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Status and Hot Spots of Positive Psychology: A Bibliometric Analysis

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Objective: To represent the research status of positive psychology and analyze the hot spots and to provide references for clinical work and future research in this field.

Methods: Literatures related to positive psychology were retrieved in Web of Science Core Collection database from 2000 to 2019. We make a bibliometric analysis about the annual publication number, distribution of countries, funding agencies, journals of publication and research areas. Cite Space visualization software and HistCite software were used to facilitate the analysis of research hot spots and high cited references, respectively.

Results: A total of 4536 pieces of literature relevant with positive psychology were collected. The volume of published documents showed an increasing trend year by year. America had most articles which number is 1793 while China had 241 articles, ranking 6. The funding agencies and journals of publication were diverse, most of which belonged to America. The research areas mainly consisted of Psychology, accounting for 52.491%, while Nursing ranked 10, accounting for 1.984%. Top 5 strongest burst keywords were mindfulness, psychosis, association, predictor and randomized controlled trial. The highest 10 cited references mainly focused on the research of relationship between positive psychology and happiness and positive psychological intervention methods.

Conclusions: Positive psychology is at the stage of growing and developing. Core journals have not emerged yet. America is in the leading position in this field. The quantity of literature in China is small and still has a larger upside. The research hot spots include mindfulness intervention, associated therapy and design of randomized controlled trial. In future, research workers could expand and enhance positive psychology in clinical application and study for further exploration of effective intervention program.

Biography

Sun Caiyun graduated from Nanjing Medical University in June 2019. And now she is a professional master graduate student, major in Nursing at the same college. During her undergraduate period, she has achieved fist-level scholarship three times and national scholarship once. She is willing to do voluntary work to help others. As a result, she was honored as outstanding volunteer. Her internship was completed in Shanghai Tenth People Hospital from April 2018 to April 2019. She is interested in research abou tinflammatory bowel disease, which is also my teacher's specialism.

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