

The Impact of Open Access Contributions: Developed and Developing World Perspectives

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Abstract: The study explores the research impact of 'Open Access research articles' across the globe with a view to test the hypothesis that "OA research contributions emanating from developing countries receive equal citations (subsequently resultant research impact) as those from the developed world". The study covers 5639 research articles from 50 Open Access DOAJ based Medical Sciences journals covering the period from 2005 to 2006. The research impact of OA research publications measured by the citation counts varies from journal to journal and from country to country. Statistically significant difference is noted between the research impact of the developed and the developing world for OA research articles. The research articles from the developed countries receive higher number of citations (subsequently resultant research impact) compared to those of the developing world. The study may help and pave way for framing policies and strategies to increase the impact of research in the developing world.

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