

# Bibliometric Analysis of Academic Publications for Caregivers of Individuals with Schizophrenia

Şizofrenili Bireylere Bakım Verenlere Yönelik Akademik Yayınların Bibliyometrik Analizi

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ABSTRACT

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The aim of the study is to examine the studies on the caregivers of individuals with schizophrenia in the "Web of Science" database using the bibliometric method. Studies registered in the Web of Science database between 20-05-2013 and 20-05-2023 were included in this descriptive study. "Caregivers of Patients with Schizophrenia" was typed into the search engine and proceeded with the data of 1020 articles obtained. In this study, which included descriptive statistical data with the bibliometric analysis method, the relationship and development trends of the studies in the literature were determined by using co-citation and co-occurrence. The results of the research show that there are a number of articles dealing with issues such as stress, mental health, need for social support and care burdens of caregivers of schizophrenia patients. In addition, studies on the education levels, experiences and care strategies of caregivers of patients with schizophrenia are also noteworthy. Research has also been conducted on the roles and experiences of family members, healthcare professionals, and community-based organizations among caregivers of patients with schizophrenia. In conclusion, the bibliometric analysis of caregivers of schizophrenia patients reveals the size of studies in this field, publication trends and important research topics. More research on caregivers of schizophrenic patients will contribute to policy and practice development in this area. This research can form an important basis for better support and services for caregivers of people with schizophrenia.

**Keywords:** *burden of care, psychoeducation, stress, schizophrenia, quality of life*

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ÖZ

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Araştırmanın amacı "Web of Science" veri tabanında yer alan şizofrenili bireylere bakım verenlerle ilgili çalışmaların bibliyometrik yöntemiyle incelenmesidir. Tanımlayıcı olarak yapılan bu araştırmaya 20-05-2013 ve 20-05-2023 tarihleri arasında Web of Science veri tabanına kayıtlı çalışmalar dahil edilmiştir. Arama motoruna "Caregivers of Patients with Schizophrenia" yazılmış ve elde edilen 1020 makalenin verileriyle ilerlenmiştir. Bibliyometrik analiz yöntemi ile tanımlayıcı istatistiksel verilere yer verilmiş olan bu çalışmada ortak alıntı analizi (co-citation) ve birlikte oluşum (co-occurrence) kullanarak alanyazındaki araştırmaların ilişki ve gelişme eğilimleri belirlenmiştir. Araştırma sonuçları, şizofreni hastalarına bakım verenlerle ilgili çalışmaların stres, ruh sağlığı, sosyal destek ihtiyacı ve bakım yükleri gibi konuları ele alan bir dizi makalenin olduğunu göstermektedir. Ayrıca, şizofreni hastalarına bakım verenlerin eğitim düzeyleri, deneyimleri ve bakım stratejileri üzerine yapılan çalışmalar da kayda değerdir. Şizofreni hastalarının bakım verenleri arasında aile üyelerinin, sağlık çalışanlarının ve toplum tabanlı kuruluşların rolleri ve deneyimleri üzerine de araştırmalar yapılmıştır. Sonuç olarak şizofreni hastalarına bakım verenlerle ilgili yapılan bibliyometrik analiz, bu alandaki çalışmaların büyüklüğünü, yayın trendlerini ve önemli araştırma konularını ortaya koymaktadır. Şizofreni hastalarının bakım verenleri hakkında daha fazla araştırma yapılması, bu alanda politika ve uygulama geliştirilmesine katkı sağlayacaktır. Bu araştırma, şizofreni hastalarına bakım verenlere yönelik daha iyi destek ve hizmetlerin sağlanması için önemli bir temel oluşturabilir.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** *bakım yükü, psikoeğitim, stres, şizofreni, yaşam kalitesi*

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## INTRODUCTION

**S**chizophrenia, which usually starts at an early age, brings with it introversion, which reduces the ties with people by moving away from reality; It is a combined disorder with severe disorders in thoughts, sensations, and behaviors (Öztürk & Uluşahin, 2016; Yıldırım Üşenmez et al., 2022). Despite progressive hallucinations, schizophrenia, a disease combined with decreases in thinking ability and power of orientation, can cause depressive symptoms and mental dysfunction (Zhuo et al., 2021). Schizophrenia is a new definition when compared to terms such as mania or melancholia; Morel explained the term dementia precoce as a disease that affects young people for an unknown reason and leads to mental deterioration over time. Subsequently, German psychiatrist Ewald Hecker defined a study called "hebephrenia" and Kahlbaum defined it as a patient suffering from "catatonia" (Gonçalves et al., 2018). In addition to this definition, Kraepelin proposed two different concepts called paranoid dementia and early dementia. In 1911, while Bleuler referred to the deterioration in the social field of psychosis, Freud defined psychosis as a source of conflict between the ego and the outside world (Çorak, 2018). Schizophrenia is a disease with a wide variety of genetic variants. The fact that the variants in question are not affected by natural selection and have taken place in all processes and societies of human history suggests their complexity in terms of genetics along with environmental factors (Nicholson, 2020).

The 5 factors listed in the etiology of schizophrenia are as follows;

### Genetic factors

1. Structural changes in the brain
2. Neurochemical changes
3. Neurophysiological changes
4. Endocrine factors (Summakoglu and Erdoğan,2018).

The burden of psychiatric illness is increasing and gaining importance (WHO, 2017). According to the ranking made by the World Health Organization (WHO), schizophrenia is among the 10 diseases that contribute to the burden of disease worldwide (Fischer and Buchanan, 2020). Although the prevalence of schizophrenia differs between societies and years, it is generally accepted as 1%, and in a study conducted in Turkey, it was found that the prevalence of schizophrenia was 8.9 per 1000 people (Binbay et al., 2011). The care of patients with schizophrenia is an issue that is increasingly important, and it is a subject studied both in our country and in the world. Although it is not known in which race the incidence of schizophrenia is higher, the prevalence is equal in men and women. The schizophrenia history of male individuals starts earlier and this age range is in the 15-25 age group (Kocal et al., 2017). In women, it begins to appear between the ages of 25-35. There is a second acceleration in the incidence of female

patients between the ages of 55-64 (Li et al., 2016). While early-onset schizophrenia is seen before the age of 18, late-onset schizophrenia is a rare type of schizophrenia seen after the age of 40, and very late-onset schizophrenia is seen after the age of 60 (Wang et al., 2019; Suen et al., 2019). Medical approaches, drug treatments, and therapy models are being developed day by day in the treatment of schizophrenia. Medication alone may not benefit the patient. In order to intervene in such situations, psychoeducation, psychotherapy and many supportive treatments can be taken together with family groups (Kali, 2018).

Giving care; when the care recipient cannot carry out the activities of daily living, this action means providing physical, mental, emotional, and social support accompanied by a caregiver (Hermannsve & Mastel-Smith, 2012). In providing care, there is formal care support provided by paid or unpaid medically trained persons, and informal caregivers, such as family and relatives, who provide this service free of charge with no time limit (Claire et al., 2021). This role that families take on can sometimes increase their stress and create a burden on them. The term burden is evaluated in two ways, objectively or subjectively. While objective burden causes disadvantageous situations in family life, social life, and economy, subjective burden expresses psychological and physical negativities such as caregiver feeling bad, depressed, and socially withdrawn (Özlü et al., 2015). Bibliometrics is the analysis of various statistics over numerical data. Evaluations vary according to subject types and include qualitative and quantitative analysis methods. Bibliometric methods, on the other hand, proceed with the quantitative method. At the beginning of their studies, researchers first examine the bibliometric studies on the subject in order to have general information about the literature (Öztürk & Kurutkan, 2020). In this type of bibliometric analysis; The number of publications, institutions, publication language, countries, journals, keyword networks, and citations can be analyzed as variables (Gürdün, 2020). With the bibliometric method, the trend changes in a certain area are understood and it is possible to see the developments in the p area more clearly (Chun, 2018). The application area is to analyze scientific research publications, thematic classifications, journal sources, and geographical distribution, examining keywords and revealing the relationship between article topics and quantity calculations (Donthu et al., 2021).

Most patients with schizophrenia live with their families. Schizophrenia disease seriously affects the life of the patient as well as the family. In this context, families of schizophrenia patients experience various difficulties in fulfilling their caregiving roles (Bademli & Çetinkaya-Duman, 2013). The care of patients with schizophrenia is an issue that is increasingly important, and it is a subject studied both in our country and in the world. In addition, since schizophrenia is a lifelong disorder, this study is important in terms of knowing what caregivers of schizophrenia patients experience and planning studies to strengthen them psychologically. The purpose of this research

is to perform a bibliometric analysis of the publications in the Web of Science database for caregivers of individuals with schizophrenia.

## METHOD

### Research Model

The aim of this study is to reveal the bibliometric profiles of studies on individuals who care for individuals with schizophrenia. For this purpose, the bibliometric analysis method was used for data related to the literature. Bibliometric analysis is an integral part of the research evaluation methodology (Yurdakul & Bozdoğan, 2022). Bibliometrics is a preferred method for examining studies on the subject by using mathematical and statistical techniques (Şen, 2019). Bibliometric studies provide concept development, emerging research areas, research gaps, and information about existing literature and recent developments and their characteristics (Nicoll et al., 2020). At the same time, this method gives information that academic studies on a subject have various features. Within the scope of the study, the data obtained from the WoS database were discussed in terms of some features. First, the most frequently used keywords and their relationship networks were examined. Afterward, the most cooperating authors and countries were examined. In addition, considering the number of citations, the studies in the field, the cooperation of the institutions dealing with the caregivers of individuals with schizophrenia, and the number of documents, including the journals, were discussed. In addition, the frequency distribution of the articles according to the years the number of citations, and the categories to which the studies belong were revealed. The findings are presented with the help of statistical analysis and network maps from the Vosviewer program and Web of Science. In this research, the other year was limited in terms of database and topics, as it only focused on the articles that were added to the Web of Science database, not including the articles published in other databases from the data scanned in the last 10 years. Before starting to work on the care and caregivers of individuals with schizophrenia, it is aimed that the authors have general knowledge. In the future, more studies can be carried out in the areas considered as the boundary of this research.

### Data Collection and Inclusion Criteria

The keyword "*Caregivers of Patients with Schizophrenia*" was searched in the search engine in the articles published between 2013-2023 in the Web of Science database on 20.05.2023. The search engine, which shows an updated platform feature, has been used for 1 day. The last scan was made on 20.05.2023. The bibliometric analysis was continued with the articles matching the search criteria.

The questions to be answered in this bibliometric study are;

1. What are the most frequently used keywords in articles about caregivers of individuals with schizophrenia and which keywords are included with which keywords in the WoS database?
2. Who are the most prolific authors on caregivers of individuals with schizophrenia?
3. In which countries are articles on caregivers of individuals with schizophrenia most frequently published, and with which other countries are the most frequently linked?
4. What are the most cited/most influential articles about caregivers of individuals with schizophrenia?
5. Which institution publishes the most articles about caregivers of individuals with schizophrenia?
6. What are the journals in which articles about caregivers of individuals with schizophrenia are published the most?
7. What is the frequency distribution of the articles about caregivers of individuals with schizophrenia according to years and the number of citations?
8. How is the classification of studies on caregivers of individuals with schizophrenia according to the WoS Core Collection categories?

### Analysis of Data

The research includes articles on caregivers of individuals with schizophrenia indexed in the ISI Web of Science (WoSCore Collection) and was conducted on March 12, 2023.

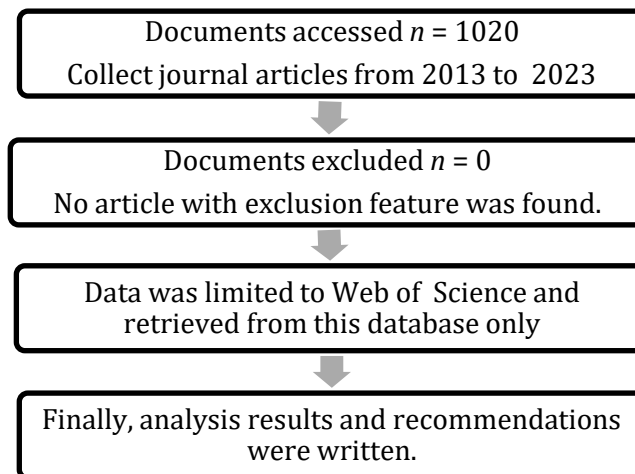


Figure 1. Stages of data collection

In the study, articles published between 20-05-2013 and 20-05-2023 were scanned. The articles included in the research were obtained by filtering in the Web of Science (WoS) database, which offers a very comprehensive data pool. Scanned indexes were preferred as SCI-Expanded,



"schizophrenia" appeared as the most frequently repeated keyword with the highest correlation power in the largest red circle. In addition, the words "caregivers", "caregivers", "quality of life", "burden", "depression", "bipolar disorder", "family", "anxiety", "coping" and "caregiver burden" were also frequently used and correlations were found. are seen as words of high power. Rings of different colors representing clusters and lines showing the strength of the relationship between the rings indicate a dense web of words.

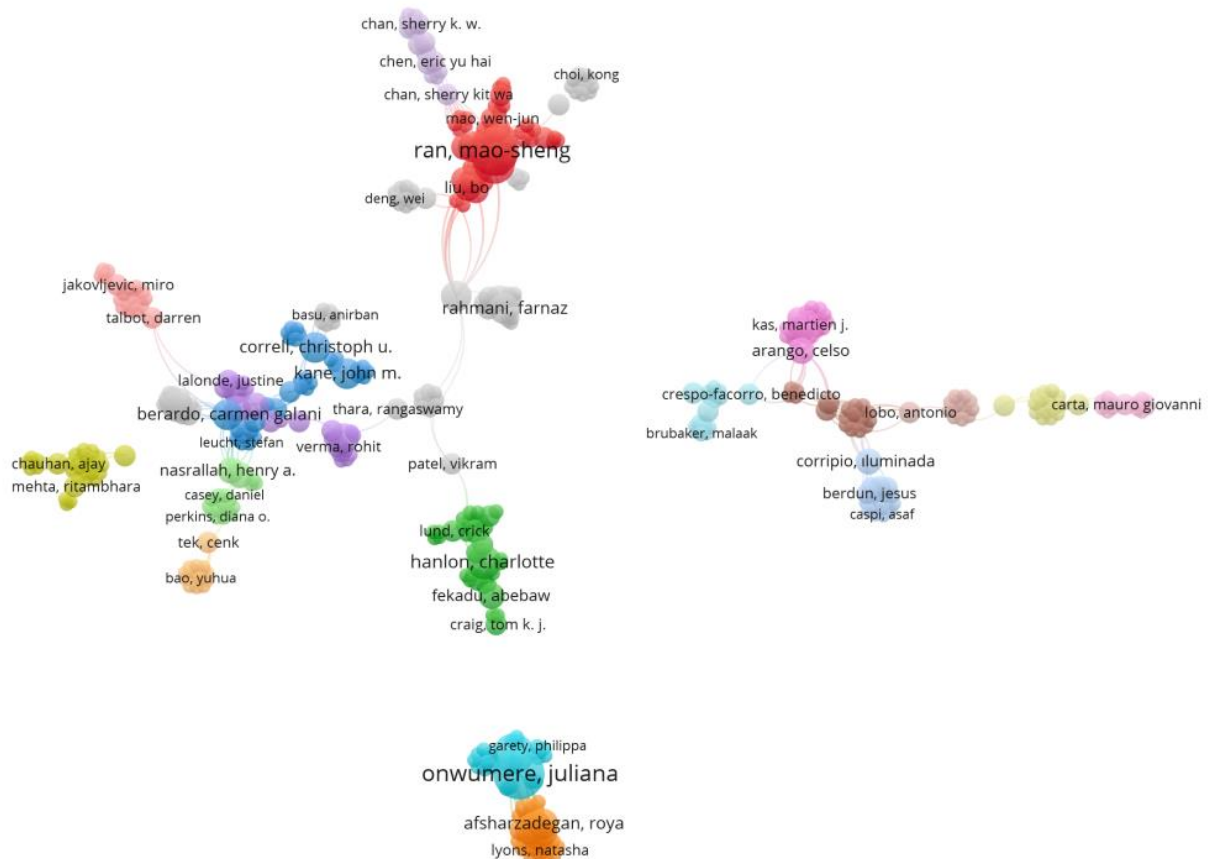


Figure 3. Network map of the most collaborating authors

Figure 3 shows the network map of the authors most collaborating in studies of caregivers of patients with schizophrenia. While creating the network map, the minimum number of documents and citations of the authors was chosen as 1, and 4402 authors were reached. Of these 4402 authors, only 3617 passed the threshold. Of these 3617 authors, only 508 had a connection. The authors were included in 25 different clusters. "Ran, M." appearing in the red circle became the most collaborative and connected author on caregivers of schizophrenic patients, followed by "Onwumere, J." is coming. In general, strong connections were identified among the authors in the network map of the most collaborating authors.

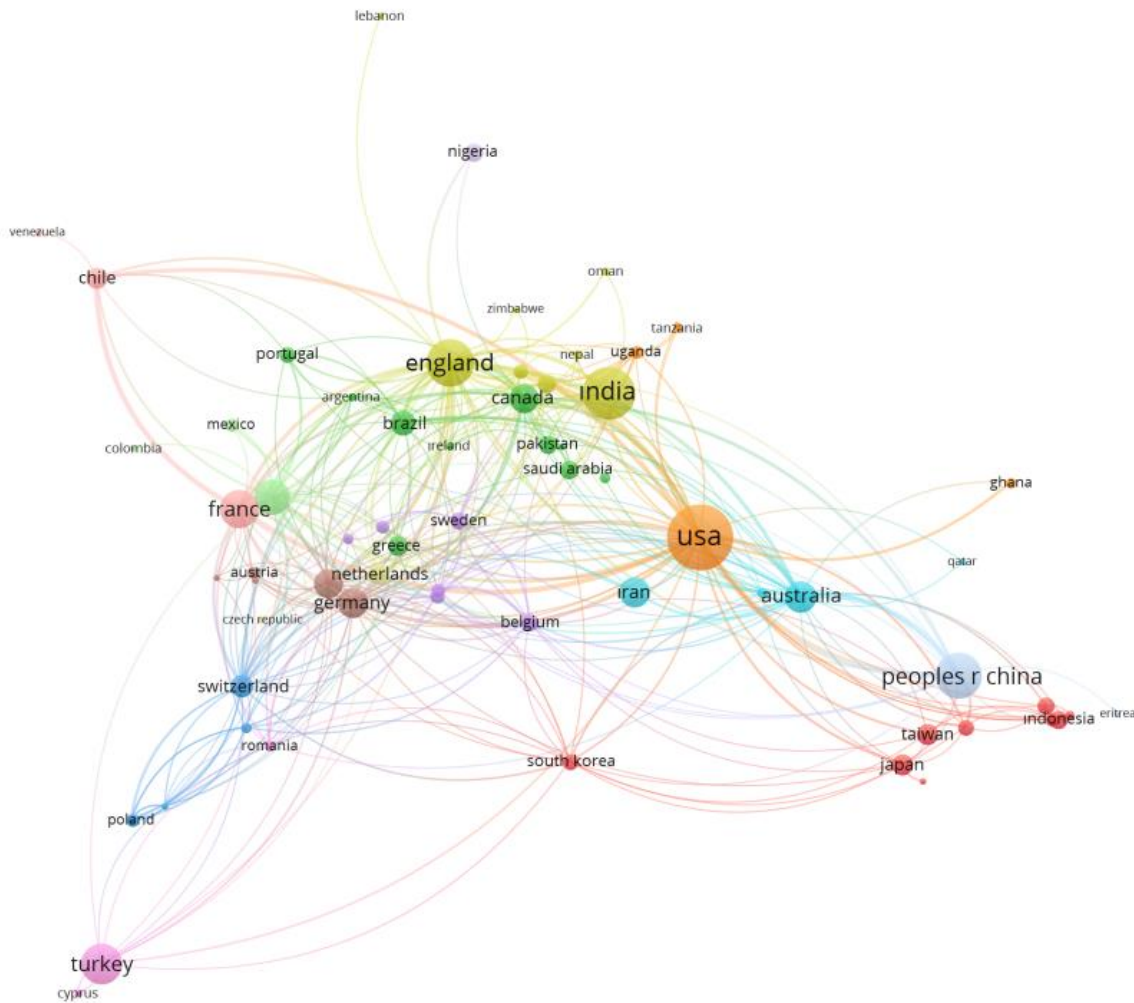


Figure 4. Network map of the most cooperating countries

Figure 4 shows the network map of the countries that have collaborated the most in studies of caregivers of patients with schizophrenia. While creating the network map, the minimum number of documents and citations was selected as 1 for each country, reaching 81 countries. 78 out of 81 countries have passed the threshold. On the network map, 72 of the 78 countries are interconnected, and these 72 countries were included in 14 different clusters. The USA, which is in the largest orange ring, was the country with the most cooperation and connection, followed by the United Kingdom with the yellow ring and Australia with the blue ring. The overall assessment of the network map showed that the relations between the countries are strong.



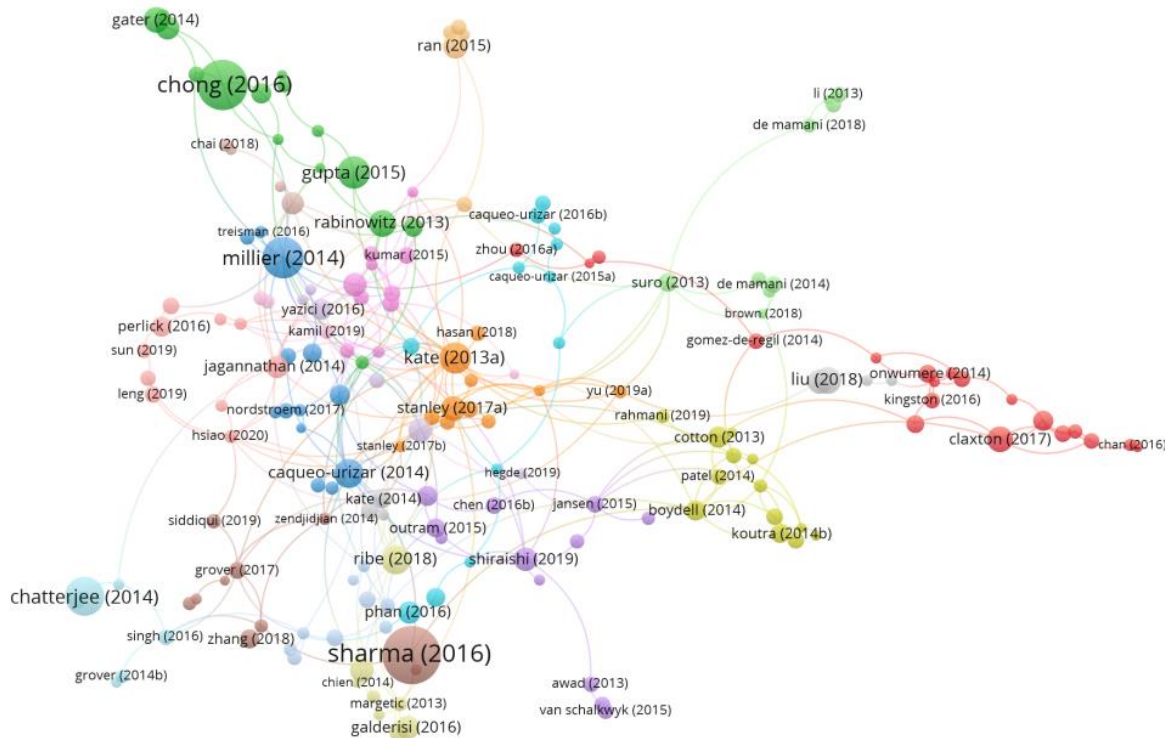


Figure 5. Network maps of most cited studies

Figure 5 806 of the 1020 studies in the sample of studies dealing with caregivers of schizophrenia patients were cited at least once, and 212 were never cited. In order to obtain a clearer image, 183 articles that have been cited at least 10 times and are linked to each other are presented on the visual map. These articles are distributed in 20 clusters. The most cited study is the one by Sharma (2016), which is in the light red circle in the 6th cluster. Other most cited studies are Chong (2016), Miller (2014), Madeira (2015), Chatterjee (2014), Gupta (2015) and Niculescu (2015).



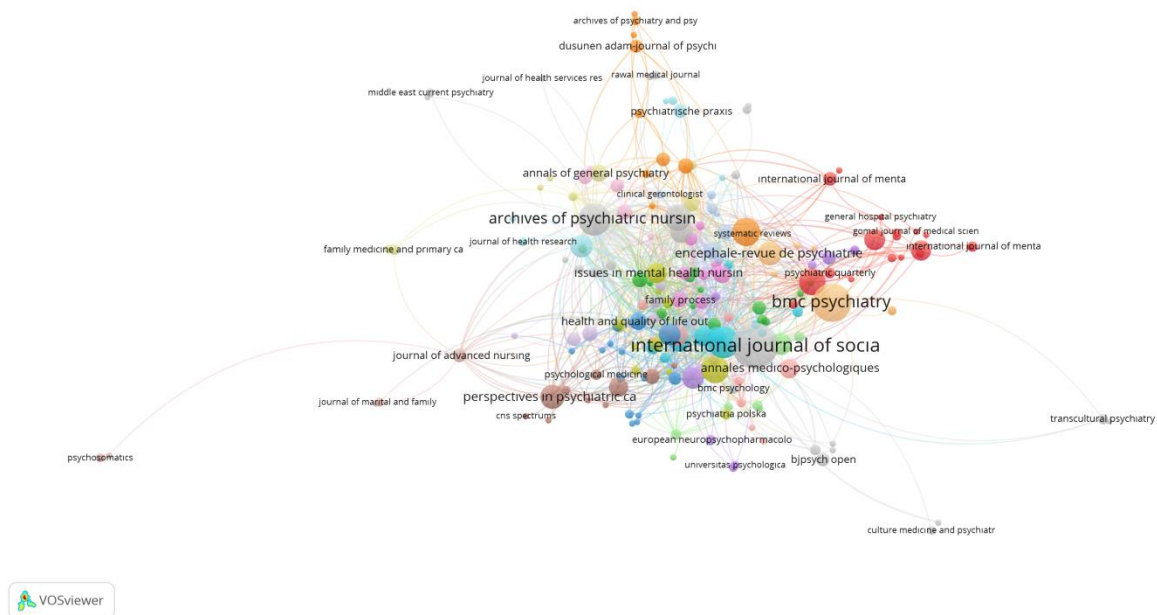


Figure 7. Network map of journals with the largest number of studies

Figure 7 shows a network map of journals with the highest number of studies on caregivers of patients with schizophrenia. While creating the network map, 372 journals were reached by choosing the minimum number of documents and citations of the journals as 1. Of these 372 journals, 304 passed the threshold. Out of these 304 institutions, only 203 had connections with each other. These institutions are included in 26 different clusters. The "International Journal of Social Psychiatry" appearing in the blue ring was the journal with the highest number of documents on caregivers of schizophrenia patients, followed by "BMC Psychiatry" and "Psychiatry Research". Considering the number of citations, the most cited journal was "BMC Psychiatry", while the journals "Neuropsychiatric Disease and Treatment" and "International Journal of Social Psychiatry" came right after. When the journals are evaluated in terms of total link strength, the "International Journal of Social Psychiatry" is in the first place, then "Archives of Psychiatric Nursing" and "Psychiatry Research" journals.

Finally, the citation characteristics and the graph showing the change according to the years are given. Then, there is a visual with categorical statistics determined over WoS. Since it is in the beginning of 2023, its numerical data is low. Considering this detail, the number of studies on the subject has increased over the years. The highest value was captured in 2021. The categories are listed as follows; psychiatry, nursing and medicine.

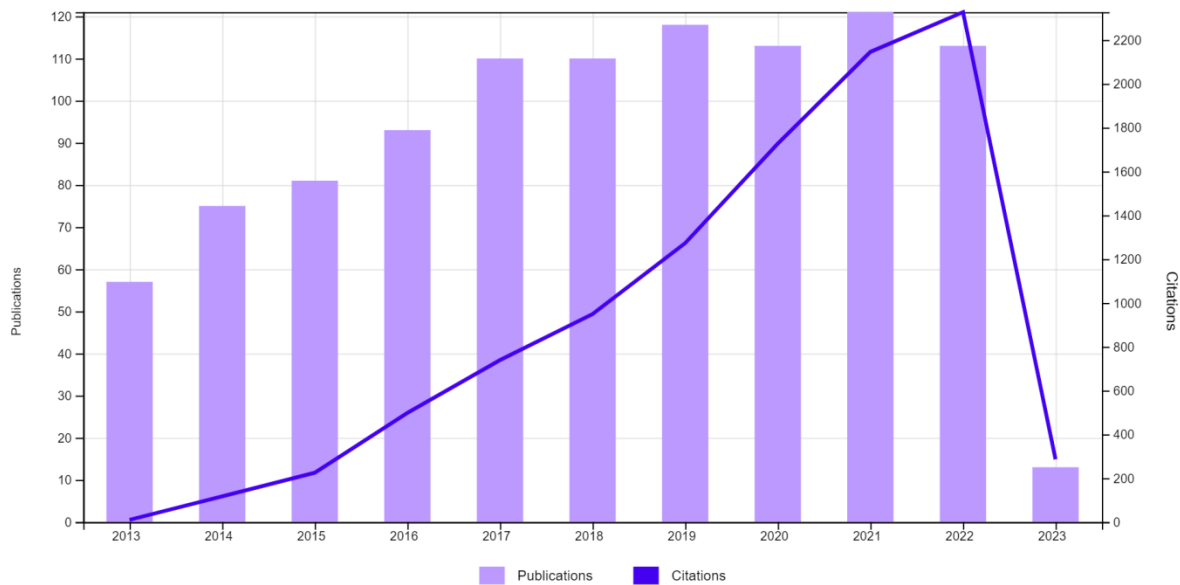


Figure 8. Number of articles about schizophrenia caregivers by years

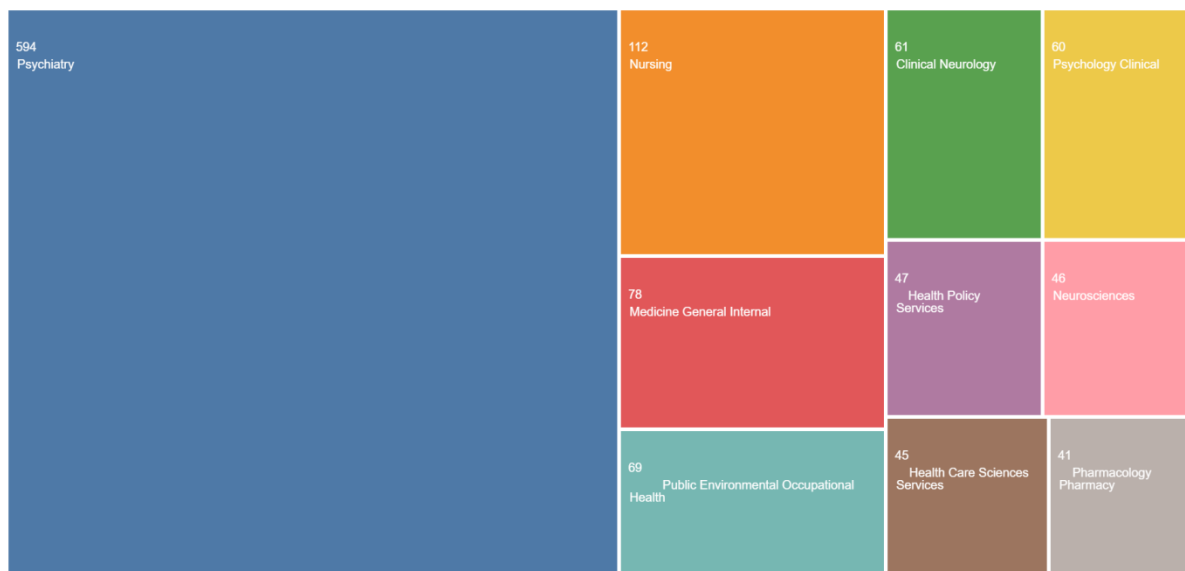


Figure 9. Number of articles on schizophrenia caregivers by scientific fields

### DISCUSSION, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The phenomenon of care has been handled with different approaches in historical processes and conditions. Societies' perspectives, behaviors, and attitudes toward caregivers have changed over time (Tramonti et al., 2021). The roles and duties of caregivers, who take on a role in meeting care as well as care, have differentiated. In addition to experiencing limitations in social, economic, and psychological areas, caregivers can perform practices that affect their physical health integrity (Kayaalp et al., 2021). Schizophrenia is a type of psychiatric disease that is characterized by many cognitive impairments, attention and memory deficits, mood disorders, social isolation and conflicts and can be encountered at a rate of 1% in the community

(Summakoglu & Ertugrul, 2018). Although the issue of caregiving, which is becoming increasingly important, is often mentioned over the issue of elder care, the problems of those who care for individuals with schizophrenia have also been an issue that cannot be ignored. In this study, studies on individuals providing care to individuals with schizophrenia were examined according to different characteristics categories. Within the scope of the study, the data obtained from the WoS database were discussed in terms of some features. Although there are many studies in the literature on schizophrenia, there are very few studies in the WoS database on the type of bibliometric analysis on both schizophrenia and caregivers of individuals with schizophrenia. First, the most frequently used keywords and their relationship networks were examined. Afterward, the most cooperating authors and countries were examined. In addition, considering the number of citations, the studies in the field, the cooperation of the institutions dealing with the caregivers of individuals with schizophrenia, and the number of documents, including the journals, were discussed. In addition, the frequency distribution of the articles according to the years the number of citations, and the categories to which the studies belong were revealed. The findings are presented with the help of statistical analysis and network maps from the Vosviewer program and Web of Science. This study covers the examination of the studies on caregivers in recent years within the determined themes. In the study, data were collected for the last 10 years, with a limitation covering the years 2013-2023. In recent years, there has been an increase in the volume of research on caregivers of individuals with schizophrenia. Examining the increasing volume of studies on caregivers, basically, three groups stand out. First, a group of researchers focused on the health of caregivers (Majestic & Eddington, 2019), and a second group focused on the impact of caregivers on sick individuals (Khan & Munir, 2019; Kootker et al., 2019; Zhu et al., 2022; Wang et al., 2021). and a third group of researchers focused on research on innovations that caregivers can use in care delivery and other areas (Roberts & Applebaum, 2022; Applebaum et al., 2022; Marcotte et al., 2019). It is seen that the majority of the studies focusing on caregivers of individuals with schizophrenia are presented in the field of psychiatry. Schizophrenia is a disease that affects the brain and can be seen as the reason for publishing the most articles from the field of psychiatry, as it includes situations and behaviors that are out of the ordinary. Cham et al. (2022) included 39 studies in the systematic review, and according to a meta-analysis of 26 of them, the perceived care burden of individuals who care for individuals with mental illness constituted 31.67% of the general population. In the same study, psychosis symptoms such as disordered thoughts, hallucinations, and delusions, conditions that require constant monitoring such as maintaining the patient's personal hygiene and care and taking medication, the need for constant care, and the social exclusion they experience were found to be the reason why caregivers of individuals with schizophrenia felt a higher care burden (Cham et al., 2022). In this study, it was seen that the most important keywords were "schizophrenia", "caregivers",

“caregiver”, “quality of life”, and “burden”. In the study of Chen et al. (2022), it was determined that the most prominent concept in terms of keywords and abstracts was schizophrenia.

As a result, schizophrenia is accepted as a serious chronic mental disorder and causes serious problems in the thoughts, emotional reactions, and behaviors of individuals (Manesh et al., 2023). People with schizophrenia are often cared for by different people, such as family members, healthcare professionals, and professional caregivers. Therefore, the role and experiences of caregivers of patients with schizophrenia may affect the quality of life of these patients (Peng et al., 2022). Within the scope of the research, the publications using certain keywords were scanned and the articles within a certain time period were examined. In the indicator of all these studies, it can be aimed to carry out more studies that will shed light on the disadvantaged issues experienced by individuals who take care of schizophrenia patients and to gain an increasing tendency to create new regulations by drawing the attention of social policy providers. The psychoeducation given to the care staff is important because it positively changes the negative thoughts of the care staff and the disorders in social relations. For this reason, it may be recommended to provide and maintain psychoeducational programs that can reverse these negative conditions and make necessary arrangements. The training given to patient relatives should be rich in content and planned (Bademli et al., 2016). The analysis shows that caregivers of schizophrenia patients are an important research area. Studies have provided information to understand the difficulties and needs of these caregivers and have formed the basis of studies in this field. However, more multidisciplinary research and international cooperation are needed. It would be appropriate to conduct longitudinal studies on caregivers. In addition, it is important to develop policies and programs to support caregivers of schizophrenia patients and to increase their education. As a result, the results obtained in studies using the bibliometric analysis method show that caregivers of schizophrenics encounter many problems, their quality of life has seriously decreased, and they need help.

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## GENİŞLETİLMİŞ ÖZET

### Giriş

Literatüre bakıldığında şizofreni tanımının şekillenmesinde belli aşamalardan sonra gerçekleştiği söylenebilir. Mani veya melankoli gibi terimlerle kıyaslandığında yeni bir tanım olan şizofreniyi; Psikiyatrist Morel demence precoce (erken bunama) terimini, gençleri nedeni bilinmeyen bir şekilde etkileyen ve zamanla zihinsel bozulmaya doğru giden bir hastalık olarak açıklamıştır. Ardından Alman psikiyatrist Ewald Hecker “hebephrenia” adında bir çalışma ile Kahlbaum ise “katatoni”den yakınan hasta olarak betimlemiştir (Gonçalves vd., 2018). Kraepelin bu betimlemeye ek olarak paranoid demans ve erken bunama olarak isimlendirilen iki farklı kavram öne sürmüştür. 1911 yılında Bleuler psikoz hakkında sosyal alanda ortaya çıkan bozulmalara değinirken Freud, psikozu ego ve dış dünya arasında yaşanan bir çatışma kaynağı olarak tanımlamıştır (Çorak, 2018). Başka bir deyişle şizofreni, genellikle erken yaşlarda başlayan gerçeklikten uzaklaşarak, insanlarla olan bağlarını azaltan içine kapanıklığı beraberinde getiren; düşünce, duyum ve davranışlardaki şiddetli bozukluklarla kombine bir rahatsızlıktır (Öztürk ve Uluşahin, 2016). Şizofreni, genetik varyantının çok çeşitli olduğu bir hastalıktır. Söz konusu varyantların doğal seçimden etkilenmemeleri ve insanlık tarihinin tüm süreç ve toplumlarında yer edinmesi çevresel faktörlerin eşliğinde genetik yönüyle de karmaşıklığını düşündürmektedir (Nicholson, 2020).

Dünya Sağlık Örgütü (DSÖ)’nün yaptığı sıralamaya göre şizofreni, dünya genelindeki hastalık yüküne katkı yapan 10 hastalık içerisinde yer alır (Fischer ve Buchanan, 2020). Şizofreni yaygınlığı toplumlar ve yıllar arasında farklılaşsa da genelde %1 olarak kabul görmekte ve Türkiye’de yapılan bir çalışmada şizofreni yaygınlığının 1000 kişide 8-9 olduğu bulgusuna rastlanmıştır (Binbay vd., 2011). Şizofreni hastalarının bakımı giderek önemi artan bir konu olması yönüyle hem ülkemizde hem de dünyada çalışılan bir konudur. Şizofreni görülme sıklığı hangi ırkta daha fazla olup olmadığı bilinmemekle birlikte kadın ve erkeklerde sıklığı eşittir. Erkek bireylerin şizofreni öyküsü daha erken başlamakta ve bu yaş Aralığı 15-25 yaş bandındadır (Kocalı vd., 2017). Kadınlarda ise 25-35 yaş aralığında görülmeye başlar. Kadın hastaların 55-64 yaşları arasında görülme sıklığında ikinci bir ivme oluşmaktadır (Li vd., 2016). Erken başlangıçlı şizofreni 18 yaşından önce görülürken, geç başlangıçlı şizofreni 40 yaşından sonra görülen nadir şizofreni türü ve çok geç başlangıçlı şizofreni ise 60 yaşından sonra görülen şizofreni türleridir (Wang vd., 2019; Suen vd., 2019).

### Yöntem

Bu çalışmanın amacı, şizofrenili bireylere bakım veren bireyler ile ilgili yapılan çalışmaların bibliyometrik profillerini ortaya çıkarmaktır. Bu amaçla literatürle ilişkili veriler için

bibliyometrik analiz yöntemi kullanıldı. Bibliyometrik analiz, araştırma değerlendirme metodolojisinin ayrılmaz bir parçasıdır (Yurdakul ve Bozdoğan, 2022). Bibliyometri, matematiksel ve istatistiksel tekniklerden faydalanılarak ilgili konuya dair yapılmış çalışmaların incelenmesinde tercih edilen bir yöntemdir (Şen, 2019). Çalışma kapsamında WoS veri tabanından alınan veriler bazı özellikleri bakımından ele alınmıştır. İlk olarak en sık kullanılan anahtar kelimeler ve bunların ilişki ağları incelenmiştir. Daha sonra en çok işbirliği yapmış yazarlar, ülkeler incelenmiştir. Buna ek olarak atıf sayıları gözetilerek alandaki çalışmalar, şizofrenili bireylere bakım verenler ile ilgili çalışma yapılan kurumların iş birliği ve doküman sayıları dahil olmak üzere dergiler ele alınmıştır. Ayrıca makalelerin yıllara ve atıf sayılarına göre frekans dağılımı ve çalışmaların ait olduğu kategoriler ortaya konmuştur. 12-03-2013 ve 12-03-2023 yılları arasında yayımlanan makaleler WoS veri tabanı aracılığıyla taranmıştır. Araştırma kapsamına dâhil edilen makaleler geniş bir veri havuzu barındıran Web of Science (WoS) veri tabanında yapılan filtrelemeler ile 1020 makaleye ulaşılmıştır.

### **Bulgular**

Mevcut araştırma, geniş bir veri havuzu barındıran Web of Science (WoS) veri tabanında yapılan filtrelemeler sonucu 1020 makale araştırma kapsamına dâhil edilmiştir. Şizofreni hastalarının bakıcıları ile ilgili çalışmalarda en sık kullanılan anahtar kelime “şizofreni” en sık tekrarlanan ve korelasyon gücü en yüksek anahtar kelime olarak görülmüştür. Şizofreni hastalarının bakıcıları üzerine yapılan çalışmalarda en çok işbirliği yapan yazarın Ran Mao-Sheng olduğu ortaya çıkmıştır. Genel iş birliklerine bakıldığında en çok işbirliği yapan yazarlar arasında güçlü bağlantılar belirlenmiştir. Şizofreni hastalarının bakıcıları ile ilgili olan çalışmalarda en çok işbirliği yapan 81 ülke olduğu bulgulanmıştır. Bu ülkelerden ABD (n=192) en fazla iş birliği ve bağlantının olduğu ülke olurken, onu İngiltere ve Avustralya izlemiştir. Şizofreni hastalarının bakıcıları ile ilgili olan çalışma örneğinde en çok atıf alan çalışma Sharma Nidhi'nin 2016 yılı çalışması (n=322) olmuştur. "Kings Coll London", şizofreni hastalarının bakıcıları konusunda en fazla belgeye sahip kurum olup ardından "Univ Hong Kong " ve "Aix Marseille Univ" gelmektedir. Atıf sayısına bakıldığında en çok atıfa sahip kurum yine "Kings Coll London" olurken "Postgrad Inst Med Educ & Res" ve "Natl Inst Mental Hlth & Neurosci" ardından gelmiştir. Kurumlar toplam ilişki gücü açısından değerlendirildiğinde baş sırada yine "Kings Coll London" daha sonra "Univ Tarapaca" ve "Univ Hong Kong" kurumları sıralanmıştır. Dergiler incelendiğinde "International Journal of Social Psychiatry", şizofreni hastalarının bakıcıları konusunda en fazla belgeye sahip dergi olup, ardından "BMC Psychiatry" ve "Psychiatry Research" dergileri gelmiştir. Atıf sayısına bakıldığında en çok atıfa sahip dergi " BMC Psychiatry " olurken "Neuropsychiatric Disease and Treatment" ve "International Journal of Social Psychiatry" dergileri hemen ardından gelmiştir. Dergiler toplam bağlantı gücü açısından değerlendirildiğinde baş sırada yine " International

Journal of Social Psychiatry " daha sonra "Archives of Psychiatric Nursing" ve "Psychiatry Research" dergileri sıralanmıştır. Henüz 2023 yılının başlarında olduğu için sayısal verisi düşüktür. Bu detay göz önüne alındığında yıllar geçtikçe konu ile ilgili çalışma sayısı artmıştır. 2021 yılı (n=119) en çok veriye ulaşılan yıl olmuştur. Bilimsel alan kategorilerinde ise psikiyatri (n=574), hemşirelik(n=113) ve tıp (n=85) bilimleri şekilde bir sıralama görülmüştür.

### **Tartışma ve Sonuç**

Bakım olgusu tarihsel süreç ve koşullarda farklı yaklaşımlarla ele alınmıştır. Toplumların bakım verilene karşı bakış açıları, davranış ve tutumları zaman içinde değişmiştir (Tramonti vd., 2021). Bakım kadar bakımı karşılamada rol üstlenen bakıcılarında rol ve görevleri farklılaşmıştır. Bakım veren bireyler sosyal, ekonomik ve psikolojik alanlarda kısıtlık yaşamının yanında fiziksel sağlık bütünlüklerini de etkileyen uygulamaları icra edebilirler (Kayaalp vd., 2021). Şizofreni, birçok bilişsel bozulma, dikkat ve bellek eksikliği, duygu-durum bozukluğu, sosyal izolasyon ve çatışmalarla karakterize olan ve toplum içinde %1 oranla karşılaşılabilen bir tür psikiyatrik hastalıktır (Summakoğlu ve Ertuğrul, 2018). Giderek önemi artan bakım verme konusu sıklıkla yaşlı bakımı konusu üzerinden dile getirilse de şizofrenli bireylere bakım verenlerin sıkıntıları da göz ardı edilemez bir konu olmuştur. Bu araştırmada, şizofrenli bireylere bakım sağlayan bireyler üzerine yapılmış çalışmaların farklı özellik kategorilerine göre incelemesi yapılmıştır. Çalışma kapsamında WoS veri tabanından alınan veriler bazı özellikleri bakımından ele alınmıştır. Literatürde şizofreni hastalığını konu edinen birçok araştırma olmasına karşın WoS veri tabanında gerek şizofreni hastalığı gerekse şizofrenli bireylere bakım sağlayıcıları konu edinen bibliyometrik analiz türünde yapılmış çok az çalışma mevcuttur. İlk olarak en sık kullanılan anahtar kelimeler ve bunların ilişki ağları incelenmiştir. Daha sonra en çok işbirliği yapmış yazarlar, ülkeler incelenmiştir. Buna ek olarak atıf sayıları gözetilerek alandaki çalışmalar, şizofrenli bireylere bakım verenler ile ilgili çalışma yapılan kurumların iş birliği ve doküman sayıları dâhil olmak üzere dergiler ele alınmıştır. Ayrıca makalelerin yıllara ve atıf sayılarına göre frekans dağılımı ve çalışmaların ait olduğu kategoriler ortaya konmuştur. Bulgular ise Vosviewer programı ve Web of Science'dan alınan istatistikî analiz ve ağ haritaları yardımıyla sunulmuştur. Bu çalışma, son yıllarda bakım verenlerin üzerine yapılan çalışmaların belirlenen temalar dâhilinde incelemesini kapsamaktadır. Çalışmada 2013-2023 yıllarını kapsayan bir sınırlama getirilerek son 10 yıl için veriler toplanmıştır. Bu kapsamda bakım verenler üzerine yapılan araştırmaların entelektüel görüntüsü ve eğilimlerin saptanması adına yapılan bibliyometrik incelemenin amacı bakım verenler hakkında yapılan araştırmaların eğilimlerini incelemek ve en üretken yazarları, kurumları, ülkeleri gibi birçok açıyı ve sınırları belirlemek olmuştur. Bakıcılara yönelik artan hacimde seyreden çalışmalar incelendiğinde temel olarak 3 grup göze çarpmaktadır. İlk olarak bir grup araştırmacı bakıcıların sağlıkları üzerine (Majestic ve Eddington, 2019) ikinci

bir grup arařtırmacı bakım verenlerin hasta bireyler üzerindeki etkisine (Khan ve Munir, 2019; Kootker vd., 2019; Zhu vd., 2022; Wang vd., 2021) ve üçüncü bir grup arařtırmacı popülasyonu da bakıcıların bakım sunumu ve diğere alanlarda kullanabilecekleri yenilikler (Roberts ve Applebaum, 2022; Applebaum vd., 2022; Marcotte vd., 2019) üzerine arařtırmalara odaklanmışlardır.