ORIGINAL ARTICLE
Acta Orthop Traumatol Turc 2015;49(1):57-66
doi: 10.3944/AOTT.2015.14.0044

A bibliometric analysis of orthopedic publications originating from Turkey

Yusuf GÜRBÜZ, Tahir Sadik SÜĞÜN, Kemal ÖZAKSAR

Hand Microsurgery Orthopaedics and Traumatology (EMOT) Hospital, Izmir, Turkey

Objective: The objective of this study was to analyze the research productivity originating in Turkey using articles published in the top 40 orthopedic journals according to the Journal Citation Reports for 2013.

Methods: All scientific papers published in English and included in the Science Citation Index Expanded between 1980 and 2013 were analyzed using the "Web of Science". The number of publications per million (PmP) was calculated. All selected journals were analyzed for the numbers of articles, authorships, institutions and 100 most frequently cited papers.

Results: From a total of 130,494 articles published worldwide, the United States ranked first according to output. Turkey ranked 14th in the number of orthopedic publications and 26th out of 30 countries in the PmP index. 2012 produced the greatest number of publications worldwide and 2008 for Turkey. Gunal I., Yazici M. and Ozturk C. were the most frequent contributors. Hacettepe University, Istanbul University and Ankara University were the most frequent institutions among all Turkish publications. The Archives of Orthopaedic and Trauma Surgery was the most frequently published journal in this period with a rate of 16.3%. There was a total of 9,085 (8,765; excluding self-citations) citations of the 1,398 publications published in Turkey until December 2013, with a citation-to-work ratio of 7.47 and an h-index of 34.

Conclusion: With the newly established universities, as well as training and research clinics, the approach of increasing number of orthopedics and traumatology clinics and specialists to scientific activities would be more fruitful in the light of these data.

Key words: Bibliometric analysis; impact factor; orthopedics; Turkey; Web of Science.

Bibliometrics is the analysis of books and other media of communication using mathematics and other statistical methods. Bibliometric analyses provide significant advantages for the investigation of publications, journals, authors and publishing institutions and in the demonstration of the scientific productivity of countries.[1] The advances in computer technology and the wider use of the Internet have resulted in an increase in bibliometric analysis since the beginning of the 2000s. In recent years, bibliometric analyses of publications on orthopedics, pediatric orthopedics, hand surgery and knee surgery have been published.[1-5] Using the Web of Science (WoS) database, studies on countries’ self-assessment of their scientific productivity have also been reported.[6] In an attempt to determine the contribution of Turkey to global science and the country’s international publication productivity, bibliometric analyses have been conducted under the auspices of ULAKBİM Cahir Arf
Information Center. However, no detailed assessment of publications on Orthopedics and Traumatology has been reported.

The purpose of this study was to conduct a bibliometric analysis of Turkish publications in the top 40 orthopedic journals according to the Journal Citation Reports (JCR) Impact Factor List 2013 by Thomson-Reuters.

**Materials and methods**

The 68 journals of orthopedics and traumatology listed in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCI-E) were ranked based on impact factor scores. The top 40 journals were defined as the study group (Table 1). The articles published in these journals between 1980 and 2013 were accessed using the WoS database on 12/31/2013.

---

**Table 1.** Distribution of Turkish publications according to journals and impact factors of journals.

| Journal                                      | Number of articles (Total: 1398) | Impact factor | Most cited 100 article |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| 1 Archives of Orthopaedic and Trauma Surgery | 228                              | 1.358         | 7                      |
| 2 Knee Surgery, Sports Traumatology, Arthroscopy | 156                              | 2.676         | 10                     |
| 3 Spine                                       | 116                              | 2.159         | 22                     |
| 4 International Orthopedics                  | 92                               | 2.319         | 4                      |
| 5 European Spine Journal                      | 91                               | 2.133         | 10                     |
| 6 Foot Ankle International                    | 82                               | 1.474         | 1                      |
| 7 Injury - International Journal of The Care of The Injured | 70                               | 1.931         | 3                      |
| 8 Journal of Hand Surgery - British and European Volume | 62                               | 1.223         | 4                      |
| 9 Arthroscopy: The Journal of Arthroscopic and Related Surgery | 54                               | 3.103         | 6                      |
| 10 Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research | 52                               | 2.787         | 4                      |
| 11 Journal of Pediatric Orthopedics           | 51                               | 1.163         | 4                      |
| 12 Journal of Spinal Disorders Techniques     | 44                               | 1.767         | 3                      |
| 13 Journal of Hand Surgery - American Volume | 40                               | 1.572         | 1                      |
| 14 Orthopedics                                | 39                               | 1.013         |                        |
| 15 Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery - British Volume | 33                               | 2.689         | 2                      |
| 16 Journal of Orthopaedic Trauma              | 27                               | 1.751         | 3                      |
| 17 Knee                                       | 26                               | 2.01          |                        |
| 18 Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery - American Volume | 20                               | 3.234         | 7                      |
| 19 Journal of Shoulder And Elbow Surgery      | 20                               | 2.319         | 1                      |
| 20 Spine Journal                              | 15                               | 2.159         |                        |
| 21 American Journal of Sports Medicine        | 12                               | 4.439         |                        |
| 22 Clinical Biomechanics                      | 10                               | 1.869         | 2                      |
| 23 BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders              | 9                                | 1.875         | 2                      |
| 24 Clinical Journal of Sport Medicine         | 9                                | 1.6           |                        |
| 25 Journal of Arthroplasty                    | 9                                | 2.11          | 2                      |
| 26 Gait Posture                               | 5                                | 1.969         |                        |
| 27 Journal of Orthopaedic Research            | 5                                | 2.875         |                        |
| 28 Orthopaedics & Traumatology: Surgery & Research | 5                                | 1.061         |                        |
| 29 Acta Orthopaedica                          | 4                                | 2.736         |                        |
| 30 Connective Tissue Research                 | 3                                | 1.788         |                        |
| 31 Journal of Orthopaedic & Sports Physical Therapy | 2                                | 2.947         |                        |
| 32 Physician and Sportsmedicine               | 2                                | 0.156         |                        |
| 33 Journal of Hand Therapy                    | 1                                | 1.169         |                        |
| 34 Osteoarthritis and Cartilage               | 1                                | 4.262         | 1                      |
| 35 Physical Therapy                           | 1                                | 2.787         | 1                      |
| 36 Journal of American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons | –                                | 2.455         |                        |
| 37 Journal of Physiotherapy                   | –                                | 2.255         |                        |
| 38 Journal of Foot and Ankle Research         | –                                | 1.466         |                        |
| 39 Revista Brasileira De Fisioterapia         | –                                | 1             |                        |
| 40 Journal of Orthopaedic Surgery and Research | 2                                | 1.013         |                        |
to identify the total number of publications worldwide between 1980 and 2013. The number of non-article publications (letters to the editor, conference or meeting summaries, chapter of a book, reviews, notes, corrections, and reprints) were removed from the total. The total number of publications from Turkey, and its rank in the world were determined. The number of publications originating from Turkey and other countries per year was also identified. Publications per million (PmP) was calculated by dividing the total number of publications by the population of each country.[6] Articles not originating from Turkey were then excluded from the study.

The number of articles from Turkey, the first published article, the year of publication, the journal the article was published in, publishing institutions and the total number of articles of the authors and their total number of articles as the lead author were determined. The differences in the names of educational institutions in the literature were examined one by one. For the correct identification of the number of publications written by authors with identical names (for example, C. Yılmaz), full names of the authors in the top 50 articles were searched.

Using the same software, the total number of citations of publications from Turkey, the distribution of citations according to year and the most cited 100 articles and their authors and institutions were determined. Among the top 100 articles, the institutions with the most publications were determined and the journals the articles were published in and the authors of the oldest and newest articles were also specified.

**Results**

Out of the 167,072 publications listed in the SCI-E, 1,877 (1.12%) scientific publications were written by Turkish authors. When the non-article publications were excluded, a total of 130,494 publications were identified and the number of total and publications per million were calculated for each country (Table 2).

The United States of America (USA) ranked first with 60,016 publications and Turkey 14th with 1,594 publications in the mentioned journals. Among the top 30 publishing countries based on the number of publications per million, Switzerland ranked first with 407.5 (*10^6) and Turkey 26th with 21(*10^6) (Table 3). The highest number of articles (n=7,656) worldwide was published in 2012 and in 2008 from Turkey (n=149)

![Table 2. Number and percentage of publications according to years in Turkey and worldwide.](image-url)
While the number of publications from Turkey increased dramatically since the 2000s, there has been a considerable decrease since 2010 (Fig. 1 and Table 2). After the exclusion of 196 articles of non-Turkish origin or published with authors from different countries (152 from USA, 11 from Canada, 10 from Britain, 10 from the Netherlands, and 13 from other countries), a total of 1,398 articles from Turkey remained. In the top 40 journals as ranked by impact factor, the first article published was "Treatment of open fractures with external fixation" by Aslanoğlu O. et al. in the Orthopedics journal in 1984.[7]

Of the publishing institutions, Hacettepe University ranked first with 141 publications, followed by Istanbul University (including Çapa and Cerrahpaşa) with 135 and Ankara University with 94. On the other hand, between 2010 and 2014 Istanbul University ranked first with 30 publications, followed by Hacettepe University

### Table 3. The total number of articles in the literature and the number of publications per million.

| Countries                        | Number of publications | % (n=130,494) | Population  | Number of publications per million (*10⁶) |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------|
| United States of America        | 60,016                 | 45.992        | 310,232,863 | 193.4                                   |
| Britain                          | 11,416                 | 8.748         | 61,284,806  | 186.2                                   |
| Japan                            | 8,478                  | 6.497         | 126,804,433 | 66.8                                    |
| Canada                           | 6,850                  | 5.249         | 33,759,742  | 202.9                                   |
| Germany                          | 6,212                  | 4.760         | 82,282,988  | 75.4                                    |
| Australia                        | 3,907                  | 2.994         | 21,515,754  | 181.5                                   |
| Sweden                           | 3,570                  | 2.736         | 9,074,055   | 393.4                                   |
| The Netherlands                  | 3,413                  | 2.615         | 16,783,092  | 203.3                                   |
| France                           | 3,277                  | 2.511         | 40,548,753  | 407.5                                   |
| Switzerland                      | 3,259                  | 2.497         | 7,997,000   | 80.8                                    |
| South Korea                      | 3,033                  | 2.324         | 48,636,068  | 62.3                                    |
| People’s Republic of China       | 2,904                  | 2.225         | 1,354,040,000 | 2.1                                   |
| Italy                            | 2,687                  | 2.059         | 58,090,681  | 46.2                                    |
| Turkey                           | 1,594                  | 1.222         | 75,627,384  | 21                                      |
| Taiwan                           | 1,577                  | 1.208         | 23,024,956  | 68.4                                    |
| Scotland                         | 1,534                  | 1.176         | 5,228,000   | 293.4                                   |
| Finland                          | 1,491                  | 1.143         | 5,255,068   | 283.7                                   |
| Denmark                          | 1,462                  | 1.120         | 5,515,575   | 265                                    |
| Austria                          | 1,439                  | 1.103         | 8,462,000   | 170                                    |
| Spain                            | 1,435                  | 1.100         | 40,548,753  | 35.3                                    |
| Israel                           | 1,343                  | 1.029         | 7,353,985   | 182.6                                   |
| Belgium                          | 1,253                  | 0.960         | 10,423,493  | 120.2                                   |
| Greece                           | 1,120                  | 0.858         | 11,062,508  | 101.2                                   |
| Brazil                           | 1,096                  | 0.840         | 199,321,000 | 5.4                                    |
| Norway                           | 1,041                  | 0.798         | 4,676,305   | 222.6                                   |
| India                            | 1,008                  | 0.772         | 1,236,686,732 | 0.08                              |
| Ireland                          | 645                    | 0.494         | 4,250,163   | 151.7                                   |
| New Zealand                      | 604                    | 0.463         | 4,252,277   | 142                                    |
| Wales                            | 508                    | 0.389         | 3,063,456   | 165.8                                   |

### Table 4. Distribution of publications from Turkey according to authors.

| Author             | Number of articles | % (n=1,398) |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Günlal I           | 47                 | 3.290       |
| Yazıcı M           | 40                 | 2.861       |
| Ozturk C           | 39                 | 2.790       |
| Alanay A           | 35                 | 2.504       |
| Bozkurt M          | 31                 | 2.217       |
| Sen C              | 28                 | 2.003       |
| Acaroğlu E         | 28                 | 2.003       |
| Kocaoglu B         | 26                 | 1.860       |
| Tandogan RN        | 26                 | 1.860       |
| Akpinar S          | 25                 | 1.788       |
| Eralp L            | 25                 | 1.788       |
| Doral MN           | 25                 | 1.788       |
| Surat A            | 22                 | 1.573       |
| Bicimoglu A        | 21                 | 1.502       |
with 29 and Ankara Numune Training and Research Hospital with 21 (Table 5).

With regard to the authors, the authors with the greatest number of publications were İzge Günal with 46 publications, Muharrem Yavuz with 40, and Çağatay Öztürk with 39, respectively (Table 4). The highest number of articles, as the lead author, belonged to İzge Günal and Murat Bozkurt with 15 publications (total publications (TP): 31), Hakan Ömeroğlu with 10 (TP: 20), Mehmet Aşık with 9 (TP: 17), Ulunay Kanatlı (TP: 16), Cengiz Şen (TP: 28), Mehmet Demirhan (TP: 19), and Sinan Karaoğlu (TP: 18) with 8 publications each.

The 10 journals publishing articles originating from Turkey were the Archives of Orthopaedic and Trauma Surgery with 228 articles (16.3%), Knee Surgery, Sports Traumatology, Arthroscopy with 156 (11.1%), Spine with 116 (8.3%), International Orthopedics with 92 (6.5%), European Spine Journal with 91 (6.5%), Foot Ankle International with 82 (5.9%), Injury - International Journal of the Care of the Injured with 70 (5%), Journal of Hand Surgery - British and European Volume with 54 (3.9%), Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research with 52 (3.7%) and the Journal of Pediatric Orthopedics with 51 (3.6%) (Table 1).

The 1,398 published articles were cited 9,085 (8,765; excluding self-citations) times, for an average of 7.47 (Fig. 2 and Table 6). Table 6 presents the most frequently cited 10 publications. The most cited publication was “Short-segment pedicle instrumentation of thoracolumbar burst fractures: does transpedicular intracorporeal grafting prevent early failure?” by Alanay A. et al. published in the Spine journal in 2001 and was referenced 85 times.[8] In recent years, the number of citations to publications...
Table 6. Most cited 10 publications and the total number of citations.

| Rank | Title                                                                 | Authors                                                                 | Journal                        | Volume | Issue | Pages | DOI | Total | Mean citations per year |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-----|-------|-------------------------|
| 1    | Title: Short-segment pedicle instrumentation of thoracolumbar burst fractures: does transpedicular intracorporeal grafting prevent early failure? | Authors: Alanay A, Acaroglu E, Yazici M, et al. | Spine  | 26     | 2     | 213-7 | 10.1097/00007632-200101150-00017 | 6 10,446 | 6.07 |
| 2    | Title: Anterior instrumentation for the treatment of spinal tuberculosis. | Authors: Yilmaz C, Selek HY, Gurkan I, et al. | Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery - American | 81     | 9     | 1261-7 | 10.1097/00007632-199302000-00020 | 8 84 5.25 |
| 3    | Title: Lumbar spinal stenosis: clinical radiologic therapeutic evaluation in 145 patients. Conservative treatment or surgical intervention? | Authors: Onel D, Sari H, Donmez C. | Spine  | 18     | 2     | 291-8 | 10.1097/00007632-199302000-00020 | 4 4 77 3.50 |
| 4    | Title: Gabapentin is a first line drug for the treatment of neuropathic pain in spinal cord injury. | Authors: Levendoglu F, Ogun CQ, Ozerbil O, et al. | Spine  | 29     | 7     | 743-51 | 10.1097/01.BRS.0000112068.16108.3A | 7 73 6.64 |
| 5    | Title: Analysis of meniscal and chondral lesions accompanying anterior cruciate ligament tears: relationship with age, time from injury, and level of sport. | Authors: Tandogan RN, Taser O, Kayaalp A, et al. | Knee Surgery, Sports Traumatology, Arthroscopy | 12     | 4     | 262-70 | 10.1007/s00167-003-0398-2  | 13 69 6.27 |
| 6    | Title: A single-stage posterior approach and rigid fixation for preventing kyphosis in the treatment of spinal tuberculosis. | Authors: Guven O, Kumano K, Yalcin S, et al. | Spine  | 19     | 9     | 1039-43 | 10.1097/00007632-199302000-00020 | 4 66 3.14 |
| 7    | Title: Flexor tendon repair in zone 2 followed by early active mobilization. | Authors: Baktir A, Turk CY, Kabak S, et al. | Journal of Hand Surgery - British and European | 21     | 5     | 624-8 | 10.1016/S0266-7681(96)80145-8 | 6 61 3.21 |

Acta Orthop Traumatol Turc
from Turkey has been increasing. In addition, 2012 saw the highest number of citations to publications from Turkey (Fig. 2). Publications from Turkey were most frequently cited by American authors (n=2,586).

**Discussion**

A bibliometric analysis allows for the identification of the number and quality of publications from a specific country. In general, Turkey ranked 14\textsuperscript{th} out of 122 countries in terms of the number of publications in the field of orthopedics and traumatology. The 2000s in particular, can be described as the golden years in terms of the publication of articles in the study group journals. The ratio of the number of articles between the USA and Turkey was 16,171 to 145 between 1990 and 2000, which increased to 22,767 to 1,099 between 2000 and 2010. The number of publications from the USA increased by 40\% whereas the number of publications from Turkey increased by 657\%. This dramatic increase can be attributed to the increased number of educational institutions and easier access to studies through more widespread Internet use. There was a dramatic increase in the number of articles published in the mentioned journals between 2004 and 2010. Worldwide there was an increase in the number of publications compared to the previous year with the exception of 2013, whereas the number of publications showed a decline since 2010 in our country. It is interesting to note that there was a persistent increase in European countries such as Ireland, while the number of publications decreased in Turkey. The average number of publications decreased from 157.8 between 2004 and

Table 6. Most cited 10 publications and the total number of citations (cont.).

| Title: Comparison of landing maneuvers between male and female college volleyball players. | 2010 1,401 | 2011 1,390 | 2012 1,554 | 2013 1,351 | 2014 6 | Total 10,446 | Mean number of citations per year 417.84 |
| Authors: Salci Y, Kentel BB, Heycan C, et al. | 10 | 2 | 9 | 9 | 0 | 57 | 5.18 |
| Journal: Clinical Biomechanics  Volume: 19  Issue: 6  Pages: 622-8  DOI: 10.1016/j.clinbiomech.2004.03.006  Publishing date: Jul 2004\textsuperscript{14} |

| Title: Acceptability, reliability, validity and responsiveness of the Turkish version of WOMAC osteoarthritis index. | 2010 1,401 | 2011 1,390 | 2012 1,554 | 2013 1,351 | 2014 6 | Total 10,446 | Mean number of citations per year 417.84 |
| Authors: Tuzun EH, Eker L, Aytar A, et al. | 10 | 6 | 11 | 8 | 0 | 53 | 5.30 |
| Journal: Osteoarthritis and Cartilage  Volume: 13  Issue: 1  Pages: 28-33  DOI: 10.1016/j.joca.2004.10.010  Publishing date: Jan 2005\textsuperscript{14} |

| Title: Mechanical strength of four different biceps tenodesis techniques. | 2010 1,401 | 2011 1,390 | 2012 1,554 | 2013 1,351 | 2014 6 | Total 10,446 | Mean number of citations per year 417.84 |
| Authors: Ozalay M, Akpinar S, Karaeminogullari O, et al. | 10 | 10 | 8 | 7 | 0 | 51 | 5.10 |
| Journal: Arthroscopy: The Journal of Arthroscopic and Related Surgery  Volume: 21  Issue: 8  Pages: 992-8  DOI: 10.1016/j.arthro.2005.05.002  Publishing date: Aug 2005\textsuperscript{14} |

Table 7. Distribution of authors among the most cited 100 articles.

| Number of citations | Authors |
|---------------------|---------|
| 6                   | Alanay A, Surat A, Yazici M |
| 5                   | Acaroğlu E, Ask M, Eralp L, Ozturk C, Şen C |
| 4                   | Aydın T, Demirhan M, Tezer M |
| 3                   | Goksan SB, Gunal I, Hamzaoglu A, Havitcioglu H, Kabak S, Kilçoğlu O, Kocaoglu M, Tandogan RN, Tekdemir İ, Yıldız Y |
2009 to 85.25 between 2010 and 2013. The increased number of publications worldwide was attributed to a number of factors, in particular increased gross national product and scientific support.[6] However, the decreased number of scientific publications in Turkey despite an increased gross national product is not supportive of this hypothesis. This decrease might have resulted from an unstable healthcare policy and the according temporary or permanent separation of the majority of faculty members from universities due to the implementation of the 'full day law'.

One of the parameters used in the measurement of scientific productivity of a community is the PmP index, which is the ratio of the number of publications to the population of a country. When the top 30 countries according to the publication ranking were ordered based on the PmP, Turkey ranked 26th with 21 PmPs (Table 5). According to the publication ranking were ordered based on the PmP, Turkey ranked 26th with 21 PmPs (Table 2). Scandinavian countries such as Switzerland, Sweden and Norway ranked high. Among the G8 countries; China, France, Germany and Italy ranked below 100. It is evident that global productivity associated with industrialization and economic growth does not trigger scientific productivity. Therefore, it can be concluded that economic growth is not the only way to increase scientific productivity.

A total of 130,494 articles were published in journals included in our study. The highest number of articles was published by authors from the USA (60,016 articles; 46%) (Table 2). With regard to the number of publications, Turkey ranked first among countries of the Middle East and Eastern Europe. It is of interest that G8 countries such as Germany, France and Russia did not rank among the top 10. For instance, the number of publications from Russia was 44. This decrease can be explained by the fact that these countries refuse to adopt English as the scientific lingua franca and continue to publish in their own language and region.

Inter-university communication and joint scientific publication is common in Turkey, as in other countries. A total of 196 articles published when Turkish academics were observers in foreign universities or conducted by interinstitutional cooperation were detected. The institutions with the highest number of articles published in cooperation with authors from foreign universities were Hacettepe University (45 publications), Ankara University (14 publications) and Istanbul University (9 publications), respectively. On the other hand, Turkish authors had the highest number of joint scientific publications with Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children (USA) and Children's Hospital Philadelphia (USA). The authors with the highest number of joint publica-

Publishing institutions are also as important as countries. Ensuring the continuity of articles and their successful publication are important indicators of institutional scientificity. Hacettepe University had 141 Turkish articles, Istanbul University 135 and Ankara University 94 published in the study group journals (Table 5). Between 2010 and 2013, a period when the number of publications from Turkey decreased, Istanbul University (30 publications) and Hacettepe University (29 publications) ranked first and second, respectively. During this period, Acibadem University and Hospitals published 18 articles, Başkent University and Ankara Numune Hospital 14 each, and Kirikkale University 13.

The continuity of name is important for the recognition of an educational institution and follow-up of its scientific activities. A literature review demonstrated a mean difference of 4.1[1-18] in the spelling of the names of publishing institutions from Turkey. Similar results were found for the abbreviation of author names. For instance, ‘Güllhane Military Medical Academy’ was published under 16 different names, GATA Haydarpasa Military Hospital under 14 and Acibadem University and Hospitals 18 in the literature. In particular, the names of training and research hospitals and military hospitals tend to be published with spelling errors and differences in abbreviations due to their long names. The use of a standard name and abbreviation is important for the follow-up of scientific activities of a country and/or institution. The Ministry of Health and the Turkish Orthopedics and Traumatology Society can play an effective role in developing an infrastructure in this regard.

Institutional productivity is triggered by individual scientific productivity. An analysis of the publications from Turkey revealed that the authors with the highest number of publications between 1980 and 2013 were İzge Günal (46), Muharrem Yazıcı (40) and Çağatay Öztürk (39), respectively. With regard to the publications as the lead author, İzge Günal and Murat Bozkurt ranked first with 14 publications each (Table 4). The total number of publications of Ahmet Atalay and Barış Kocaoglu was 8 between 2010 and 2013. In addition, there were 5 authors with 7 publications and 13 authors with 6 publications.

The journal with the highest number of publications between 1980 and 2013 was the Archives of Orthopaedic
and Trauma Surgery with 228 publications (17.9%). In addition, Knee Surgery, Sports Traumatology, Arthroscopy published 156 articles from Turkey (12.2%), Spine 116 (8.3%) and the Journal of Hand Surgery - British and European Volume 52 (7.4%) between 1980 and 2013. Six of the published articles were reported to have been submitted as proceedings in previous seminars. Of the 1,398 publications, 37 institutions provided financial support to 28 publications. Authors most commonly preferred to receive financial support from their own universities (n=23). The Ministry of Health provided financial support to one publication, Turkish Society of Orthopedics and Traumatology (TSOT) to two publications and The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (STRCT) to five publications, which might indicate insufficient knowledge of authors or insufficient scientific publication support in our country. Five publications of Hacettepe University and 3 publications each of Akdeniz University, Middle East Technical University and Istanbul University received financial support. The provision of financial support for the encouragement of scientific researchers is of particularly great importance. The increased scientific scholarship amount was associated with the increased number of publications in foreign countries.[6]

A scientific citation to a publication indicates its validity and scientific value. Thus, 2012 saw the highest number of citations of publications from Turkey (Fig. 2). There has been an increase in citations over years. An analysis of citations to Turkish publications in the literature revealed that the most frequently cited 100 publications were written by 390 different authors. The most frequently cited authors were Alanay A, Surat A and Yazıcı M with 6 publications each. Five authors received 5 citations and 3 authors received 4 (Table 7). Fourteen publications from Ankara University, 13 from Istanbul University and 11 from Hacettepe University received the highest number of citations. Spine published most of the most cited 100 publications (22 publications). The oldest publication among the top 100 was “Congenital dislocation of the hip and its relation to swaddling used in Turkey” by Kutlu et al., which was published in the Journal of Pediatric Orthopedics in 1992 and was referenced 35 citations.[9] The newest paper is “The Microfracture Technique for the Treatment of Full-Thickness Articular Cartilage Lesions of the Knee: Midterm Results” by Aşık et al., which was published in Arthroscopy: The Journal of Arthroscopic and Related Surgery in 2008 and received 28 citations.[10] There was a total of 9,085 citations to publications from Turkey (self-citation: 320). The highest number of citations to publications from Turkey was made by the USA, China, England, and India. Furthermore, publications from Turkey were second most commonly cited by Turkish authors.

In this study, as in all WoS-based bibliometric analyses, articles published before 1980, those not included in the top 40 and journals which terminated publishing activities before 2013 could not be assessed. Furthermore, this study might be unable to reflect the actual scientific activities of authors and institutions. An analysis based on SciVerse, Scopus or PubMed or other databases also including the assessment of articles published in the journals excluded from the study and in domestic journals can provide more satisfactory information. The number of publications of an institution may vary depending on an author's failure to use standard names and abbreviations during the course of submission. To avoid this, all institution names in the literature were examined individually. Authors' names and legal changes in the surnames could not be documented. The impact factor of the journals is another matter of debate. A high impact factor is not always linked to scientific quality of a journal.[11] However, bibliometric analyses provide objective data reflecting one scientific activities of a country in a specific field of science or in any research field and enables comparison with scientific activities of other countries.

In conclusion, of 122 countries, Turkey ranked 14th in the number of orthopedic publications and 26th out of 30 countries in the PmP Index. We believe that, with the newly established universities, as well as training and research clinics, the approach of increasing number of orthopedics and traumatology clinics and specialists to scientific activities would be more fruitful in the light of these data.

Conflicts of Interest: No conflicts declared.

References
1. Ajuied A, Back D, Smith C, Davies AJ, Wong F, Earnshaw PH. Publication trends in knee surgery: a review of the last 16 years. J Arthroplasty 2013;28:751-8. CrossRef
2. Ahn CS, Li RJ, Ahn BS, Kuo P, Bryant J, Day CS. Hand and wrist research productivity in journals with high impact factors: a 20 year analysis. J Hand Surg Eur Vol 2012;37:275-83. CrossRef
3. DeMola PM, Hill DL, Rogers K, Abboud JA. Publication rate of abstracts presented at the shoulder and elbow session of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgery. Clin Orthop Relat Res 2009;467:1629-33. CrossRef
4. Fernandes CH, Metrellles LM, Raduan Neto J, dos Santos JB, Faloppa F, Albertoni WM. Characteristics of global publications about wrist arthroscopy: a bibliometric analysis. Hand Surg 2012;17:311-5. CrossRef
5. Kelly JC, Glynn RW, O’Briain DE, Felle P, McCabe JP. The 100 classic papers of orthopaedic surgery: a bibliometric analysis. J Bone Joint Surg Br 2010;92:1338-43. CrossRef
6. Kennedy C, O Sullivan P, Bilal M, Walsh A. Ireland’s contribution to orthopaedic literature: a bibliometric analysis. Surgeon 2013;11:267-71. CrossRef
7. Aslanoglu O, Ayas I, Kaymak O, Atik OS, Kunak F. Treatment of open fractures with external fixation. Orthopedics 1984;7:996-9.
8. Alanay A, Acaroglu E, Yazici M, Oznur A, Surat A. Short-segment pedicle instrumentation of thoracolumbar burst fractures: does transpedicular intracorporeal grafting prevent early failure? Spine (Phila Pa 1976) 2001;26:213-7.
9. Kütü A, Memik R, Mutlu M, Kütü R, Arslan A. Congenital dislocation of the hip and its relation to swaddling used in Turkey. J Pediatr Orthop 1992;12:598-602. CrossRef
10. Asik M, Gürer F, Sen C, Erdil M, Atalar A. The microfracture technique for the treatment of full-thickness articular cartilage lesions of the knee: midterm results. Arthroscopy 2008;24:1214-20.
11. Patsopoulos NA, Analatos AA, Ioannidis JP. Relative citation impact of various study designs in the health sciences. JAMA 2005;293:2362-6. CrossRef
12. Yılmaz C, Selek HY, Gürkan I, Erdemli B, Korkusuz Z. Anterior instrumentation for the treatment of spinal tuberculosis. J Bone Joint Surg Am 1999;81:1261-7.
13. Onel D, Sari H, Dönmez C. Lumbar spinal stenosis: clinical/radiologic therapeutic evaluation in 145 patients. Conservative treatment or surgical intervention? Spine (Phila Pa 1976) 1993;18:291-8. CrossRef
14. Leventoglu F, Oğün CO, Ozerbil O, Öğün TC, Ugurlu H. Gabapentin is a first line drug for the treatment of neuropathic pain in spinal cord injury. Spine (Phila Pa 1976) 2004;29:743-51.
15. Tandogan RN, Taşer O, Kayaalp A, Taşkiran E, Pinar H, Alparslan B, et al. Analysis of meniscal and chondral lesions accompanying anterior cruciate ligament tears: relationship with age, time from injury, and level of sport. Knee Surg Sports Traumatol Arthrosoc 2004;12:262-70. CrossRef
16. Güven O, Kumano K, Yalçın S, Karahan M, Tsuji S. A single stage posterior approach and rigid fixation for preventing kyphosis in the treatment of spinal tuberculosis. Spine (Phila Pa 1976) 1994;19:1039-43. CrossRef
17. Baktır A, Türk CY, Kabak S, Sahin V, Kardaş Y. Flexor tendon repair in zone 2 followed by early active mobilization. J Hand Surg Br 1996;21:624-8. CrossRef
18. Salcı Y, Kentel BB, Heycan C, Akin S, Korkusuz F. Comparison of landing maneuvers between male and female college volleyball players. Clin Biomech (Bristol, Avon) 2004;19:622-8. CrossRef
19. Tüzün EH, Eker L, Aytar A, Daşkapan A, Bayramoğlu M. Acceptability, reliability, validity and responsiveness of the Turkish version of WOMAC osteoarthritis index. Osteoarthritis Cartilage 2005;13:28-33. CrossRef
20. Ozalay M, Akpınar S, Karaeminogullari O, Balçik C, Tasci A, Tandogan RN, et al. Mechanical strength of four different biceps tenodesis techniques. Arthroscopy 2005;21:992-8. CrossRef
Most bibliometric analyses use data originating from one or more of the three citation indices supplied by Thomson Reuters. (ISI â€” the Institute for Scientific Information â€” founded by Eugene Garfield in 1958 is now a part of Thomson Reuters.) The most important Thomson Reuters citation index for medicine, life science and the natural sciences is the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE). The starting point in a bibliometric analysis is to select a group of publications. This selection of publications forms the unit of analysis. The publications may for example be selected on the basis of the authorsâ€™ organizational affiliation, such as For that purpose, a bibliometric analysis was conducted over the 33560 medicine-related articles published by Turkish universities during the years 2010 to 2012 in journals indexed by the Web of Science. In order to conduct in depth subject-based analysis of publication patterns, the publications are classified under three medical divisions by aggregating medical subject categories provided by Web of Science. Even though there are in depth studies of medical publications originated from Turkey in the literature, existing studies either focus on identifying the performance of a particular medical school in Turkey or comparing the performance of all Turkish institutions to another country in a specific medical subject.