

Trends in conjunctivochalasis research from 1986 to 2017

A bibliometric analysis

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Abstract

Background: With the aging of the population and the use of video terminals, the incidence of Conjunctivochalasis is getting higher, and related research is increasing. So our research aimed to use visualization software to display the research trends of Conjunctivochalasis.

Methods: Retrieved the document (from 1986 to 2017) of conjunctivochalasis in the web of science core collection, analyzed by Citespace V.

Results: The main language is English. Article is the key type of document. The average annual number of publications in the time period from 2008 to 2017 was 11.6, which was significantly higher than the period from 1994 to 2007, indicating that the total number of publications has been continuously developed. The law of frequency quoted showed an upward trend yearly. Furthermore, we can find out that Japan, USA, and People's Republic of China were the most productive countries, Kyoto Prefectural University of Medicine was the most prolific institution, Shanghai Jiaotong University is a key institution. The average IF of journals was 3.0508. Comea and Canadian Journal of Ophthalmology are core journals. Tseng SCG is the most active scholar. All cited author contributed to 5 classifications. Di PMA paper is a classic literature. Huang YK paper can be regarded as the frontier document. All cited-reference dedicated to 7 categories. Conjunctivochalasis is the hot topic, related to observe indicators, risk factors, treatment, graded diagnosis of conjunctivochalasis, etc. In addition, fibroblast was research hotspot. At length, the cluster map of keyword was divided into 7 categories.

Conclusion: This research will help relevant clinicians and researchers to accurately and quickly grasp the research trends in the field, and continue to conduct new research on the basis.

Abbreviations: CCh = conjunctivochalasis, IF = impact factor, NBUT= non-invasive break-up time, WoSCC = web of science core collection.

Keywords: bibliometric analysis, citespace, conjunctivochalasis, research trends, web of science

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YZ and LH have contributed equally to this work and should be considered cofirst authors.

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1. Introduction

Conjunctivochalasis (CCh) is the joint age-related clinical eye disease caused by a loose, non-edema bulbar conjunctiva that accumulates between the eyeball and the lower eyelid margin. Wrinkles formed by the loose conjunctiva affect the stability of tears and tear film, leading to patients with dry eyes, tears, burning sensation, foreign body sensation, and other uncomfortable symptoms. In severe cases, it can induce subconjunctival hemorrhage. Ultimately, the patient's vision and quality of life are cut due to this illness. Epidemiological surveys have reported that the incidence of CCh in Chinese population aged over 60 ranges from 13.92%^[11] to 44.08%,^[2] and the incidence increased with age. With the aging of the population, CCh will be a prominent health problem.

Bibliometrics takes quantitative and qualitative analysis, adopts mathematical and statistical methods, and aimed at the distribution of citation counts and the publication of journals and articles as time goes on.^[3] Bibliometrics has been widely applied to various fields including medicine, ecology, geology, etc.,^[4–6] and has also been employed in the ophthalmic field. For example, in the study of dry eye, Boudry et al^[7] used the VOSviewer software (Leiden, The Netherlands) to execute a bibliometric analysis of dry eye disease on Web of science database, ultimately got the research trends of dry eye, and Schargus et al^[8] have selected studies published in the Institute of Scientific Information database (1900–2016) on dry eye research, offers scholars with a exhaustive analysis on the most cited dry eye literatures, Ramin et al^[9] ran HistCite software (Eugene Garfield, Institute for Scientific Information) to analyze 20 years of glaucoma research, Caglar et al^[10] resorted to the correlation analysis in routine statistics to find out the rule of diabetic retinopathy paper from 1980 to 2014. In addition, Lin et al^[11] and Wen et al^[12] PF cataract and Xu et al^[13] ametropia bibliometrics studies were also included, these were the specific applications of bibliometrics in ophthalmological diseases. However, using the visualization software Citespace V to do relevant research is rare, so in this paper we turn our attention to the use of this software were invented by professor Chen et al^[14] in 2004. This research utilized Citespace V to analyze conjunctivochalasis papers retrieved on the web of science database and forms a retrospective and current network on CCh, which helped us grasp the research trends of conjunctivochalasis over 30 years.

2. Methodology

2.1. Data acquisitions

The literature database is derived from the web of science database. The key topic used for retrieval is "Conjunctivochalasis," the database was retrieved on June 17, 2018, and the period of publication is between 1986 and 2017, the database selection setting was "web of science core collection" (WoSCC), other conditions didn't require, then obtained 156 literatures, after the software remove duplicates operation, 154 articles were remained. And because the data in this article were downloaded from a public database, it did not involve ethical approval issues.

2.2. Statistical methods

The analysis of frequency quoted and the total number of publications based on the create citation report module in the web of science core collection database. Citespace was used to conduct research collaboration network analysis, co-citation analysis of documents, and co-occurrence analysis of topics and domains. Finally, formed document cocitation Network/ Author cocitation Network/Journal cocitation Network/Cooccuring Author keywords and keywords plus/Coauthorship Network/Network of Coauthors' institutions/Network of Coauthors' countries, then, the results were presented in the form of a visual network, and these results relied on "removal of duplicate data."

2.2.1. The elementary parameter settings of software (Citespace V):. Time slicing (from 1986 to 2017, years per slice: 6), term source (title, abstract, author keywords, keywords plus), node type (check one at a time), selection criteria (Top N, select top 50 levels of most cited or occurred items from each slice), visualization (cluster view-static, show merged network). The retrieval and verification work of the database was completed jointly by YZ and LH to guarantee the accuracy of the research results.

3. Results

3.1. Publication outputs

From 1994 to 2007, the total number of publications about conjunctivochalasis per year was single digits (Fig. 1); however, from 2008 to 2017, the average annual number of publications was 11.6, which was significantly higher than the previous period (from 1994 to 2007: 3.33).

The number of frequencies quoted (Fig. 2) in the literature showed a slight downward trend in 2006, but the overall trend maintained a steady increase from "1" in 1998 to "302" in 2017.

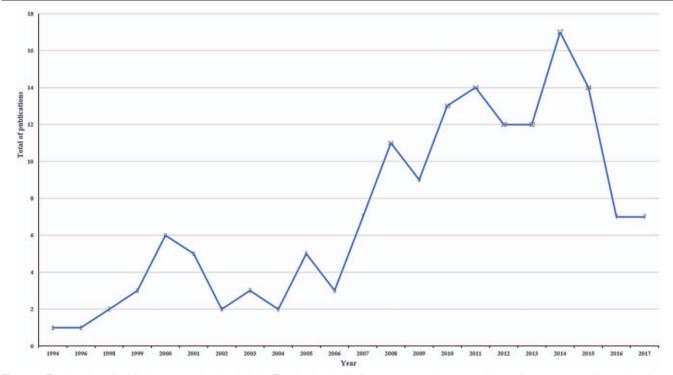
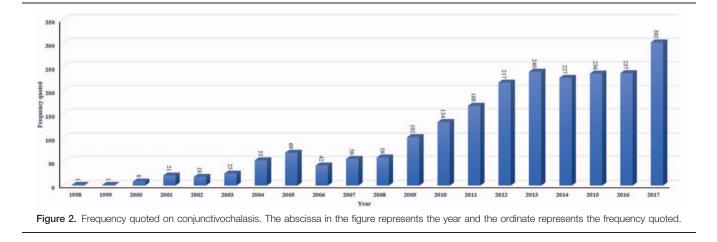


Figure 1. Total number of publications on conjunctivochalasis. The abscissa in the figure represents the year and the ordinate represents the total number of publications.



3.2. Document types and languages of conjunctivochalasis

The distribution of document types and research languages was given in Table 1. The research results showed that English was the main research language, accounting for 96.795% of languages; and the article was the main type of document, accounting for 78.846% of the study.

3.3. Distribution of countries and institutions

The country map was gained by the aid of installing the pruning (pruning based on Pathfinder) parameter. After running the software, 15 nodes and 15 links have been consisted in the network, and the density value was 0.1429 (Fig. 3). Prolific 10 countries of conjunctivochalasis were presented in Table 2. And the publications about conjunctivochalasis were dedicated by 31 countries. In the map of countries, Japan had the largest number of publications (39), followed by USA (38), People's Republic of China (24), Germany (8), and Wales (7). Moreover, the centrality which ranked the first was USA (0.44).

The institution map was gained by aid of installing the pruning (choose "Pathfinder") parameter. After running the software, 38 nodes and 35 links have been consisted in the network, and the density value was 0.0498 (Fig. 4). Table 2 showed the productivity of 10 countries, authors, and institutions on Conjunctivochalasis. The publications of conjunctivochalasis were dedicated by 189 institutions. In the network of coauthors' institutions, Kyoto Prefectural University of Medicine had the largest productive publications (14), followed by University of Miami (11), Ocular Surface Centre (10), Tokyo Women's Medical University (8), and University of Tokyo (7). What's more, the centrality (Table 3) which arranged the principal was Shanghai Jiao Tong University (0.04).

3.4. Distribution of journals and cited journals

Table 4 showed the top 15 journals associated with conjunctivochalasis. In the aggregate, 39 academic journals have published papers on conjunctivochalasis. The average impact factor for these journals is 3.0508. The journal with the largest number of papers published on conjunctivochalasis was cornea (IF 2017, 2.464; 28 publications, 17.949%), followed by Investigative Ophthalmology Visual Science (IF 2017, 3.388; 23 publications, 14.744%), American Journal of Ophthalmology (IF 2017, 4.795, 14 publications, 8.974%), Ophthalmology (IF 2017, 7.479; 11 publications, 7.051%), Optometry and Vision Science (IF 2017, 1.499; 8 publications, 5.128%).

The cited journal map was obtained by the aid of installing the pruning (pruning based on Pathfinder/Pruning the merged network) parameter. After executing the software, 105 nodes and 147 links have been contained in the network, and the density value was 0.0269 (Fig. 5). As can be observed in Table 5, cited journal which ranked in the first was also Cornea (113), followed by AM J Ophthalmol (113), Brit J Ophthalmol (101), Invest Ophth Vis Sci (97), Surv Ophthalmol (91). From the view of centrality (Table 6), Can J Ophthalmol (0.67) was the first, followed by Deut Med Wochenschr (0.64), B Spec Med CHI (0.63), Klinische Monatsblatter Fur Augenheilkunde (0.61), Eye & Contact Lens-Science (0.60).

3.5. Distribution of author and cited author

The coauthorship map was gotten by aid of assembling the pruning (Pruning based on Pathfinder/Pruning the merged network) parameter. After running the software, 89 nodes and 145 links have been contained in the map, and the density value was 0.0097 (Fig. 6). Four hundred fourty eight authors contributed to the

Table 1

Distribution of the document types and languages in the study of the conjunctivochalasis from 1986 to 2017.

Language	Records	Percent of 156	Document type	Records	Percent of 156
English	151	96.795	Article	123	78.846
German	3	1.923	Letter	13	8.333
French	1	0.641	Meeting abstract	13	8.333
Portuguese	1	0.641	Proceedings paper	12	7.692
			review	4	2.564
			Editorial material	2	1.282
			correction	1	0.641

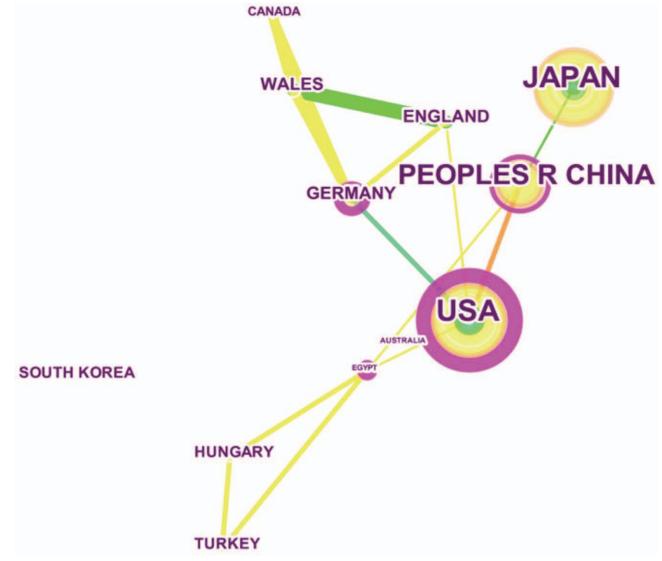


Figure 3. Network of countries on conjunctivochalasis. The purple node in the middle of the annual ring represents the impact and the importance of a country. The larger the node and the more purple it appears, the greater is the importance of the country. The connection line between 2 nodes indicates cocited relations and cocitation intensity. The higher the frequency of the cocitation, the thicker the connection line is and the closer the nodes are.

publications of conjunctivochalasis, for authors who had the most productive (Table 2) were Tseng SCG (19), Yokoi N (13), Kinoshita S (13), Meller D (10), Mimura T (9). Besides, the top ranked item by centrality (Table 3) is also Tseng SCG (0.07). The cited author map was gained by the aid of installing the pruning (Pruning based on Pathfinder/Pruning the merged network) settings parameter. After running the software, 138 nodes and 273 links have been embodied in the map, and the

Table 2

The top 10 countries	institutions, and authors contributed to publications on the	e conjunctivochalasis from 1986 to 2017.

Rank	Country	Counts	Institution	Counts	Author	Counts
1	Japan	39	Kyoto Prefectural Univ Med	14	Tseng SCG	19
2	USA	38	Univ Miami	11	Yokoi N	13
3	People's Republic of China	24	Ocular Surface Ctr	10	Kinoshita S	13
4	Germany	8	Tokyo Womens Med Univ	8	Meller D	10
5	Wales	7	Univ Tokyo	7	Mimura T	9
6	England	7	Keio Univ	6	Yamagami S	8
7	Turkey	6	Cardiff Univ	6	Li QS	8
8	South Korea	6	Semmelweis Univ	5	Usui T	7
9	Hungary	5	Hacettepe Univ	5	Amano S	7
10	Canada	4	Baylor Coll Med	5	Zhang XR	7

Ocular Surface Ctr = Ocular Surface Centre, Tokyo Womens Med Univ = Tokyo Women's Medical University, Univ Miami = University of Miami, Univ Tokyo = University of Tokyo

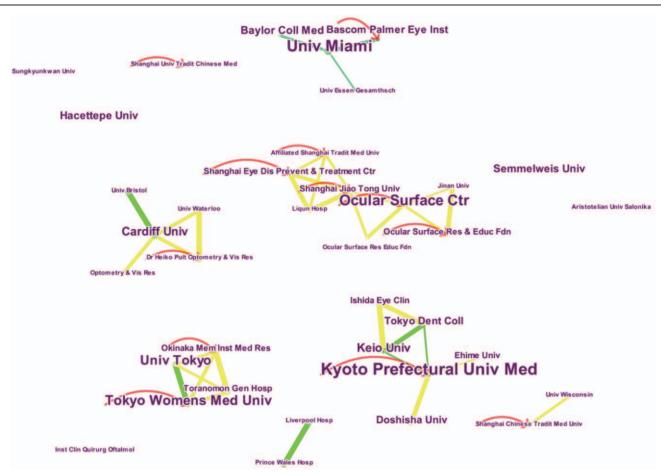


Figure 4. Network of coauthors' institutions on conjunctivochalasis. The purple node in the middle of the annual ring represents the impact and the importance of an institution. The larger the node and the more purple it appears, the greater is the importance of the institution. The connection line between 2 nodes indicates cocited relations and cocitation intensity. The higher the frequency of the cocitation, the thicker the connection line is and the closer the nodes are. Abbreviation: Ctr = centre, Univ = University, Hosp = hospital, Inst = Institution, etc. These are the abbreviation of the institution. The arrow represents the parameter setting of the guiding line alpha in transparency, the longer the arrow, the greater the citation counts.

density value was 0.0289. Figure 7 showed the author cocitation network on conjunctivochalasis, and Fig. 8 was the cluster map of the cited author based on label clusters with title terms. The distribution of cited author showed in Table 5, Meller D was the first (95 counts), followed by Di PMA (55), Yokoi N (55), Hughes WL (45), Liu D (43). Furthermore, from the angle of centrality (Table 6), respectively, the top 5 were Tseng SCG

(0.07), Li DQ (0.04), Kinoshita S (0.01), Zhang ZY (0.01), Pflugfelder SC (0.01).

3.6. Distribution of cited reference

The cited-reference map was gained by the aid of installing the pruning (Pruning based on Pathfinder/Pruning the merged

Table 3

The top 10 countries, institutions and authors for the importance index (centrality value) of the conjunctivochalasis literature from 1986 to
2017.

Rank	Country	Centrality	Institution	Centrality	Author	Centrality
1	USA	0.44	Shanghai Jiao Tong Univ	0.04	Tseng SCG	0.07
2	Egypt	0.31	Ocular Surface Ctr	0.03	Li DQ	0.04
3	Germany	0.21	Kyoto Prefectural Univ Med	0.02	Kinoshita S	0.01
4	People's Republic of China	0.18	Cardiff Univ	0.02	Zhang ZY	0.01
5	England	0.07	Univ Miami	0.01	Pflugfelder SC	0.01
6	Wales	0.01	Tokyo Womens Med Univ	0.00	Casas V	0.01
7	Japan	0.00	Univ Tokyo	0.00	Kheirkhah A	0.01
8	Turkey	0.00	Keio Univ	0.00	Liu B	0.01
9	South Korea	0.00	Semmelweis Univ	0.00	Di Pascuale MA	0.01
10	Hungary	0.00	Hacettepe Univ	0.00	Meller D	0.00

Table 4

The top 15 journals contributed to publications on the conjunctivochalasis.

Rank	Journal title	Counts	Percent of 156	IF2017
1	Cornea	28	17.949	2.464
2	Investigative Ophthalmology Visual Science	23	14.744	3.388
3	American Journal of Ophthalmology	14	8.974	4.795
4	Ophthalmology	11	7.051	7.479
5	Optometry and Vision Science	8	5.128	1.499
6	British Journal of Ophthalmology	7	4.487	3.384
7	ACTA Ophthalmologica	6	3.846	3.324
8	Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery	5	3.205	1.283
9	Canadian Journal of Ophthalmology Journal Canadien D Ophtalmologie	4	2.564	1.314
10	Current Eye Research	4	2.564	2.120
11	Klinische Monatsblatter Fur Augenheilkunde	4	2.564	0.882
12	Ocular Surface	4	2.564	5.530
13	PLoS One	3	1.923	2.766
14	Survey of Ophthalmology	3	1.923	3.764
15	BMC Ophthalmology	2	1.282	1.770

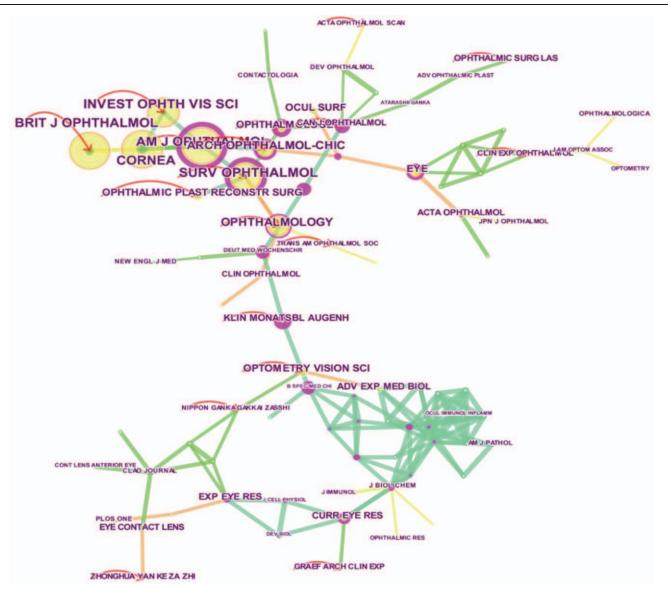


Figure 5. Journal cocitation network on conjunctivochalasis. The purple node in the middle of the annual ring represents the impact and the importance of cited journal. The larger the node and the more purple it appears, the greater is the importance of the cited journal. The connection line between 2 nodes indicates cocited relations and cocitation intensity. The higher the frequency of the cocitation, the thicker the connection line is and the closer the nodes are. The arrow represents the parameter setting of the guiding line alpha in transparency, the longer the arrow, the greater the citation counts.

Table 5

The top 10 cited journal, cited author, and cited reference contributed to publications on the conjunctivochalasis from 1986 to 2017.

Rank	Cited journal	Counts	Cited author	Counts	Cited reference	Counts
1	Cornea	113	Meller D	95	Di PMA, 2004, Brit J Ophthalmol, 88, 388 ^[15]	35
2	AM J Ophthalmol	113	Di PMA	55	Wang Y, 2007, AM J Ophthalmol, 144, 930 ^[16]	33
3	Brit J Ophthalmol	101	Yokoi N	55	Yokoi N, 2005, Cornea, 24, 0 ^[17]	24
4	Invest Ophth Vis Sci	97	Hughes WL	45	Watanabe A, 2004, Cornea, 23, 294 ^[18]	24
5	Surv Ophthalmol	91	Liu D	43	Mimura T, 2009, AM J Ophthalmol, 147, 171 ^[19]	22
6	Ophthalmology	75	Hoh H	41	Erdogan-poyraz C, 2007, Cornea, 26, 290 ^[20]	20
7	Arch Ophthalmol-CHIC	67	Li DQ	40	Kheirkhah A, 2007, Cornea, 26, 685 ^[21]	16
8	Ophthalmologe	45	Wang Y	38	Meller D, 1998, Surv Ophthalmol, 43, 225 ^[22]	16
9	Ophthalmic Plast Reconstr Surg	43	Mimura T	33	Kheirkhah A, 2007, AM J Ophthalmol, 144, 311 ^[23]	15
10	Eye	41	Prabhasawat P	32	Meller D, 2000, Invest Ophth Vis Sci, 41, $2922^{[24]}$	14

Table 6

The top 10 cited journal, cited author, and cited reference for the importance index (centrality value) of the conjunctivochalasis literature from 1986 to 2017.

Rank	Cited Journal	Centrality	Cited Author	Centrality	Cited Reference	Centrality
1	Can J Ophthalmol	0.67	Prabhasawat P	0.80	Di PMA, 2004, Brit J Ophthalmol, 88, 388 ^[15]	0.33
2	Deut Med Wochenschr	0.64	Tseng SCG	0.71	Kheirkhah A, 2007, AM J Ophthalmol, 144, 311 ^[23]	0.33
3	B Spec Med CHI	0.63	Tsubota K	0.55	Meller D, 2000, Invest Ophth Vis Sci, 41, 2922 ^[24]	0.31
4	Klinische Monatsblatter Fur Augenheilkunde	0.61	Liu D	0.37	Ward SK, 2010, Invest Ophth Vis Sci, 51, 1994 ^[25]	0.28
5	Eye & Contact Lens-Science and Clinical Practice	0.60	Lemp MA	0.36	Maskin SL, 2008, Cornea, 27, 644 ^[26]	0.28
6	Surv Ophthalmol	0.57	Erdogan-poyraz C	0.27	Yokoi N, 2003, AM J Ophthalmol, 135, 303 ^[27]	0.27
7	Ophthalmologe	0.57	Uchino M	0.26	Kheirkhah A, 2007, Cornea, 26, 685 ^[21]	0.27
8	AM J Ophthalmo	0.44	Nichols KK	0.26	Mimura T, 2009, AM J Ophthalmol, 147, 171 ^[19]	0.25
9	Crit Rev Eukar GENE	0.37	Lee SH	0.25	Zhang XR, 2011, BMC Public Health, 11, 0 ^[28]	0.22
10	Arch Ophthalmol-CHIC	0.35	Afonso AA	0.23	Watanabe A, 2004, Cornea, 23, 294 ^[18]	0.19

network) parameter. Upon running software, 150 nodes and 249 links have been comprised in the map, and the density value was 0.0223. And Fig. 9 was the cluster map of cited reference based on label clusters with title terms. Furthermore, counts and centrality values of references were shown in Tables 5 and 6. The largest citation counts of reference was Di PMA (35) paper which published his output named Clinical characteristics of Conjunctivochalasis with or without aqueous tear deficiency in 2004, and the 2 largest Centrality on Conjunctivochalasis were Di PMA (0.33) and Kheirkhah A (0.33) literature which published their paper named Amniotic Membrane Transplantation with Fibrin Glue for Conjunctivochalasis in 2007.

3.7. Distribution of keywords

Keywords were extracted from 154 records. Then, co-occurring author keywords and keywords plus map were obtained by the aid of installing the pruning (Pruning based on Pathfinder/ Pruning the merged network) parameter. When software running, the reference network was created in 103 nodes and 187 links, and the density value was 0.0356 (Fig. 10). Table 7 reflected the top 10 keywords in terms of citation counts and centrality on conjunctivochalasis. In addition to conjunctivochalasis, it was ocular surface (count: 26) who ranked the top, and the highest centrality of keyword was "risk factor" (0.46).

4. Discussion

In our research, the analysis software we used was Citespace V, and there were few bibliometric studies that utilize this software for ophthalmologic diseases by reading the literature, the ones most closely related to our research methods are Liang et al^[29] and Miao et al^[30] study, the similarities were the intersection of software and research ideas used, but the study of Liang et al^[29] did not involve the research of cluster analysis charts. In contrast, the study of Miao is more similar, but the research directions of the 2 are very different. Evidently, there is also bibliometric analysis using this software, but completely different from ours. Such as the study of Zhang et al^[31] and Biglu et al,^[32] Zhang et al^[31] study is only a bibliometric study of authors and research institutions. Furthermore, the study of Biglu et al^[32] is just for breast cancer publication network of coauthorship and coorganization. Therefore, based on these viewpoints, we conducted a bibliometrics study of conjunctivochalasis.

4.1. General Data

The study law on the total number of publications was divided into 2 phases. The first phase was taken from 1994 to 2007. During this period, the average annual number of publications remained at 3.33, and the pace of development was slow; however, in the second phase (from 2008 to 2017), the average annual number of publications reached 11.6, and the overall speed of development was faster than the first phase. This may be explained by the use of video terminals, excessive use of eyes, and population aging. According to the frequency quoted, it showed a trendency of increasing yearly, from 1998 to 2017, but there was a slight fluctuation in 2006, this may be related to the economic recession around the financial crisis around 2008.

English is the dominant language for conjunctivochalasis, less noted in other languages. Owing to language restrictions, this may lead to the study of other non-English speaking countries

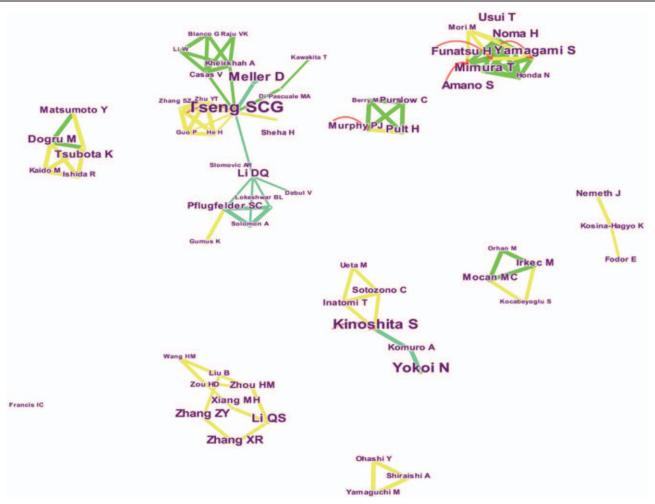


Figure 6. Coauthorship network on conjunctivochalasis. The connection line between two nodes indicates cocited relations and cocitation intensity. The higher the frequency of the cocitation, the thicker the connection line is and the closer the nodes are. The arrow represents the parameter setting of the guiding line alpha in transparency, the longer the arrow, the greater the citation counts.

cannot better show their research results, and it is also a problem that we will study in the future.

4.2. Analysis of visual network maps

The cooperative network mainly consists of 3 forms: author, institution, and country. Counts generally reflect an important foundations role, and centrality is an indicator of the importance of discovering and measuring literature. Through analysis of country and institution, we can got that Japan, USA, and People's Republic of China were the most productive countries of conjunctivochalasis. From the view of centrality, USA was the most important countries, and its count is also the top 2, it played a ligament in the cooperation network between countries, but the relationship between them is not close enough. Analysis from institutions, the most prolific institutions were Kyoto Prefectural University of Medicine and University of Miami, and from the view of centrality, Shanghai Jiao Tong University and Ocular Surface were the key institutions of studying conjunctivochalasis, the research advantage of Shanghai JiaoTong University from China is outstanding, we speculated that the possibility of this phenomenon was: Chinese population base is large, and the number of patients with conjunctivochalasis is increasing. Another reason is that Shanghai is Chinese economic center, and the advantages and conveniences that large investment in research funding makes Shanghai Jiaotong University's research is prominent in this field. Importantly, the cooperation relationship between institutions were divided into many small cooperative groups, and there is no intersection between them, representing no cooperation between the networks. Therefore, we should strengthen exchanges and cooperation between different institutions in future research.

The distribution of journals' impact factors were as follows: the top 15 journals contributed to publications on conjunctivochalasis, ophthalmology, and ocular surface had an IF greater between 5.0 and 10.0, accounted for 9.615% of the total, then, Investigative Ophthalmology Visual Science, American Journal of Ophthalmology, British Journal of Ophthalmology had an IF between 3.000 and 5.000, accounted for 33.974% of the total, 7 Journals had an IF between 1.000 and 3.000, accounted for 53.847% of the total, explain that most of the conjunctivochalasis research focuses on journals ranging from 1 to 3 points. Klinische Monatsblatter Fur Augenheilkunde with IF <1.000. Furthermore, the journals that published the most relevant researches of conjunctivochalasis were Cornea, Investigative

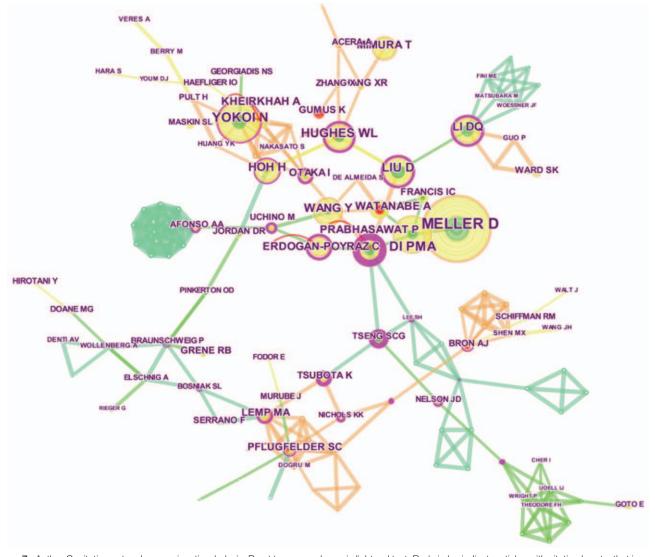


Figure 7. Author Cocitation network on conjunctivochalasis. Burst terms are shown in light red text. Red circles indicate articles with citation bursts, that is, rapid increases of citation counts. The purple node in the middle of the annual ring represents the impact and the importance of cited author. The larger the node and the more purple it appears, the greater is the importance of the cited author. The arrow represents the parameter setting of the guiding line alpha in transparency, the longer the arrow, the greater the citation counts.

Ophthalmology Visual Science, American Journal of Ophthalmology, Ophthalmology and Optometry and Vision Science, they accounted for 53.846% of the total publications. By the analysis of the Cited Journal, we found that Cornea, AM J Ophthalmol and Brit J Ophthalmol were owned the most citation counts. Moreover, the top 5 journals are all from the USA, indicating that research on conjunctivochalasis is mostly concentrated in the United States. What's more, Can J Ophthalmol owned the highest centrality of conjunctivochalasis' research. Journal cocitation network on conjunctivochalasis can see the rules. And these studies were of great significance for the submission of publications for conjunctivochalasis research.

Judging from the count and the centrality, Tseng SCG is in the first place, indicating that he is the most vigorous and influential scholar in the field. In coauthorship network on conjunctivochalasis, there are 9 networks about authors' cooperation, the most complicated network of partnerships involves Tseng SCG network, and there is no cooperation between these networks,

combined with time zone map, the citation counts and centrality of Tseng SCG were higher than Meller D, and were seen as the most active scholars in the same time zone. In the second, the citation counts and centrality of Mimura T were higher than others (Noma H and Amano S, etc.), and were regarded as the most active scholars in the same time zone. Besides, from the perspective of the cited author map, Meller D is the most significant scholar. In addition, Prabhasawat P owned the highest centrality. Moreover, in the cluster map of cited author based on label clusters with title terms (Fig. 8), a total of 10 cluster categories were generated. In the study of Zhang et al,^[33] 30 tissue samples from patients with dry eye were compared with the control group, and they found that with the severity of conjunctivochalasis increased, the density of conjunctival goblet cells also decreased considerably. Authors similar to this study were: Acrea A, Hughes WL, and Liu D, and they have contributed to the study of the #9 goblet cell for conjunctivochalasis. In Doss et al^[34] research, a new Paste-Pinch-Cut

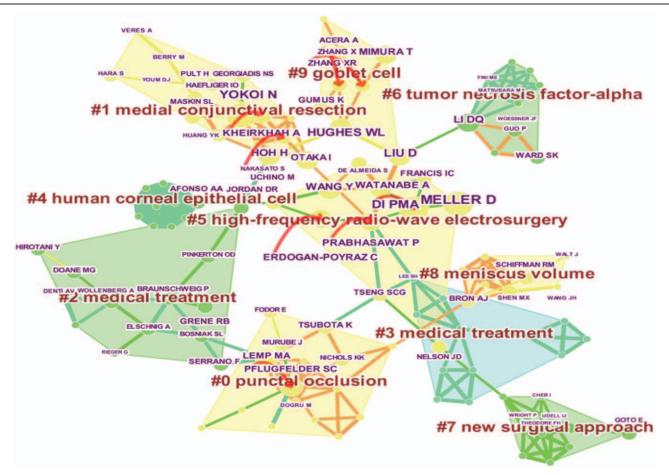


Figure 8. Cluster map of cited author based on label clusters with title terms. Nodes of different colors represent different clusters, the combination of symbols and numbers represents the cited authors' study of similar categories. The arrow represents the parameter setting of the guiding line alpha in transparency, the longer the arrow, the greater the citation counts.

conjunctivoplasty surgical technique was used only for conjunctival resection, which helped restore patients with symptoms of conjunctivochalasis. Analogous studies including Maskin SL, Nakasato S, Georgiadis NS, and Haefliger. So they were classified as "#1 medial conjunctival resection" in the cluster view. In #8 meniscus volume, the main study was Craig et al,^[35] a new type of liposomal spray was applied to the pre-ocular tear film, and tear meniscus height of the observed indicators was included. Therefore, we have obtained a novel observation indicator is the meniscus volume, which is excavated by the analysis of clustering map. The research of Wang JH, Holly FJ, Tiffany JM, Schiffman RM, Bron AJ, and Walt J was similar to this, so it is classified into 1 category. Akpek and Gottsch^[36] study described the main mechanisms of corneal epithelial cells in immune defense and demonstrated their important role in the prevention of ocular infections. And closely connected to this research were Afonso AA and Jones DT. Hence, they were named "#4 human corneal epithelial cell" in the cluster map. Lemp^[37] proposed a new drug for the treatment of punctal occlusion, but the Yen et al^[38] research focused on the effect of occlusion of the punctum on the tear production, tear clearance, and ocular surface sensation of the subject. Their similarity is that they all pay attention to the punctal occlusion, so we put them in the same cluster view called "#0 punctal occlusion." Xie et al^[39] research indicated the role of tumor necrosis factor in corneal transplantation, but in the Ward et al^[16] study, they were concerned about the rise of tumor necrosis factor levels in nasal conjunctivochalasis. Although their research focus is different, the research direction is based on tumor necrosis factor. Deservedly, we named them "#6 tumor necrosis factor-alpha." After being compared with the analysis of keyword cluster, the results of the study were alike. In the "#2 medical treatment," the main treatments involved were drug therapy, surgical therapy, and fabrication of a keratoprosthesis. Rieger^[40] research focused on the drug therapy, the topical use of artificial tear treatment can effectively improve the contrast sensitivity of dry eye, and it will also be a drug therapy for conjunctivochalasis. Then the foremost surgical treatment is reflected in Bosniak and Cantisano-Zilkha^[41] study, this type of oculo-facial reconstruction or rejuvenation was used in the research to treat dry eye patients. Moreover, there was the fabrication of a keratoprosthesis. It provided new ideas for the treatment of dry eye and conjunctivochalasis. Nevertheless in the "#3 medical treatment," the treatment involved is different from the #2. First of all, Sun et al^[42] was concerned about the eye performance of multiple sclerosis. Secondly, Azuara-Blanco et al^[43] focused on the nontechnical aspects of safe eye surgery, with the aim of reducing adverse events during the operation. Finally, Cho et al^[44] research concentrated on the analysis of confocal microscopic, using this technique to judge the effectiveness of treatments

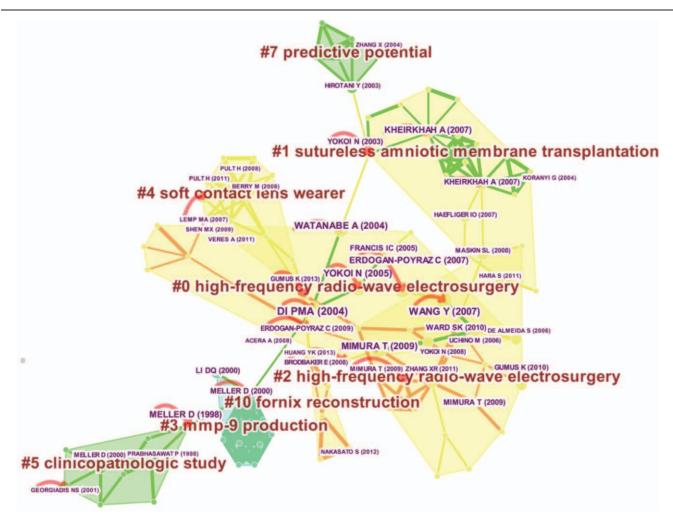
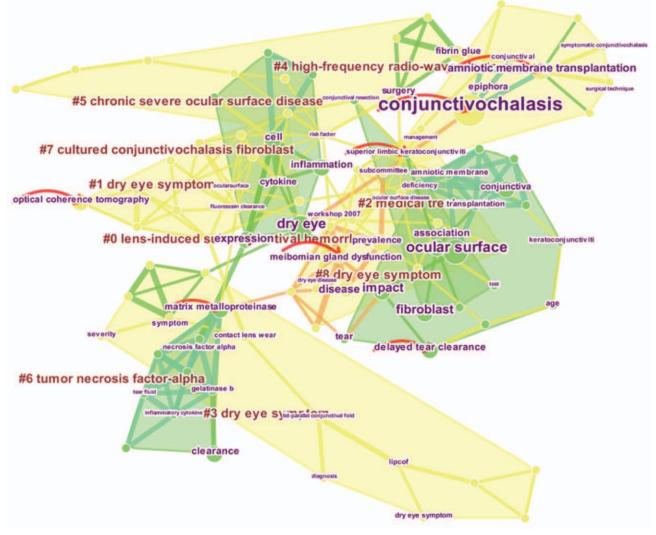
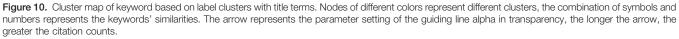


Figure 9. Cluster map of cited reference based on label clusters with title terms. Nodes of different colors represent different clusters, the combination of symbols and numbers represents the cited references' similarities. The arrow represents the parameter setting of the guiding line alpha in transparency, the longer the arrow, the greater the citation counts.

through changes in internal microstructure of corneal diseases and injury models. And medical treatment mentioned by #2 and #3 were also reflected in the cluster analysis of the keywords, but the treatment methods in the latter study were more concrete, such as tissue adhesives and amniotic membrane transplantation, etc. Goto E, Cher I, Wright P, and else scholars have similarities in terms of #7 new surgical approach; in cluster view of "#5 highfrequency radio-wave electrosurgery," there were studies using this method to treat conjunctivochalasis, and the authors of related research were Di PMA, Meller D, and Watanabe A; as well as studies to treat other diseases of the ocular surface, this is mainly shown in Prabhasawat et al^[45] study, although the drug can inhibit the recurrence of Pterygium, it still needs to be cured by this type of surgery after recurrence; in addition to, studies to treat diseases of other systems, and representative research is Uchino et al.^[46] who used this type of surgery to treat intestinal diseases. What they have in common was a similar surgical approach, so they were grouped into the same category in the cluster view. Compared with the view results obtained by keyword and cited reference cluster analysis, it is found that the results of the high-frequency radio-wave electrosurgery were identical.

Then, it can be seen from cited reference that Di PMA paper who have published in Brit J Ophthalmol named Clinical characteristics of Conjunctivochalasis with or without aqueous tear deficiency owned the highest citation rate in terms of citation counts and centrality, it can be regarded as a classic literature. Furthermore, analysis from cluster map of cited reference based on label clusters with title terms, after clustering the title terms of reference (Fig. 9), a total of 7 cluster categories were generated. In Pult and Helen^[47] study, they found that lid-parallel conjunctival folds affected the effect evaluation of Central Tear Meniscus Height. By analyzing the development of symptoms in patients with conjuncticochalasis, it is indicated that surgical correction should not only restore the meniscus of the tear, but also deepen the sputum of patients with conjunctivochalasis, and these views have been confirmed in Huang et al^[48] study. Moreover, despite the fact that they used thermocautery therapy to treat conjunctivochalasis, and the final mechanism is still the fornix reconstruction in Nakasato et al^[49] research. It is the similarity of these studies, so we put in the same category in the cluster view called "#10 fornix reconstruction." Pult et al^[50] research which published in 2008 showed that Lid wiper epitheliopathy and lid parallel conjunctival folds were related to the dry eye symptoms





of the lens wearer. And the Pult et al^[51] studies which published in 2011 were an in-depth study of previous studies. In addition to exploring the relationship between clinical signs and dry eye symptoms, it also summarized the predictive power of improving dry eye symptoms, and the combination of non-invasive break-up

time (NBUT) and nasal lid-parallel conjunctival folds is the strongest combination of symptoms and signs. But Chen et al^[52] research concentrated on the relationship between tear meniscus volumes and soft contact lens wearers with dryness symptoms, the wearer who worn lens owned lower volumes of tear menisci,

	. = 1	

The top 10 keywords in to	erms of citation counts and	centrality on the conjunctivochalasis.

Rank	Keyword	Citation counts	Rank	Keyword	Centrality
1	Conjunctivochalasis	78	1	Risk factor	0.46
2	Ocular surface	26	2	Dry eye	0.37
3	Dry eye	22	3	Amniotic membrane	0.28
4	Fibroblast	18	4	Contact lens wear	0.28
5	Impact	17	5	Cytokine	0.26
6	Disease	12	6	Fluorescein clearance	0.24
7	Expression	11	7	Ocular surface disease	0.24
8	Amniotic membrane transplantation	11	8	Dryeye	0.23
9	Association	9	9	Lid-parallel conjunctival fold	0.22
10	Cell	9	10	Surgery	0.21

The "dryeye" here may be due to a spelling mistake or siamese word.

References	Year S	Strength Begin	End	1986 - 2017
MELLER D, 1998, SURV OPHTHALMOL, V43, P225, DOI	1998	7.7389 1999	2006	
LI DQ, 2000, INVEST OPHTH VIS SCI, V41, P404	2000	4.9651 2001	2008	
MELLER D, 2000, INVEST OPHTH VIS SCI, V41, P2922	2000	6.2787 2003	2008	
GEORGIADIS NS, 2001, CORNEA, V20, P619, DOI	2001	3.6165 2004	2008	
YOKOI N, 2003, AM J OPHTHALMOL, V135, P303, DOI	2003	3.5628 2004	2011	
WATANABE A, 2004, CORNEA, V23, P294, DOI	2004	6.414 2005	2011	
DI PMA, 2004, BRIT J OPHTHALMOL, V88, P388, DOI	2004	6.9903 2005	2012	
YOKOI N, 2005, CORNEA, V24, P0, DOI	2005	4.6329 2007	2012	
WANG Y, 2007, AM J OPHTHALMOL, V144, P930, DOI	2007	4.5347 2009	2015	
WARD SK, 2010, INVEST OPHTH VIS SCI, V51, P1994, DOI	2010	4.2517 2012	2014	
GUMUS K, 2010, AM J OPHTHALMOL, V150, P798, DOI	2010	5.374 2013	2017	
GUMUS K, 2013, AM J OPHTHALMOL, V155, P238, DOI	2013	3.8643 2014	2017	
HUANG YK, 2013, OPHTHALMOLOGY, V120, P1681, DOI	2013	3.7279 2014	2017	

Figure 11. Top 13 references with the strongest citation bursts. The red bars represent some references cited frequently; the green bars represent references cited infrequently.

then the difference between them was the observation indicators, and the same point was that the target population. Consequently, they were named "#4 soft contact lens wearer" in the cluster map. In Meller and Tseng^[22] literature which published in 1998, they proposed systematic grading and possible pathophysiology for conjunctivochalasis, and believed that conjunctivochalasis was closely related to tear dynamics. However, in Meller et al^[24] 2000 study, they observed that amniotic membrane transplantation can maintain the original epithelial cell phenotype and accelerate the differentiation of goblet cells, and played a therapeutic role. Then we can deduce that the pathological factors that cause conjunctivochalasis symptoms were inflammation, etc. Furthermore, Georgiadis and Terzidou^[53] suggested that the pathophysiological reason for conjunctivochalasis was that associated with over-expression of MMP-1 and MMP-3, and the main cause of epiphora was punctal obstruction and delayed tear clearance. That is the reason why we put them in the same category, and named them "#5 Clinicopathologic study." Sobrin et al^[54] research indicated that human tears contain factors that inhibit or activate MMP-9, and tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinase (TIMP-1) is an inhibitor of MMP-9 activity. And Clark study^[55] advised that matrix metalloproteinase (MMP) has become the main therapeutic target for the treatment of angiogenesisdependent diseases (ocular neovascular diseases). Besides, Fini et al^[56] study paid attention to the unique regulation of Gelatinase B matrix metalloproteinase, which can accelerate the repair of the basement membrane of the cornea, unlike other corneal MMPs. Their research hotspots were placed on the MMP, and we titled them "#3 MMP-9 Production." Uy et al^[57] study focused on fibrin glue. It is a method of autologous transplantation of conjunctiva, and its application will greatly shorten the operation time and reduce the adverse reactions after Pterygium surgery. However, Duchesne et al^[58] was concerned about human fibrin glue and amniotic membrane transplant to repair corneal perforation, and the disease treated is different from Uy et al.^[57] Nonetheless Pfister and Sommers^[59] paid their attention to the corneal stem cell transplantation, and it was similar to Uy et al.^[57] And the research focus of the 3 is on the transplantation, so they were alluded to as "#1 sutureless amniotic membrane transplantation." Korb et al^[60] literature which published in 2005 utilized fluorescein breakup time and Schirmer test values to diagnose Lid wiper epitheliopathy, and the difference from Korb et al research is that Nichols et al^[61] used a questionnaire to screen dry eye. What's more, they have made corresponding contributions to the prevention and screening of ophthalmic diseases. Reasonably, they were classified into similar categories in the cluster view, called "#7 predictive potential." Deservedly, the references of Watanabe et al,^[18] Di et al,^[15] Wanget al,^[16] Mimura et al,^[19] Yokoi et al,^[17] Ward et al,^[25] and other reference contributed to #0 and #2 high-frequency radiowave electrosurgery. Moreover, to analyze from Top 13 references with the strongest citation bursts (Fig. 11), Huang et al^[48] paper who has published in Ophthalmology named Conjunctivochalasis Interferes with Tear Flow from Fornix to Tear Meniscus can be seen as the frontier document in the field. These results indicated that they were the topic of >30 years' conjunctivochalasis research.

For the basic keywords analysis in terms of citation counts (Table 7), we can get hot spots in the field. Conjunctivochalasis was the hot topic. Keywords related to observation indicators, risk factors, treatment, graded diagnosis of conjunctivochalasis, etc. Evidently, contact lens wear was the common risk factor, it can be reflected in Mimura T literature; the observed indicators were cytokine (Representative documents were Ward SK published in 2010, Wang Y published in 2007) and fluorescein clearance (Representative documents was Maskin SL published in 2008); covered treatments included surgery and amniotic membrane. Among the amniotic membrane transplantation methods, representative literatures were Georgiadis^[53,62], Meller^[63,64], Kheirkhah^[65], and Maskin^[26]; in addition, fibroblast was research hotspot; properly, there were studies on lid-parallel conjunctival fold of conjunctivochalasis, and the typical literature was Fodor et al.^[66] At length, the cluster map of keyword with the title term can reflected in the new research directions in conjunctivochalasis, they were divided into 7 categories, they were #0 lens-induced subconjunctival hemorrhage, and typical keyword was inflammation, etc.; #2 medical treatment; #5 chronic severe ocular surface disease, and important keywords were irritation, ocular surface, etc.; #4 high-frequency radiowave electrosurgery, and representative keyword was cornea, it is also the anatomical location of this surgical treatment of disease; #6 tumor necrosis factor-alpha, and it is also the main indicator

of clinical research; #7 cultured conjunctivochalasis fibroblast, and the main keywords were cell, dry eye, inflammation, expression, inhibitor, and cytokine, explained that the disease involved was dry eye, the main mechanism was the expression of cytokines, etc.; and dry eye symptom (#1, #3, and #8 were included), and pivotal keywords were optical coherence tomography, tear meniscus, dry eye, film dynamics, etc., indicating that the type of disease to be treated was dry eye, the examination means was optical coherence tomograph, the indicator of observation was tear meniscus. What's more, by time zone map of keyword on conjunctivochalasis, we can judge which keyword is more important in the same time zone, for example: ocular surface, expression, cell, amniotic membrane, amniotic membrane transplantation, matrix metalloproteinase, and this is their sorting in the time zone. However, there was a flaw in the study of keywords. Many clusters of keywords may not be linked to the results obtained. How to effectively filter out useful keywords is a knotty problem. There were also numerous synonyms in the "subject word" when searching data, which will bring huge challenges to our search. These are the key points we will overcome in future research.

5. Conclusion

In summary, through the bibliometric study of conjunctivochalasis, it can help us to extract useful information from complex data, such as: selection of submitted journals, major research institutions, key research countries, and overall development trends. Relevant clinicians and researchers benefited from these studies, these provided various possibilities for us to carry out new research later. At last, we can not only grasp research hotspots, frontiers, and research trends in this field, but also find new potential laws and present them in a visual form.t

Author contributions

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Funding acquisition: Zhengchi Lou and Qingsong Li.

Investigation: Yanqing Zhao, Minhong Xiang.

Methodology: Qingsong Li, Yanqing Zhao.

Software: Yanqing Zhao.

Supervision: Wanhong Miao.

Writing - original draft: Yanqing Zhao.

Writing - review & editing: Yanqing Zhao.

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