female as First Author	34 (28.57%)	42 (36.52%)	35 (29.17%)	43 (36.13%)	154 (32.56%)
Total Male Authors	324 (36.72%)	298 (38.59%)	295 (38.59%)	306 (38.59%)	1223 (73.05%)
Total Female Author	129 (92.24%)	107 (93.04%)	110 (91.67%)	451 (26.38%)	797 (47.61%)

**Figure 2: Authors contribution with gender specification in PJMR from 2001 - 2015**

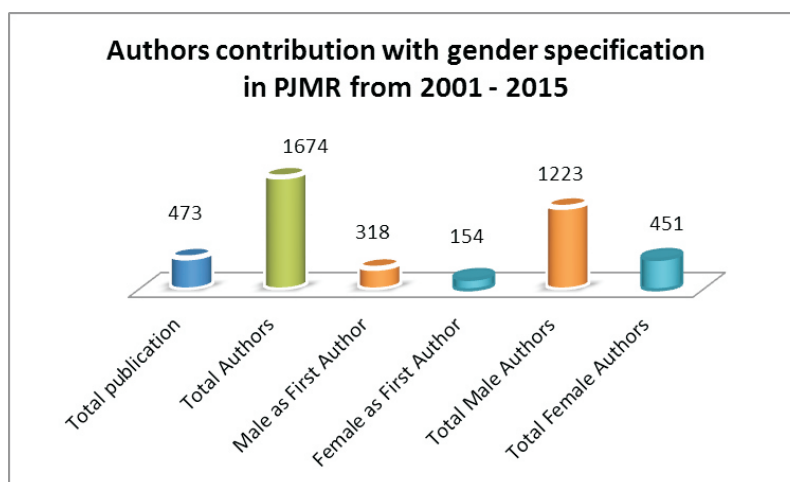


Table 3 is designed for better understanding of pattern for authorship in the four issues of PMJR 2001 - 2015, among 473 articles. (1) 50 (10.59) articles written solos from 473, (2) 93 (19.70) were written by two authors, (3) 122 (25.85) written by three authors, (4) 90 (19.07) articles written by four authors, (5) 57 (12.08) articles written by five authors, (6) 32 (6.78) articles written by six authors, (7) 10 (2.12) articles written by seven authors, (8) 8 (1.69) articles were written by eight authors, (9) 4 (0.85) written by nine authors, (10) 4 (0.85) articles written by ten authors and in least, 02 articles were written by above ten authors, remaining one article was Government document published in year 2007, volume 46, and issue 3.

**Table 3: Author ship pattern issue wise in PJMR 2001 – 2015**

Authorship Pattern	All Issues 1 2001 - 2015	All Issues 2 2001 - 2015	All Issues 3 2001 - 2015	All Issues 4 2001 - 2015	No of articles written by Authors
Single	17	13	11	9	50 (10.59%)
Two	16	25	24	28	93 (19.70%)
Three	29	26	35	32	122 (25.85%)
Four	16	21	26	27	90 (19.07%)
Five	18	16	13	10	57 (12.08%)
Six	10	9	4	9	32 (6.78%)
Seven	6	1	3	0	10 (2.12%)
Eight	4	2	1	1	8 (1.69%)
Nine	1	1	1	1	4 (0.85%)
Ten	2	0	1	1	4 (0.85%)
Above Ten	0	1	0	1	2 (0.42%)
Contribution of Multi Authors	119 (25.21%)	115 (24.36%)	119 (25.21%)	119 (25.21%)	472

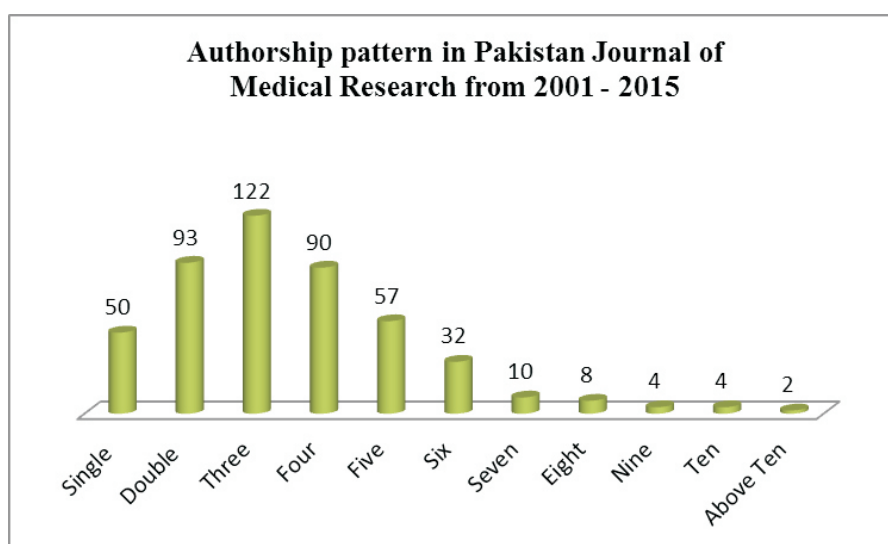
**Table 5: Distributions of research articles in medical subject headings (MeSH) published in Pakistan Journal of Medical Research from 2001 – 2015**

Table 4 shows that the majority of 336 (71.04%) articles shared & distribute in 15 medical subject headings (MeSH) published during 2001-2015, the medical subject heading of general medicine designate the major contributors 75 (15.86%) articles, gynecology &obstetric 43 (9.09%), respiratory medicine 32 (6.77%), hepatology 30 (6.34%), pediatrics 28 (5.92%), urology 25 (5.29%), oncology 14 (2.96%), hematology 13 (2.75%), pharmacology, radiology, surgery 12 (2.54%) and respectively chemistry, dermatology, epidemiology and ophthalmology 10 (2.11%) placing their research in PMJR. Remaining 137 (28.96%) were contributed with other medical subject headings of medical & allied medical sciences.

**Table 4: Distribution & Contribution of research articles in medical and allied medical sciences in Pakistan Journal of Medical Research from 2001 – 2015**

S.No	Subjects	Published Articles With %
1	General Medicine	75 (15.86%)
2	Gynecology / Obstetric	43 (9.09%)
3	Respiratory Medicine	32 (6.77%)
4	Hepatology	30 (6.34%)
5	Pediatrics	28 (5.92%)
6	Urology	25 (5.29%)
7	Oncology	14 (2.96%)
8	Hematology	13 (2.75%)
9	Pharmacology	12 (2.54%)
10	Radiology	12 (2.54%)
11	Surgery	12 (2.54%)
12	Chemistry	10 (2.11%)
13	Dermatology	10 (2.11%)
14	Epidemiology	10 (2.11%)
15	Ophthalmology	10 (2.11%)
Total		336 (71.04%)
Remaining Articles		137 (28.96%)

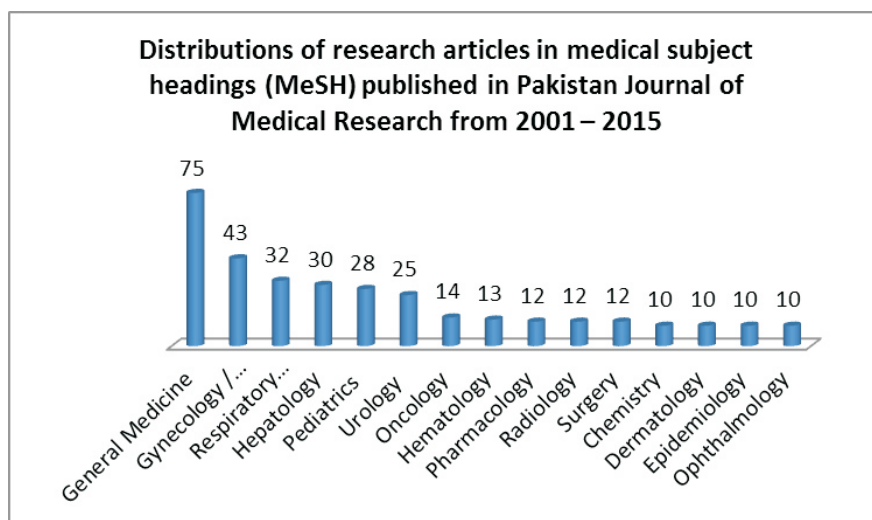
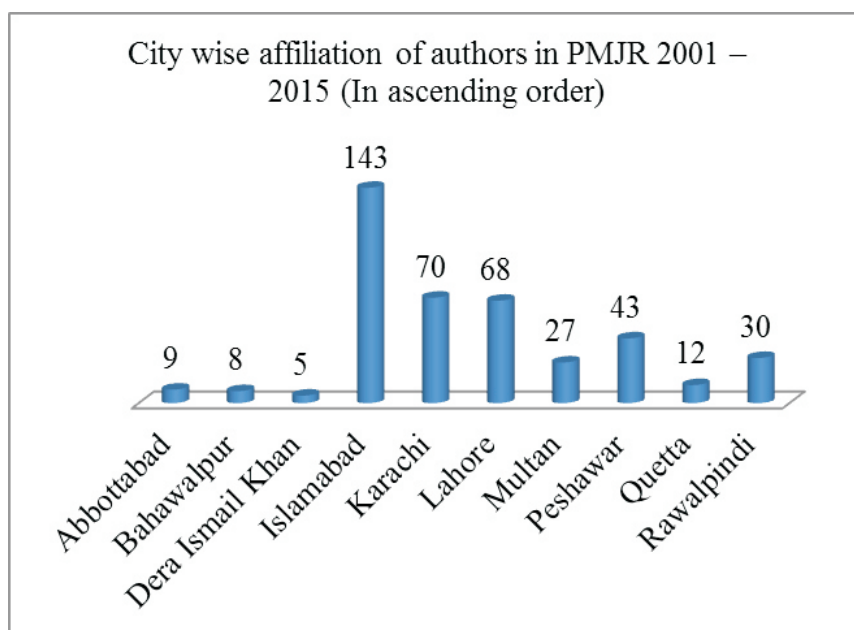
**Table 5: City wise affiliation of authors in PMJR 2001 – 2015 (In ascending order)**

Table 4 shows that the authors related to ten cities of Pakistan 415 (87.73) were most contributors in publication of research articles in PMJR 2001 - 2015, the only city of Islamabad Pakistan were produced majority of 143 (30.23) articles, and respectively city of Karachi 70 (14.80), Lahore 68 (14.38), Peshawar 43 (9.09), Rawalpindi 30 (6.34), Quetta 12 (2.54), Abbottabad 9 (1.90), Bahawalpur 8 (1.69), Deraa Ismail Khan 5 (1.06), from 473 articles. Remaining 58 (12.26) articles were related to other cities of Pakistan and affiliated with demographic locations.

S. No	City wise affiliation of authors in PMJR 2001 – 2015 (In ascending order)	Total Articles
1	Abbottabad	9 (1.90%)
2	Bahawalpur	8 (1.69%)
3	D.I Khan	5 (1.06%)
4	Islamabad	143 (30.23%)
5	Karachi	70 (14.80%)
6	Lahore	68 (14.38%)
7	Multan	27 (5.71%)
8	Peshawar	43 (9.09%)
9	Quetta	12 (2.54%)
10	Rawalpindi	30 (6.34%)
11	Remaining articles	58 (12.26%)

**Figure 5: City wise contribution of articles in PMJR 2001 – 2015 (In ascending order).**

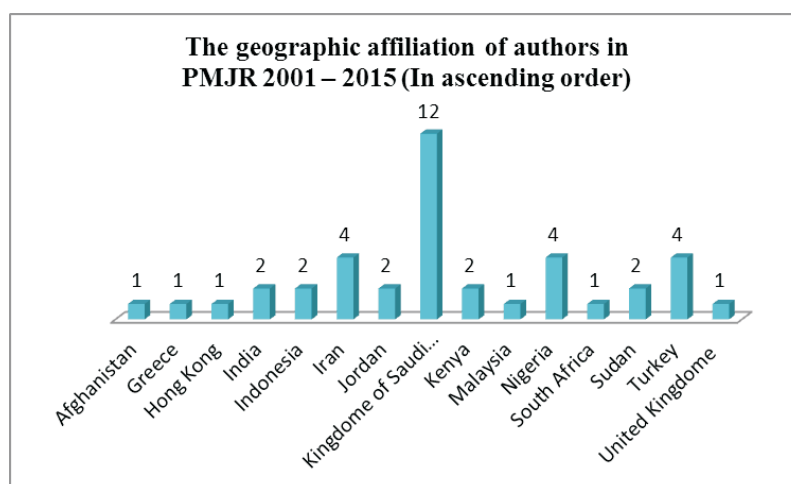


**Table 6: The geographic affiliation of authors in PMJR 2001 – 2015 (In ascending order)**

Table 6 shows that 40 (8.45) articles related to fifteen geographic locations of authors, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia contributes with 12 (2.54) articles in publication of PMJR 2001 - 2015, Iran, Nigeria & Turkey 4 (0.85), India, Indonesia, Kenya, and Sudan produced 2 (0.42), Afghanistan, Greece, Hong Kong, Malaysia, South Africa and United Kingdom respectively produced 1 (0.21) articles from 473 articles.

S. No	The geographic affiliation of authors in PMJR 2001 – 2015 (In ascending order)	Total Articles %
1	Afghanistan	1 (0.21%)
2	Greece	1 (0.21%)
3	Hong Kong	1 (0.21%)
4	India	2 (0.42%)
5	Indonesia	2 (0.42%)
6	Iran	4 (0.85%)
7	Jordan	2 (0.42%)
8	Kingdome of Saudi Arabia	12 (2.54%)
9	Kenya	2 (0.42%)
10	Malaysia	1 (0.21%)
11	Nigeria	4 (0.85%)
12	South Africa	1 (0.21%)
13	Sudan	2 (0.42%)
14	Turkey	4 (0.85%)
15	United Kingdome (England)	1 (0.21%)
	Total	40 (8.45%)

**Figure 6: The geographic affiliation of authors in PMJR 2001 – 2015 (In ascending order)**



## DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION:

This study has discovered the bibliometric appearance of 473 articles in PMJR which published 15 volumes and 58 issues during 2001–2015. Maximum number (45) of articles was published in the year 2004 and minimum 15 in 2001. The Contribution of articles to each volume of Pakistan Journal of Medical Research is constantly stable. The average number of papers per issue is 12.26%. It is revealed that max number of articles is 15 (3.17%) and min is 5 (1.057%). The contribution of authors for each issue is 1674 (3.53%) for 473 articles. It shows that 318 (67.23%) were male as first author and 154 (32.56%) were females as first author. It reveals that 1223 (73.05) were from male side and 797 (47.61) from female from 473 articles of in PMJR 2015 – 2001. . It has been observed that the ratio of multiple authors increased comparing to the single author. 432 (91.33%) articles were written by multi authors with three or more co-authors. Pakistan Journal of Medical Research covered research in biomedical, clinical medicine with different aspects of public health. It was noted that 336 (71.04%) articles were related to fifteen major groups of medical & public health sciences. It is reveals that 415 (87.73%) articles were produced by authors / institutions of ten major cities of Pakistan and 40 (8.45%) articles were produced by authors affiliated with other geographic locations.

**Disclaimer:** This study presents only numbers and not inclined or declined growth of any organization, city and

standards.

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