1. Scientific Publications in Cancer: In Latin-America, Strong Scientific Networks Increase Productivity (The TENJIN Study)

(Publicaciones científicas en cáncer: en América Latina, las redes científicas fuertes aumentan la productividad (estudio TENJIN))

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ABSTRACTO: Objective: The objectives of this study were to evaluate the relationship between authorship networking as well as socioeconomic factors with scientific productivity across Latin-America (LATAM). Methods: In a bibliometric analysis of cancer-related Latin-American publications the relationship between authorship network indicators, sociodemographic factors and number of peer reviewed indexed publications per country was explored. A systematic review of the literature for cancer publications between 2000 and 2018 using the Scopus database, limited to Latin-American authors was used for the construction of co-authorship and publication networks and their respective metrics. Sociodemographic variables including percentage of invested GDP in research, population as well as cancer incidence were also estimated. Multiple linear regression models were constructed to determine the relationship between productivity and the aforementioned variables. Results: 8528 articles across 9 countries were included. Brazil was the most productive nation with 41.8% of identified references followed by Mexico (16.6%) and Argentina (12.9%). LATAM experienced a 9% growth in number of publications across the studied time frame. After analyzing networking and sociodemographic variables; number of authors in a collaboration network and percentage of invested GDP were associated with high productivity yielding a multiple regression model with an R2 value of 0.983. Conclusions: This study indicates that extensive authorship networking as well as a high investment in research strongly predict cancer related productivity.