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Poster Abstract

Integrated care: a comprehensive bibliometric analysis and literature review

Dr. Xiaowei Sun, Ph.D(candidate), School of Medicine and Health Management, Huazhong University of Science& Technology

Miss Wenxi Tang, Ph.D, School of Medicine and Health Management, Tongji Medical College, Huazhong University of Science& Technology, Wuhan, China

Miss Ting Ye, Ph.D, School of Medicine and Health Management, Tongji Medical College, Huazhong University of Science& Technology, Wuhan, China

Mr. Yan Zhang, School of Medicine and Health Management, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, China

Prof. Liang Zhang, Ph.D, School of Medicine and Health Management, Tongji Medical College, Huazhong University of Science& Technology, Wuhan, China

Correspondence to: **Dr. Xiaowei Sun**, Huazhong University of Science& Technology, Phone: +86 2783610982, E-mail: sunny52u12@gmail.com

Abstract

Background: Integrated care not only could fix up the fragmental healthcare caused by the ageing of the population, changing of disease spectrum and fast-growing medical scientific knowledge, also improve the continuity of care and the quality of life.

Purpose/Objectives: To investigate the growth pattern, languages, core journals, jurisdictions and research domains of integrated care.

Methods: Literature search: The Medline/PubMed was searched by using the search strategy “(delivery of health care, integrated [MeSH Terms]) OR integrated care” without time and language limits.

Analysis methods: We extract the publishing year, journals, jurisdictions and key words of the retrieved articles. Finally descriptive statistical analysis and hierarchical clustering are used.

Results: A total number of 9,090 articles were retrieved. Results included: a) the first article was published in 1947 and the cumulative numbers of the publications on integrated care rose perpendicularly after 1993. b) All documents were recorded by 1,646 kinds of journals. There were 28 core journals. The top 3 were Modern Healthcare, Healthcare Financial Management: Journal of Healthcare Financial Management Association, International Journal of Integrated Care. c) U.S. lead the scientific output (61.91%), followed by the UK (16.84%) and Netherlands(3.59%). d) There are 6 key domains of integrated care, which were the definition and models of integrated care, interdisciplinary patient care team, disease management for chronically ill patients, types of healthcare organizations, information system integration and legislation/jurisprudence.

Discussions and Conclusions: We have found an increase in the number of publications in the field of integrated care. The U.S. is the predominant publishing country, followed by UK and Netherlands. An adapted conceptual definition of integrate care has been proposed as a comprehensive, continuous, evidence-based and cost-effectiveness health care.

Keywords

integrated care, systematic literature review, delivery of health care, bibliometric analysis
