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A bibliometric study of scientific research on atypical antipsychotic drugs in Japan

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We did a bibliometric study on the scientific publications on atypical antipsychotic drugs (AAD) in Japan. With the EMBASE and MEDLINE databases, we chose papers published from Japan with AAD descriptors. Price's law and Bradford's law has been used as bibliometric indicators for quantitating production and dispersion, respectively, of published papers on AAD. We also calculated the participation index of different countries (PI), and correlated those bibliometric data with some social and health data from Japan (such as total per capita expenditure on health and gross domestic expenditure on research and development). A sum of 669 original documents was published from Japan from 1982 to 2011. Those results fulfilled Price's law, with scientific production on AAD showing exponential growth (correlation coefficient r=0.9261, as against an r=0.8709 after linear adjustment). The most studied SGAs in Japan were risperidone (n=192), aripiprazole (n=109), and olanzapine (n=106). Division of documents into Bradford zones yielded a nucleus occupied exclusively by the Progress in Neuro-Psychopharmacology and Biological Psychiatry (49 articles). Those publications were in 157 different journals. Seven of the first 10 frequently used journals had an IF>3. USA is the most productive country (PI=32.1), followed by the United Kingdom, Germany and Canada. PI of Japan is 3.7. Only 4 countries exceed in this field with their own PI in the psychiatry/neurology area (Belgium, India, Spain and Sweden). Japan occupies the last position of these 15 countries. Correlation between PI and per capita health expenditure offers a similar distribution to productivity ranking, except to China and India. Japan occupies the seventh position in this ranking.

Biography

Francisco Lopez-Munoz received his Ph.D. in Medicine at Complutense University (Madrid). He worked in the pharmaceutical industry as Medical Director, and currently is Professor of Pharmacology and Director of the International Doctoral School at Camilo José Cela University, Madrid (Spain). He is editor/author of 14 books and 150 chapters related to the psychopharmacology. He has published 110 papers on JCR indexed journals and 170 in Spanish journals. He has participated in 108 scientific meetings, and is member of many scientific societies (including Collegium Internationale Neuro-Psychopharmacologicum) and editorial boards. He is Editor-in-Chief of Clinical & Experimental Pharmacology.

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