

The importance of literature review: Commentary on a published article

Literatür taramasının önemi: Yayınlanmış bir makaleye değerlendirme

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Dear Editor,

An article entitled “Bibliometric Analysis of Phd, Residency Dissertations and Master’s Theses in Public Health Departments in Turkey Between 1970-2022” was published in Volume 9, Issue 2 of ESTÜDAM Journal of Public Health in 2024. This study, which evaluated the theses produced in the field of public health between 1970-2022 and registered in Yöktez, is very similar to our article entitled ‘Bibliometric Analysis of Theses Made in Public Health and Registered in the National Thesis Centre of the Council of Higher Education in Turkey’, which we published in 2022 and evaluated the theses produced in the field of public health between 1970-2021 and registered in Yöktez (1, 2).

The article by Denizli et al. in 2024 states that the study was conducted ‘due to the limitation of bibliometric analyses in the field of public health in Turkey’. This statement suggests that the authors overlooked our 2022 article in their literature review.

In scientific research, it is important to correctly identify the need in the literature and to conduct a comprehensive literature review. When conducting a literature review, citing similar studies on the topic increases the reliability and scientific value of the research. In addition, ignoring existing studies makes it difficult to fully understand the contributions of new studies. However, we recognise that there are many databases and platforms in the field of medicine and health sciences. Researchers may not

be able to access every database and perform the appropriate search every time for reasons such as the fact that some databases are paid for, require institutional agreements, or have licensing restrictions. However, as the study by Denizli et al. was published on the same platform (DergiPark) as the previous study mentioned above, we believe that this study is easily accessible with a practical search.

In conclusion, we believe that a comprehensive literature review and reference to similar studies will enrich the scientific discussion.

Thank you for your interest and sensitivity in this matter.

Best regards.

References

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