



Research in Iran: Quantity and Quality

In past years, national scientific production has had noticeable growth in frame work of published articles in reputable databases. This growth can also be seen in number of medical science articles, which usually constitute 30-38 percent of the total number of articles nationally. Of course, from 2011, the growth slope of number of articles nationally has slowed down a bit and in some universities it has even experienced a drop which luckily in medical science articles this sluggish growth trend is seen less. However, with new policy in Dr. Rohani's government, regarding research and technology and implementation of a number of approaches including capacity building, again from 2014 we observed an acceptable growth in scientific activities in

Iran. For example, about 300% growth occurred in citations of biomedical papers in Iran over the last 4 years (1).

Qualitatively, if we consider number of article citations as one qualitative indicator, in 2013, Iranian biomedical articles in the Scopus database, altogether have been cited 17052 times which from this perspective, Iran is 22nd internationally and second in the region. However, in 2016, this was increased to 47703 as the first place in the region; this in itself is representative of noticeable improvement in article quality during the years indicated. Altogether, the Iranian scientists hope that the new government will allocate more budgets for research in Iran.

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References

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