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Annual report of the productivity and bibliometrics of the Korean Journal of Anesthesiology

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A journal article is a comprehensive account of a theoretical argument or proof of reproducible experimental results and statistical analyses conducted in accordance with the appropriate procedure and form. However, no matter how well written the article is, its value cannot be gauged without a reader (who peruses it), and other subsequent researchers who cite it (to maintain and protract its lifespan).

Journal editors should solicit papers of excellent quality to improve the academic level, enhance national and international recognition, and maintain the reputation of their journals by increasing the frequency of citations. Moreover, they should endeavor to publish high-quality journals through thorough management of all processes related to thesis publication. It is important to establish a framework to facilitate the submission of excellent papers by frequently managing objective indicators to evaluate the quality of journals and notifying readers. We would like to periodically disseminate the production and citation indicators of this journal to achieve this goal.

Productivity review of KJA

Korean Journal of Anesthesiology (KJA) was founded in 1968 as an official journal of the Korean Society of Anesthesiologists. It was published monthly until 2014 and bimonthly since 2015. KJA aims to publish high-quality clinical and scientific reports of all aspects of anesthesiology, critical care, and pain medicine.

In 2020, KJA received 690 articles (all types of submissions). Since 2018, the number of submissions has increased by 37% annually. KJA has published a total of 99 articles, which consisted of 8 editorials, 14 reviews, 4 statistical rounds, 26 clinical research articles, 4 experimental research articles, 13 case reports, 25 letters to the editor, and 5 articles belonging to other categories.

KJA has adopted a rapid review system since 2014, which ensures that the editorial team provides their final decision within 7 days. In the previous year, 65% of all submissions were rapidly rejected by this system. Finally, the acceptance rate was 12.1%, and the rejection rate was 86.2%. The 4-year (2017–2020) average acceptance rate was 15.0% and the rejection rate was 83.5%. The average duration between the date of receiving the manuscript and the first decision was 13.4 days. This statistic is an indication of the duration required for key activities in the process. We are immensely proud of our rapid review system and relatively fast decision time, since it gives authors more choices.

Bibliometric analysis

Bibliometric analyses were performed using the Bibliometrix (ver 3.0, an R-tool for comprehensive science mapping analysis) package program [1]. For production analysis,

all paper published in KJA in 2020 were assessed using the source data collected from SCOPUS (http://www.scopus.com).

In 2020, the average number of citations per document was 1.303. The total number of authors was 364, authors per document was 4.28, and collaboration index was 4.17. The most productive authors are presented in Table 1. We appreciate their contributions toward KJA through this editorial. Table 2 depicts the countries of the 12 corresponding authors in 2020. The country-based frequency of publication was as follows: South Korea (40.0%), India (19.0%), the United States of America (15.8%), Singapore (5.3%), Italy (4.2%), and others. Table 3 contains the most frequently used keywords in 2020, which consisted of the keywords used by authors, Keywords-Plus, and words in the title. Keywords-Plus,

which is available on the Web of Science platform, automatically extracts information from the metadata of a particular research field, because indexing terms also assist in the determination of the knowledge structure, although it may be less comprehensive in revealing the intrinsic aim of a study. It seems that KJA tends to focus primarily on subjects such as regional anesthesia, postoperative pain/analgesia, nerve blocks, and COVID-19 in 2020 based on the results of the author's keywords.

The bibliometric information of articles that cited the papers published by KJA in 2020 was downloaded from the Web of Sci-

Table 1. Top 10 Most Productive Authors in 2020

Authors	Articles	Articles Fractionalized
Gabriel RA	5	0.74
Lee J	5	0.93
Lee S	5	1.04
Lee DK	4	1.75
Gupta N	3	0.90
In J	3	0.42
Kim JH	3	0.45
Kim TY	3	0.65
Kumar R	3	0.67
Lim WY	3	1.25

Table 2. Corresponding Author's Countries in 2020

Country	Articles	Freq	SCP	MCP	MCP_Ratio
Korea	38	0.4	38	0	0
India	18	0.1895	16	2	0.111
USA	15	0.1579	13	2	0.133
Singapore	5	0.0526	4	1	0.2
Italy	4	0.0421	3	1	0.25
Iran	3	0.0316	3	0	0
Turkey	3	0.0316	3	0	0
Canada	2	0.0211	2	0	0
Egypt	2	0.0211	2	0	0
Germany	2	0.0211	2	0	0
Japan	2	0.0211	2	0	0
Portugal	1	0.0105	1	0	0

Freq: frequency, SCP: single country publication, MCP: multiple country publications

Table 3. Top 20 Most Frequent Keywords and Frequency in 2020

Author's keywords		Keywords-Plus		Words in title	
Regional anesthesia	11	Human	71	Patients	17
Postoperative pain	8	Article	38	Block	15
General anesthesia	7	Adult	33	Anesthesia	13
Nerve block	7	Female	33	Case	13
Analgesia	6	Male	27	Analgesia	11
Acute pain	5	Case report	20	Postoperative	11
Anesthesia	5	Clinical article	20	Randomized	11
Pain	4	Letter	20	Pain	10
COVID-19	3	Postoperative pain	17	Effects	9
Hypotension	3	Anesthesia	16	Patient	8
Pain management	3	Controlled study	15	Surgery	8
Perioperative care	3	General anesthesia	15	Trial	8
Sugammadex	3	Humans	15	Ventilation	8
Ultrasonography	3	Major clinical study	15	Controlled	7
Artificial intelligence	2	Middle aged	14	COVID	7
Artificial respiration	2	Aged	13	Plane	7
Brachial plexus block	2	Artificial ventilation	13	Study	7
Cesarean section	2	Endotracheal intubation	12	Ultrasound-guided	7
Child	2	Propofol	12	Versus	7
Coronavirus infections	2	Review	12	Airway	6

ence database (Web of Science Core Collection database maintained by Clarivate Analytics. Access date: January 11, 2021) for citation analysis. Table 4 contains the most relevant sources that cited the reports published in KJA as references during 2020. Table 5 lists the 7 most cited papers published in KJA in 2020. The two most cited papers were a case report of an emergency cesarean section in a patient with COVID-19 and an anesthesia recommendation editorial for COVID-19 patients [2,3]. Last year, most

journals mass produced COVID-19 related literature, and the citation of such studies has also increased. The next two most cited studies were two reports of ultrasound-guided regional blocks [4,5]. The surge in the interest in multimodal analgesia is thought to have had a synergistic effect on interest in the literature on various regional blocks.

Journals are competing endlessly for the attention of readers, considering that numerous papers are published every day. KJA will endeavor to strive to provide more useful information to its readers, as one of the journals that continues to grow in its field.

Table 4. Top 20 Most Relevant Sources That Cited KJA Articles in 2020

Sources	Articles
Journal of Anesthesia	6
Journal of Perinatology	5
Anaesthesia	4
Journal of Clinical Anesthesia	3
Journal of Clinical Medicine	3
Anesthesiology	2
Canadian Journal of Anesthesia	2
Head and Neck Journal for the Sciences and Specialties of the Head And Neck	2
International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health	2
Prenatal Diagnosis	2
Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine	2
Acta Obstetricia Et Gynecologica Scandinavica	1
Anesthesia and Analgesia	1
Angle Orthodontist	1
Annals of Plastic Surgery	1
Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences	1
Archives of Gynecology and Obstetrics	1
Biomed Research International	1
BMC Anesthesiology	1
British Journal of Anaesthesia	1

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Conflicts of Interest

No potential conflict of interest relevant to this article was reported.

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4. Salama ER. Ultrasound-guided bilateral quadratus lumborum block vs. intrathecal morphine for postoperative analgesia after cesarean section: a randomized controlled trial. Korean J Anesthesiol 2020; 73: 121-8.
5. Gabriel RA, Finneran JJ, Swisher MW, Said ET, Sztain JF, Khatibi B, et al. Ultrasound-guided percutaneous intercostal cryoanalgesia for multiple weeks of analgesia following mastectomy: a case series. Korean J Anesthesiol 2020; 73: 163-8.

Table 5. Top Seven Most Cited Manuscripts Published in 2020

Paper	DOI	Total Citations
Lee DH, 2020	10.4097/kja.20116	37
Kim HJ, 2020	10.4097/kja.20110	21
Salama ER, 2020	10.4097/kja.d.18.00269	11
Gabriel RA, 2020	10.4097/kja.19332	4
Kmen K, 2020	10.4097/kja.19175	4
Boscolo A, 2020	10.4097/kja.19396	3
Bak H, 2020	10.4097/kja.d.19.00016	3