

# REFERENCE TO AN IMPORTANT DATABASE IN THE ARTICLES IN THE JOURNALS OF INDIAN UNIVERSITIES

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## **Abstract**

**Introduction:** To fulfill the libraries' mission of providing researchers with fast and optimum access to information, the provision of valid electronic journals with free access can be a complement to meet their information needs. In this article, the citation rates in the articles of prestigious journals of free medical electronic journals belonging to an unnamed database were examined. This database will be called IDB.

**Methods:** This descriptive survey study analyzed the citations of 38 scientific research journals in terms of citations to 369 free electronic Science journals in the IDB database. Using two different checklists to check the number of citations to articles in Indian journals and one to collect citations from free journals, research data was collected and analyzed from Indian scientific research journals using SPSS software.

**Results:** The rate of citations to free medical electronic journals was less than one percent, and the citation rate to them in 1985 did not increase significantly from 84; In subjects (general public health medicine), the number of citations to free medical electronic journals is higher than for other medical subjects. Among 369 free electronic Science journals, BMC Public Health was the most cited journal with two citations in the field of public health.

**Conclusion:** It is necessary to identify and promote reputable journals and free electronic medical citations in libraries and Science information centers and present them to the Science community in various ways; Because providing fast and easy access to the information that researchers need is the main task of libraries in education, health and science environments.

**Keywords:** Periodicals, Citation, Databases.

## **Introduction**

Today, the emergence of new information technologies such as the Internet and the possibility of electronic storage and retrieval of information have increased the attractiveness and prosperity of electronic journals. E-journal is a journal that records and transmits information in electronic format. Such a journal is published by an institution, publisher or person with a specific title and for the purpose of continuous and unlimited publication, and its content is produced, stored and retrieved electronically (1). With the emergence of new technology and constant access to databases, many large hosts and publishers are providing their customers with the full text of their journals in this way, and this has been accelerated with the help of the Internet. Many libraries around the world stopped subscribing to some print journals and began subscribing to electronic journals due to financial problems, the emergence of new technologies, and the selection of new policies for access to information resources. The important thing is that shared and non-free e-journals can only be used in the library and university environment (2).

The annual increase in the cost of purchasing scientific journals made researchers inaccessible to the findings of their scientific research and colleagues. In fact, there is a growing demand for scientific knowledge, and these demands can only be met through free access to resources on the Web (4,3).

Free e-magazine is one of the types of e-journals that can be accessed via the Internet to all members of the community without paying any money. This journal type does not require subscription and subscription payments (5).

Since a good article must be based on scientific citations, it is particularly important to use periodicals to compile articles because of print speed and faster distribution in citation analysis of sources and references. Citation analysis is one of the most common bibliometric techniques in which the rules governing the relationship between citation documents (text) and the cited document (document) are investigated and studied (6). The quote is the starting

point and guide for conducting research at various stages and is an essential part of an article; Such citations in research publications often point to sources the researcher cites.

Web impact factor is the analysis of the average number of links given to a website. Linked research, such as citation research, tries to determine the impact of web content by counting the links to a web-related resource (8, 7).

In his thesis, he states that 57% of citations to Internet resources are in the form of electronic publications, and from 1379 to 1381, the tendency to cite such Internet resources has increased. Of course, he thinks that the amount of citations made to internet resources as a journal title differs according to the type of field (9).

The results of the guild research showed that the users' rate of using e-journals and their familiarity with these journals were equal to, and in some cases higher, than some universities abroad (2). On the other hand, Harter evaluated the impact of electronic resources on academic communication and concluded that most academic journals cite electronic journals on a small scale (9). Of course, happiness sees factors such as access to print resources or access to online databases that support print journals as influential factors in less citing Internet resources (10).

"The most important reason for not using e-journals was the lack of information about the journal's publication," said Alvin, in a practical review of e-journals among faculty members at the University of Britain. In his article, he states that the articles (only e-journals) are not indexed in valid indexes and these journals are not used much (11). Regarding the very little use of free e-journals, he points out that, in addition to the above, some also believe that these journals are inferior to non-free e-journals.

Research has also been done to identify and promote useful free e-journals. A study conducted by ISI in 2002 revealed that 1,190 free e-journals are available and indexed at ISI. It was also found that free e-journals accounted for one percent of the total number of journals in ISI (12).

Fassmeier and others examined the impact of free scientific electronic journals on scientific research. The researchers compiled a comprehensive free e-journal blacklist and URLs in the fields of science, technology, and Science. The results showed that the use of free electronic journals positively affected the scientific research process (13). In addition, Fosmier and Songyu were able to find 213 free scientific electronic journals in various fields and were able to offer them through the websites of the libraries together with scientific institutes (14).

In this research, it was tried to determine the most cited free electronic journals in the field of Science. Such scientific and research journals mainly report the findings of theoretical and basic research, and their main feature is the presentation of research reports. In the next step, the validity of journals on the web was measured using the Web Impact Factor (WIF).

### **Analysis Method**

First, URLs of free e-journals were examined. Journals were taken from the IDB database at [www.IDB.org](http://www.IDB.org). The number of medical journals available at IDB is 369. Next, sources and references of various issues between 2005 and 2006 were carefully cited, either electronically or in print. Afterwards, two different checklists were collected by reviewing the number of citations to articles in journals and collecting the other one to the free journals of the IDB database in scientific research journals, and their validity was approved by experts and experts in this field. . Determining the frequency distribution of citations made to free medical electronic journals in authorized journal articles was entered in the column (checklist of citations made to free electronic journals) by years and the information obtained from this column was analyzed. Journals are ranked according to the most cited and the least cited ones by each subject and research years. Various indicators have been proposed for ranking journals, most based on the number of citations made to journal articles. Citing articles published in a journal is the basis of the journal ranking (15).

In this context, the issues addressed are based on IDB issues. In order to determine the most cited free medical electronic journals by year and subject for each title of the free electronic Science journal in IDB by subject, a special code entered in the column in the checklist is stipulated. The Yahoo Directory was used to determine the ranking of free

electronic journals cited by Web Impact Factor (WIF). The reason to use this guide is that Yahoo covers the All web search engine and is more accurate when examining URLs. For this purpose, Domain formula; website.ir or Domain: www.website.ir will be used in Yahoo search engine. In this study, the web impact factor was obtained only for the most cited free e-journals per subject and year. Finally, data were collected and analyzed statistically using SPSS software.

## **Results**

The results showed that a total of 66842 citations were made to 296 issues, 3611 articles from prestigious journals in 84 and 85 universities. 67 (0.78%) of 3611 articles were retracted as abstract and could not be cited. According to Table 1, information of 17 (7.60%) 1 article was summarized, while 4 (6.28%) 2 articles were summarized. One issue (7.10%) of 3 articles was retracted as a summary. 3 issues, all articles are played as a summary. The number of articles in each of these issues was 13 and 17, respectively.

An examination of all references to various sources of information showed that 771 citations were made from electronic and internet sources and 65,942 from printed sources. In total citations, 1.12% of the citations were made to non-printed sources, 9865% to printed sources.

As Table 2 shows, of 771 citations to non-print sources in 1984 and 1985, IDB had 8 citations to free medical electronic journals, 681 to electronic journals, and 82 from other Internet and electronic sources.

1% of the non-print citations were allocated to free electronic journals, which equated to 0.22% of total citations. In addition, 88.33% of non-print citations, corresponding to 1.02% of all citations, were allocated to electronic journals. Other Internet and electronic sources accounted for 10.64% of non-print citations (0.12% of total citations).

IDB 3030 Free Electronic Journals Guide covered magazines on various subjects. In this study, 369 journals of this database (Science (General (234 journals), Nursing (18

journals) and Dentistry) (28 journals) of this database on topics covered by Health Sciences, based on information available on the IDB website in September 2007 (September 2007) Selected to control the amount of quotations made to them.

A review of citations to 369 journals from 38 prestigious journals published in 1984 and 1985 by Indian Science Universities showed that BMC Public Health received the most citations among free IDB journals with 2 citations.

American Family Physician journals AAPS Journal CMAJ BMC Psychiatry The Internet Journal of Emergency Medicine and The Oncologist are cited only once each.

**Table 1. Distribution of articles obtained as abstracts in each issue**

<b>Number of abstract articles in each issue</b>	<b>Vol Number</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>25/4</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11/9</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4/5</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13/6</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>19/4</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>25/4</b>

**Table 2. Comparison of the number of citations made to non-printed sources according to the year of discussion**

Source	Year		Quotes
	1384	1385	
<b>Free Electronic Journals</b>	4	4	8
<b>Electronic Journals</b>	374	374	681
<b>Other Internet and electronic resources</b>	54	28	82

The findings show that only 7 free Science journals (2%) were cited in total citations and 362 other journals (98%) were not cited. When comparing the number of articles citing free journals with the total number of articles, on average each article cited 19.0% of the citations made to free electronic Science journals.

Among the IDB subjects, triple-replicate Science (General) and two-replicate Public Health were the most used topics among other topics. Pharmacy and material medical Psychiatry and Urology subjects were also used once.

An analysis of the Web Factor (WIF) of IDB journals showed that CMAJ had the highest impact factor among the free journals cited.

CMAJ with 23,500 impact factors and The Internet Journal of Emergency Medicine with 1240 impact factors had the highest impact factor among other journals cited. AAPS

Journal with 506 and Oncologist with 325 effect factors are also in the next categories. Journal Physician Family BMC Psychiatry, BMC Public Health also had a zero impact factor.

Discussion According to the research findings, the rate of citation of free medical electronic journals in medical scientific research journals is close to zero (22.0%). Thus, out of 38 scientific research journals within the scope of this study, only eight journals were cited to the free electronic journals available at IDB. DARU and Indian urology journals each had the highest citation rate among IDB free electronic Science journals with 2 citations to these journals.

If we look at the number of articles citing free e-journals by years, we see that the citation rate was 4 in 2005 and 4 in 2006. As a result, the proportion of articles citing free e-journals did not change significantly in these two years, but the total number of citations to various electronic resources and journals increased from 84 in 1985.

When the key citations were examined by source type, it was seen that the citations made to printed sources were the most, the rate of citation to publications was higher among printed sources compared to books and theses, and there was an increasing trend for two years. It is somewhat consistent with the results of the Rahsh and guild studies (207).

Although free e-journals provide a new model for publishing scientific research articles in scientific journals and provide free and continuous access to the internet for everyone, the optimum use of these resources has not been done by Indian researchers. Perhaps the unfamiliarity with free e-journals, unfamiliarity with such information carriers, the infancy of free e-journals and, as a result, distrust in them, as well as the high quality and reliability of print resources and the possibility of permanent access to them, and the lack of information, have been given to researchers from The complete information provided is one of the reasons that reduce the use of such journals.

In general, the most cited free electronic journal is BMC Public Health magazine with 2 citations, both of which were made in different years.

With 3 citations, the topic (General) has the highest percentage of citations among IDB medical topics. The Internet American Family Physician Journal of Emergency Medicine and CMA have addressed this issue and each is cited once. In addition, in the next priorities, the Public health topic was used with 2 citations (in BMC Public health journal), and finally, the Science and Urology topics were used with one citation (in BMC psychiatry and oncologist journals)

It can be concluded that free e-journals in the field of science (general) are better known than other subjects and therefore more cited. Measuring the Web Journal Impact Factor (WIF) can reveal the importance and impact of journal websites. In other words, citations to sites with web pages can be made without examining the quality and content of the sites (unlike citations in scientific journals, in fact web citations are not the same as in-depth scientific journals (16). It is the analysis obtained from the ratio between the number of links and the total number of pages. In fact, the web impact factor, such as the impact factor on journals' citation indexes, is used as a benchmark for comparing websites in terms of their impact and importance. The study showed that The internet journal of emergency, CMAJ and intensive care medicine The AAPS journal and The oncologist had the highest citation values, respectively. Web impact factor with ratio It shows that there is no logical or meaningful relationship between the dream.

Believing that free e-journals are more cited because they provide fast and free access to scientific research articles, but in practice, it was found that the population covered by this study did not make the best use of this positive feature. Given that effective access to information is a fundamental requirement for the success of any academic library, various studies have shown that there is a direct relationship between the availability of knowledge in the world and the production of science. Free e-journals can be an effective step in this direction by reducing costs, increasing the efficiency of the time, and improving the scientific level of people in specialized libraries and parent organizations. Free access is a requirement for the development of intellectuals, access to knowledge and information, and the economic and cultural development of society, and libraries should take important steps towards the development of free e-journals among academics and researchers.

## **Result**

This study showed that the citation approach of the country's scientific research journals, in other words, that the authors of Indian medical articles cited to free and open access electronic journals were very low and did not change significantly over the two years of research. This suggests that our researchers in the Science sciences, as in years before the advent of the internet and the provision of free and non-free e-journals, rely on print resources, especially more publications. By the way, they mostly quote and use print publications.

Considering the scientific and economic importance of free e-journals in the production of knowledge, it is expected that researchers, libraries, librarians and information resources should prioritize the necessary training to identify and use such journals more efficiently. and administrative resources. Given the scientific and economic importance of free e-journals in the production of information, researchers, libraries, librarians and information resources are expected to provide the necessary training, research and execution to identify such journals and use them more efficiently in their priorities. Libraries and medical information centers should provide access to these journals for their users. In addition to education, it can draw users' attention to such journals by designing it in library workshops for such journals, and provide users with centralized access to this desired type of information medium.

Medical information providers and librarians should inform researchers of the benefits of such journals and their role in accelerating the transfer of scientific knowledge. Become familiar with and assist them in searching and retrieving information, thereby increasing the number of references to these journals, both scientifically and economically. And libraries can best play their role of disseminating information at the right time, at a lower cost to the user and in a faster process.

On the other hand, not every free e-journal available on the web is reliable and credible, so it is necessary to provide a valid and appropriate free e-magazine in workshops with open access to the internet based on the precautions recommended previously. Therefore, it seems necessary to identify and promote reputable journals and free electronic medical

citations in libraries and medical information centers and make them available to the Scientific community and researchers in a variety of ways; Because the mission of libraries in education, health and science environments is to provide researchers with fast, easy and optimum access to the information they need.