

Global trends and networks in the last 20 years of rheumatic heart disease research: a bibliometric analysis

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Introduction and Methods

Addressing the burden of rheumatic heart disease (RHD) will require a global effort and multidisciplinary approach. We sought to understand existing networks and changes in trends in RHD research published over the last 20 years. RHD-related bibliographic data were extracted from Scopus and analysed in R using Bibliometrix.

Global networks

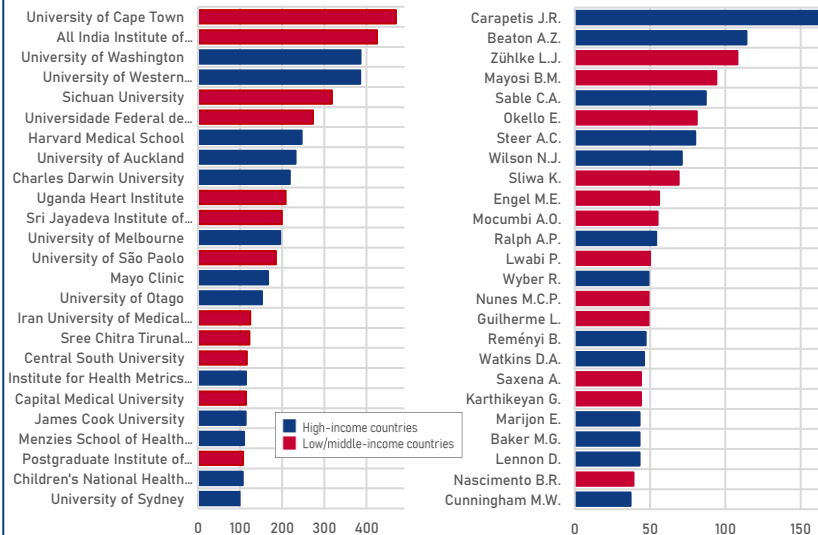
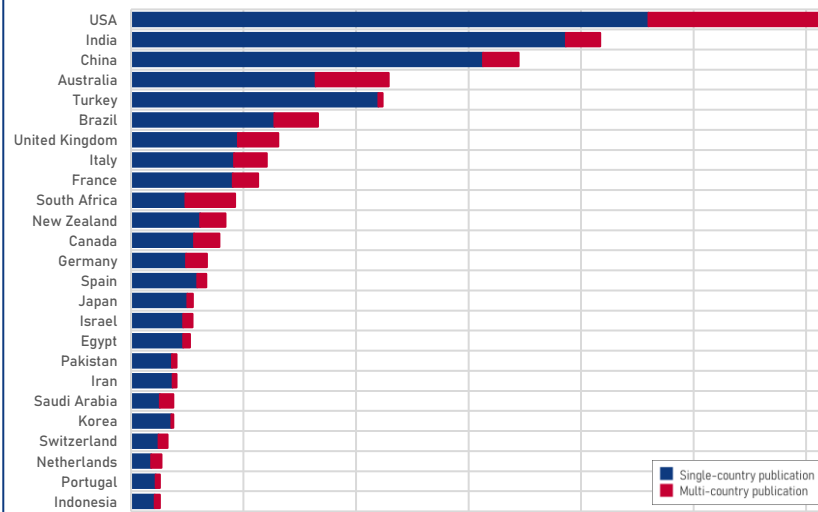
Country collaboration map: 2004-2023



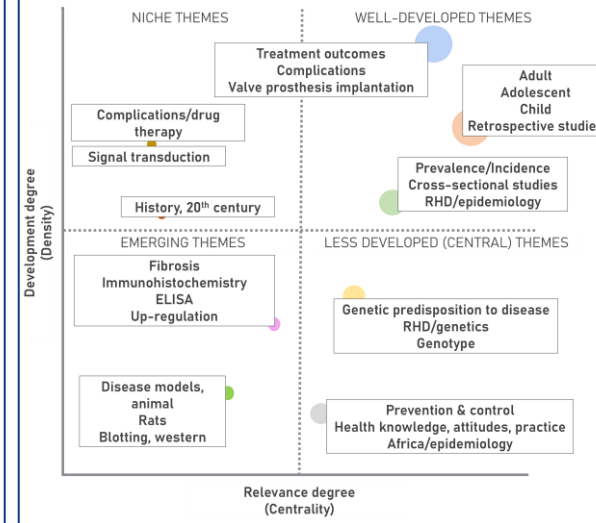
Country collaboration map: 1984-2003



Leaders in scientific output



Thematic trends



Conclusion

The last 20 years has seen an expansion in RHD research and global collaboration. Although the USA and Australia remain highly influential by many metrics, we found that researchers from South Africa and other low- and middle-income countries are well-represented in RHD networks.