

## Review of: "India's Contribution in Neglected tropical diseases: A Scientometrics Study"

Sanjoy Kar

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

An intriguing and timely study has been conducted that sheds light on neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) in India and the contributions of Indian researchers to the global efforts to control and eliminate these diseases. The abstract provides a clear and concise overview of the study's objectives and key findings. The researchers have cited a range of literature sources and demonstrated an adequate understanding of the relevant literature in the field. The approach (methodology) that was used is suitable, and both the analysis of the data and the presentation of the results are understandable and properly organised. The findings and interpretations presented in the study's conclusions are sound and do a good job of tying together the various aspects of the paper. However, there are a few areas where the study could be improved.

The researchers could have provided more detail on the methodology employed in the study. For example, it is unclear how the data was collected from the Scopus database and what criteria were used to select the publications included in the analysis. The researchers have considered all types of documents, despite the fact that each type of publication has different scholarly values and significance in the academic world. For instance, conference papers, book chapters, and reviews; these forms should never be compared to research articles because they lack the same level of intellectual rigour. Therefore, in order to acquire a deeper understanding, the researchers should exclude non-scholarly items in a judicious manner.

Scopus was introduced in 2004 and is gradually attempting to include the back issues of prestigious journals. According to a report released by Elsevier, Scopus dates back to 1970 and occasionally even further. It follows that many significant publications may not be included in the Scopus database. Therefore, in order to ensure the viability of sufficient data, the researchers should choose the study period in a logical manner.

Additionally, the study could have included a more detailed analysis of the collaboration patterns between Indian researchers and researchers from other countries.

Furthermore, while the study provides an overview of the contributions of Indian researchers to global research on NTDs, it could have included a more detailed analysis of the quality and impact of the publications included in the analysis. This would have helped to provide a more nuanced understanding of the nature and extent of Indian contributions to NTD research.

Finally, while the study identifies the need for south-south cooperation in investigating and preventing NTDs, it could have provided more detail on how this cooperation could be achieved and what the implications of such cooperation would be



for research, practice, and society. The study could have also discussed the implications of its findings for policy and practice in India and globally.

In summary, it is a useful contribution to the literature on neglected tropical diseases. While the study provides valuable insights into the contributions of Indian researchers to global NTD research, there are areas where the study could be improved, such as providing more detail on the methodology and the quality and impact of the publications included in the analysis, as well as discussing the implications of its findings for policy and practice.