



March 12, 2022

Dear editor

Editor-in-Chief

Hope this finds you well

Re: Revised Manuscript Submission (Manuscript No: 75788)

We would like to thank you and all reviewers for your time and insightful and qualified comments after reviewing our manuscript titled “**Global research on Clostridium difficile-associated diarrhea: a visualized study**”.

We wish to thank the editor and reviewers again for their time in commenting on the draft manuscript, which we believe has strengthened the paper. We carefully addressed all comments of the reviewers. A point-by--by-point reply to the comments is given below. We hope that we appropriately address all comments.

We look forward to you and reviewers’ comments on the manuscript and hope that the manuscript is given favorable consideration for publication in World Journal of Gastroenterology.

Yours sincerely

Sa’ed H Zyoud

[Reviewer reports:](#)

[Reviewer #1 \(03807409\)](#)

The author provided an up-to-date picture of the trends in publications related to C. difficile infection, together with specific insights into hot issues in this field. This bibliometric study will provide microbiologist researchers with a quantitative and timely summary of C. difficile infection-related publications. Given that clinicians and researchers in gastroenterology are the main readers of WJG, the author needs to emphasize why this article is important and attractive for these readers.



Response: I would like to thank you for the thorough reading of the manuscript and the professional comments and constructive recommendations, which help improve this manuscript's quality. Thank you for this suggestion. We added several points as you suggested. In addition, the revised manuscript has been edited thoroughly by a highly qualified native English speaker and made extensive editing and several corrections to the errors.

Reviewer #2 (05839291)

The manuscript provides a general overview on publications about C. difficile over 20 years. The article is generally well-written, with detailed methodology, good presentation of results, adequate discussion, and acknowledgment of most study limitations. However, the authors should further explain why they relied on only Scopus data base and develop meaningful conclusions (based on study findings)

Response: Response: I would like to thank you for the thorough reading of the manuscript and the professional comments and constructive recommendations, which help improve this manuscript's quality. Thank you for this suggestion. We explained why we relied on only Scopus as you suggested. Scopus was chosen since it has a larger number of indexed journals than other databases (e.g., PubMed or Web of Science) and is completely inclusive of all journals in Medline. Scopus is the most popular set of scientific publications used in bibliometric and scientometric studies together with PubMed or Web of Science. In addition, Scopus also has indexed journals in the health, social, physical, and life sciences. This enhances the likelihood of retrieving as many relevant publications as feasible. In addition, the revised manuscript has been edited thoroughly by a highly qualified native English speaker and made extensive editing and several corrections to the errors.

Reviewer #3 (05185768)



This is a scientometrics study about C.difficile-associated diarrhea. The study type and topic are very interesting. The method is clear and the result/figure are good. It will be better if the authors could include the data more from other database. The introduction and discussion are redundant.

Response: Response: I would like to thank you for the thorough reading of the manuscript and the professional comments and constructive recommendations, which help improve this manuscript's quality. Thank you for this suggestion. We explained why we relied on only on one database (i.e. Scopus as you suggested). Scopus was chosen since it has a larger number of indexed journals than other databases (e.g., PubMed or Web of Science) and is completely inclusive of all journals in Medline. Scopus is the most popular set of scientific publications used in bibliometric and scientometric studies together with PubMed or Web of Science. In addition, Scopus also has indexed journals in the health, social, physical, and life sciences. This enhances the likelihood of retrieving as many relevant publications as feasible. In addition, the revised manuscript has been edited thoroughly by a highly qualified native English speaker and made extensive editing and several corrections to the errors.

Editor comments

I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, full text of the manuscript, and the relevant ethics documents, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements of the World Journal of Gastroenterology, and the manuscript is conditionally accepted.

Response: thank you for this decision

- I have sent the manuscript to the author(s) for its revision according to the Peer-Review Report, Editorial Office's comments and the Criteria for Manuscript Revision by Authors.

Response: Dear editor, thank you very much for the comments and suggestions. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to improve and resubmit our manuscript. The comments and suggestions are valuable and very helpful for revising and improving our manuscript. According to the referees' comments and suggestions, we have made revisions, as described in the authors' response.



- Please provide decomposable Figures (in which all components are movable and editable), organize them into a single PowerPoint file.

Response: we added all the figures to PPT

- Please authors are required to provide standard three-line tables, that is, only the top line, bottom line, and column line are displayed, while other table lines are hidden. The contents of each cell in the table should conform to the editing specifications, and the lines of each row or column of the table should be aligned. Do not use carriage returns or spaces to replace lines or vertical lines and do not segment cell content.

Response: we adjusted the tables as you recommended

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Response: All our figures were original. We followed your suggestions.