The Influential Articles and Topics in the Journal of Korean Neurosurgical Society Publications between 2019 and 2020

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The 2020 impact factor (IF) of the Journal of Korean Neurosurgical Society (JKNS) was 1.729, an increase of 26% from the previous year (1.376). The rise in IF and sustaining its upward trend in recent years is very encouraging. It is the results of the unremitting efforts of all members of the Korean Neurosurgical Society (KNS). Awareness of the importance of journal and support from KNS were also of great help. In this regard, it is meaningful to discover the most cited papers, topics, and fields published in JKNS.

THE INFLUENTIAL ARTICLES

The citation data was extracted from the Web of Science on November 28, 2021. The number of articles published in JKNS between January 2019 and November 2020 was 181. The total number of citations was 524, and the average number of citations per article during that period was 2.89. As many as 137 articles were cited at least once, accounting for 75.7% of the total.

Interestingly, compared to the data published in 2020, the average citation number per article increased in accordance with the increase in journal impact factor (JIF), whereas the proportion of uncited articles did not decrease significantly (24.3% vs. 24.5%). This means that the proportion of more influential articles has increased. A quarter of all citations (131/524) came from 10 out of 181 articles (5.5% of all published articles), indicating the importance of influential articles.

Among the frequently cited articles, six influential articles that received the highest international attention and contributed greatly to the reputation of the journal were selected. It is our honor to announce these articles with the list of the corresponding authors (Fig. 1).

Jung et al. Factors Related to Successful Energy Transmission of Focused Ultrasound through a Skull: A Study in Hu-


Ko et al. Correction of Spondylolisthesis by Lateral Lumbar Interbody Fusion Compared with Transforaminal Lumbar Interbody Fusion at L4-5. 2019;62(4):422-431 by Seung Won Park of Chung-Ang University Hospital

Looking at the types of selected articles, there were three clinical studies, two reviews, and one laboratory investigation. As usual, this means that recruiting review articles will help improve the reputation of JKNS. However, the original articles (clinical study and laboratory investigation) published in JKNS also show that they make a significant contribution as much as reviews, showing a good balance in quality in both the requested review articles and voluntarily submitted original articles. It is well known that most academic journals have about two thirds or three quarters of articles with fewer citations than JIF\(^1\). This trend is also found in JKNS, which indicates that the value of a scientific journal depends on whether they publish more articles that have higher academic significance.

**THE FIELDS AND TOPICS OF ARTICLES WHICH GOT MORE CITATIONS**

The selected influential articles covers most of the major fields of neurosurgery, which are functional, cerebrovascular, spine, pediatric and basic research. However, there is relative paucity of articles in neuro-oncology field among the frequently cited articles when compared to other clinical fields of neurosurgery. Considering that Korean researchers are making many achievements in the field of brain tumors, it will be of great help to the development of JKNS if domestic researchers are motivated to publish many brain tumor-related articles. It is also notable that case reports are not listed in the frequently cited articles. It is thought that the editorial board should control the number of published case reports by applying stricter standards concerning the probability of citation in mind when reviewing submitted case reports. Articles on ‘focused ultrasound’ is one of the influential articles, and its originality was its strong point as an influential article. The goal of KNS members is to develop novel topics of interest to overseas readers. Other interesting topics are emerging fields such as artificial intelligence and 3D printing. This suggests that selecting a ‘hot topic’ for review papers will be a great help in increasing JKNS’s citations. In keeping with the rapid development of academia and changing trends, the editorial board should always pay attention to the fields that are receiving attention.

**CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

No potential conflict of interest relevant to this article was reported.
AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

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Data curation : MC
Formal analysis : CKP
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Methodology : HJY
Project administration : HJY
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