<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8432</td>
<td>Evolution of <em>World Journal of Clinical Cases</em> over the past 5 years</td>
<td>Muthu S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8450</td>
<td>Diffusion tensor imaging pipeline measures of cerebral white matter integrity: An overview of recent advances and prospects</td>
<td>Safri AA, Nassir CMNCM, Iman IN, Mohd Taib NH, Achuthan A, Mustapha M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8463</td>
<td>Graft choices for anterolateral ligament knee reconstruction surgery: Current concepts</td>
<td>Chalidis B, Pitsilos C, Kitridis D, Givissis P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8474</td>
<td>Overview of the anterolateral complex of the knee</td>
<td>Garcia-Martins I, Zicaro JP, Martinez EF, Astoul J, Yacuzzi C, Costa-Paz M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8482</td>
<td>Complication of lengthening and the role of post-operative care, physical and psychological rehabilitation among fibula hemimelia</td>
<td>Salimi M, Sarallah R, Javanshir S, Mirghaderi SP, Salimi A, Khazazdeh S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8490</td>
<td>Pyroptosis-related genes play a significant role in the prognosis of gastric cancer</td>
<td>Guan SH, Wang XY, Shang P, Du QC, Li MZ, Xing X, Yan B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8506</td>
<td>Effects of propofol combined with lidocaine on hemodynamics, serum adrenocorticotropic hormone, interleukin-6, and cortisol in children</td>
<td>Shi S, Gan L, Jin CN, Liu RF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8514</td>
<td>Correlation analysis of national elite Chinese male table tennis players’ shoulder proprioception and muscle strength</td>
<td>Shang XD, Zhang EM, Chen ZL, Zhang L, Qian JH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Contents

### Clinical Trials Study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8525</td>
<td>Clinical value of contrast-enhanced ultrasound in early diagnosis of small hepatocellular carcinoma (≤ 2 cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8535</td>
<td>Identification of predictive factors for post-transarterial chemoembolization liver failure in hepatocellular carcinoma patients: A retrospective study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8547</td>
<td>Clinical significance of half-hepatic blood flow occlusion technology in patients with hepatocellular carcinoma with cirrhosis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8556</td>
<td>Which octogenarian patients are at higher risk after cholecystectomy for symptomatic gallstone disease? A single center cohort study</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Observational Study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8568</td>
<td>Computed tomography combined with gastroscopy for assessment of pancreatic segmental portal hypertension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8578</td>
<td>Psychological needs of parents of children with complicated congenital heart disease after admitting to pediatric intensive care unit: A questionnaire study</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Prospective Study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8587</td>
<td>Quantitative differentiation of malignant and benign thyroid nodules with multi-parameter diffusion-weighted imaging</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Randomized Controlled Trial

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8599</td>
<td>Application of unified protocol as a transdiagnostic treatment for emotional disorders during COVID-19: An internet-delivered randomized controlled trial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8615</td>
<td>High-flow nasal cannula oxygen therapy during anesthesia recovery for older orthopedic surgery patients: A prospective randomized controlled trial</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Systematic Reviews

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8625</td>
<td>Assessment tools for differential diagnosis of neglect: Focusing on egocentric neglect and allocentric neglect</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CASE REPORT

8634 Exome analysis for Cronkhite-Canada syndrome: A case report
Li ZD, Rong L, He YJ, Ji YZ, Li X, Song FZ, Li XA

8641 Discrepancy between non-invasive prenatal testing result and fetal karyotype caused by rare confined placental mosaicism: A case report
Li Z, Lai GR

8648 Paroxysmal speech disorder as the initial symptom in a young adult with anti-N-methyl-D-aspartate receptor encephalitis: A case report
Hu CC, Pan XL, Zhang MX, Chen HF

8656 Anesthesics management of a renal angiomyolipoma using pulse pressure variation and non-invasive cardiac output monitoring: A case report
Jeon WJ, Shin WJ, Yoon YJ, Park CW, Shim JH, Cho SY

8662 Traumatic giant cell tumor of rib: A case report
Chen YS, Kao HW, Huang HY, Huang TW

8667 Analysis of two naval pilots’ ejection injuries: Two case reports
Zeng J, Liu XP, Yi JC, Lu X, Liu DD, Jiang YQ, Liu YB, Tian JQ

8673 Beware of the DeBakey type I aortic dissection hidden by ischemic stroke: Two case reports
Chen SQ, Luo WL, Liu W, Wang LZ

8679 Unilateral lichen planus with Blaschko line distribution: A case report
Dong S, Zhu WJ, Xu M, Zhao XQ, Mou Y

8686 Clinical features and progress of ischemic gastritis with high fatalities: Seven case reports

8695 Retinoblastoma in an older child with secondary glaucoma as the first clinical presenting symptom: A case report
Zhang Y, Tang L

8703 Recurrent herpes zoster in a rheumatoid arthritis patient treated with tofacitinib: A case report and review of the literature
Lin QX, Meng HJ, Pang YY, Qu Y

8709 Intra-abdominal ectopic bronchogenic cyst with a mucinous neoplasm harboring a GNAS mutation: A case report

8718 Effects of intravascular photobiomodulation on motor deficits and brain perfusion images in intractable myasthenia gravis: A case report
Lan CH, Wu YC, Chiang CC, Chang ST
## Contents

**World Journal of Clinical Cases**  
*Thrice Monthly Volume 10 Number 24 August 26, 2022*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8728</td>
<td>Spontaneous acute epidural hematoma secondary to skull and dural metastasis of hepatocellular carcinoma: A case report</td>
<td>Lv GZ, Li GC, Tang WT, Zhou D, Yang Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8735</td>
<td>Malignant melanotic nerve sheath tumors in the spinal canal of psammomatous and non-psammomatous type: Two case reports</td>
<td>Yeom JA, Song YS, Lee IS, Han IH, Choi KU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8742</td>
<td>When should endovascular gastrointestinal anastomosis transection Glissonean pedicle not be used in hepatectomy? A case report</td>
<td>Zhao J, Dang YL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8749</td>
<td>VARS2 gene mutation leading to overall developmental delay in a child with epilepsy: A case report</td>
<td>Wu XH, Lin SZ, Zhou YQ, Wang WQ, Li JY, Chen QD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8755</td>
<td>Junctional bradycardia in a patient with COVID-19: A case report</td>
<td>Aedh AI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8768</td>
<td>High scored thyroid storm after stomach cancer perforation: A case report</td>
<td>Baik SM, Pae Y, Lee JM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8775</td>
<td>Cholecystitis-an uncommon complication following thoracic duct embolization for chylothorax: A case report</td>
<td>Dung LV, Hien MM, Tra My TT, Lau DT, Linh LT, Duc NM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8782</td>
<td>Endometrial squamous cell carcinoma originating from the cervix: A case report</td>
<td>Shu XY, Dai Z, Zhang S, Yang HX, Bi H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8788</td>
<td>Type 2 autoimmune pancreatitis associated with severe ulcerative colitis: Three case reports</td>
<td>Ghali M, Bensted K, Williams DB, Ghaly S</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8805</td>
<td>Comment on “Posterior reversible encephalopathy syndrome in a patient with metastatic breast cancer: A case report”</td>
<td>Kunić S, Ibrahimagić OĆ, Kojić B, Đihanović D</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
About Cover
Editorial Board Member of World Journal of Clinical Cases, Ahmed Mohamed Ahmed Al-Emam, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Pathology, King Khalid University, Abha 62521, Saudi Arabia. amalemam@kku.edu.sa

Aims and Scope
The primary aim of World Journal of Clinical Cases (WJCC, World J Clin Cases) is to provide scholars and readers from various fields of clinical medicine with a platform to publish high-quality clinical research articles and communicate their research findings online.

WJCC mainly publishes articles reporting research results and findings obtained in the field of clinical medicine and covering a wide range of topics, including case control studies, retrospective cohort studies, retrospective studies, clinical trials studies, observational studies, prospective studies, randomized controlled trials, randomized clinical trials, systematic reviews, meta-analysis, and case reports.

Indexing/Abstracting
The WJCC is now abstracted and indexed in Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE, also known as SciSearch®), Journal Citation Reports/Science Edition, Current Contents®/Clinical Medicine, PubMed, PubMed Central, Scopus, Reference Citation Analysis, China National Knowledge Infrastructure, China Science and Technology Journal Database, and Superstar Journals Database. The 2022 Edition of Journal Citation Reports® cites the 2021 impact factor (IF) for WJCC as 1.534; IF without journal self cites: 1.491; 5-year IF: 1.599; Journal Citation Indicator: 0.28; Ranking: 135 among 172 journals in medicine, general and internal; and Quartile category: Q4. The WJCC’s CiteScore for 2021 is 1.2 and Scopus CiteScore rank 2021: General Medicine is 443/826.

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Evolution of *World Journal of Clinical Cases* over the past 5 years

Sathish Muthu

**Specialty type:** Scientific journal  
**Provenance and peer review:** Invited article; Externally peer reviewed.  
**Peer-review model:** Single blind  
**Peer-review report's scientific quality classification**  
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Grade B (Very good): 0  
Grade C (Good): 0  
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**Abstract**

Analysis of the articles published in any journal is necessary to ascertain the performance of the journal in the academia. The author made a scientometric analysis of the articles published in the *World Journal of Clinical Cases* in the past 5 years and present the data to the readers.

**Key Words:** World Journal of Clinical Cases; Scientific journal; Research publication; Keywords; Scientometrics; Trend analysis

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**Core Tip:** We analysed the articles published in the *World Journal of Clinical Cases* to illustrate the journal performance in the past 5 years. The author demonstrated that the journal has been growing with time with appropriate publication standards as per the COPE guidelines. The journal has a wide spectrum of published articles covering various domains of medicine to meet the aims and scope of the journal.

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**DOI:** https://dx.doi.org/10.12998/wjcc.v10.i24.8432
INTRODUCTION

The World Journal of Clinical Cases started out publishing high-quality peer-reviewed articles since 2013 [1]. In this letter I would like to present a short summary of the performance of the journal in the past 5 years. A scientometric analysis was performed using the metadata of the articles published in the journal and indexed in Web of Science and Reference Citation Analysis [2] database over the past 5 years (2017-2021). Visualisation of the data was made using CiteSpace software [3].

Publication volume

The journal published 2792 articles between 2017 and 2021. The journal experienced three times growth in the number of publications with 12 issues in 2017 covering 452 pages in Volume 5 to 36 issues in 2021 covering 11508 pages in Volume 9. Similarly, the number of published articles rose from 71 in 2017 to 1296 in 2021 as shown in Figure 1.

Institutional network

Of the 2792 analysed articles, the top contributors were from Zhejiang University (143), Capital Medical University (129), China Medical University (99), Sichuan University (91), and Jilin University (82).

Country network

The People’s Republic of China contributed to 71% (1982) of the total publications in the past 5 years, followed by South Korea (160), United States (127), Japan (111), and Italy (74).

Cited references

In order to analyse the self-citation policy, analysis was made on the journals of the cited references from the included publications in the past 5 years. A total of 731 journals were cited in the 31774 references analysed. The top cited journals were New England Journal of Medicine (622), Lancet (538), World Journal of Gastroenterology (518), Medicine (460), and PLOS One (416). This proves that the journal was adherent to the self-citation policy with only 122 self-citations, which account for 0.3% of the total references analysed.

Keyword cluster analysis

On analysing the keywords of the included articles, clustering of the keywords was made to represent the subject of the included articles. The top clusters in the included articles were #0 case report, #1 colorectal cancer, #2 inflammatory bowel disease, #3 hepatocellular carcinoma, #4 neoadjuvant chemoradiotherapy, and #5 coronavirus disease. Network of the included clusters is represented in Figure 2.

Publication trend analysis

On analysing the timeline of the keywords among the top clusters we noted that the recent publication trends revolved around the research domains like oncology, chemoradiotherapy, and coronavirus disease as shown in Figure 3.
Figure 2  Network map of keyword clusters of the publication in the past 5 years.

Figure 3  Timeline analysis of research publication trend.

Citation Analysis
The 2792 articles published in past 5 years accumulated a total citation count of 5285 (as of June 6, 2022). Average citation per article was 1.89. Based on the articles published in the past 5 years, the H-index of the journal was 22 (as of June 6, 2022). The article by Ren et al[4] titled “Fear can be more harmful than the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 in controlling the coronavirus disease 2019 epidemic” is the most cited article of the journal with 134 citations (as of June 6, 2022). The rate of publication and the citation frequency are given in Figure 4. The journal demonstrates a Journal Impact Factor of 1.534 based on Journal Citation Reports 2022 and Journal Article Influence Index of 1.89[2] ranking 135 among 172 journals in the category of Medicine, General and Internal[5].

CONCLUSION
We demonstrated that the journal has been growing with time with appropriate publication standards as per the COPE guidelines[6]. The journal has a wide spectrum of published articles covering various
Figure 4 Relationship between annual publications and citations.

domains of medicine to meet the aims and scope of the journal.

FOOTNOTES

Author contributions: Muthu S contributed to conceptualization, methodology, formal analysis and investigation, original draft preparation, manuscript review and editing, resources, and supervision.

Conflict-of-interest statement: The author is an editorial board member of the World Journal of Clinical Cases.

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