Adherence to Reporting Guidelines and Trial Registration in Infectious Disease Journals: A Preliminary Study



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INTRODUCTION

Recommending or requiring the use of reporting guidelines and prospective trial registration may be methods to published studies ensure are reproducible, transparent, and standardized. Currently, it is unknown whether infectious disease journals mention, recommend, or require reporting studies to adhere to guidelines. The purpose of this study is to evaluate submission instructions of infectious disease journals to establish the rate of mention, recommendation, or requirement of reporting guidelines and/or registration of clinical trials and systematic reviews for their published studies.

METHODS

Top 100 infectious disease journals identified and confirmed via 2021 Scopus CiteScore Tool



Investigated "Instructions for Authors"
pages and contacted journal editorial staff
members to determine accepted study
designs



Extracted data regarding reporting guidelines from each journal in a masked, triplicate fashion

RESULTS

Figure 1. PRISMA Flow Diagram of Journal Selection Process

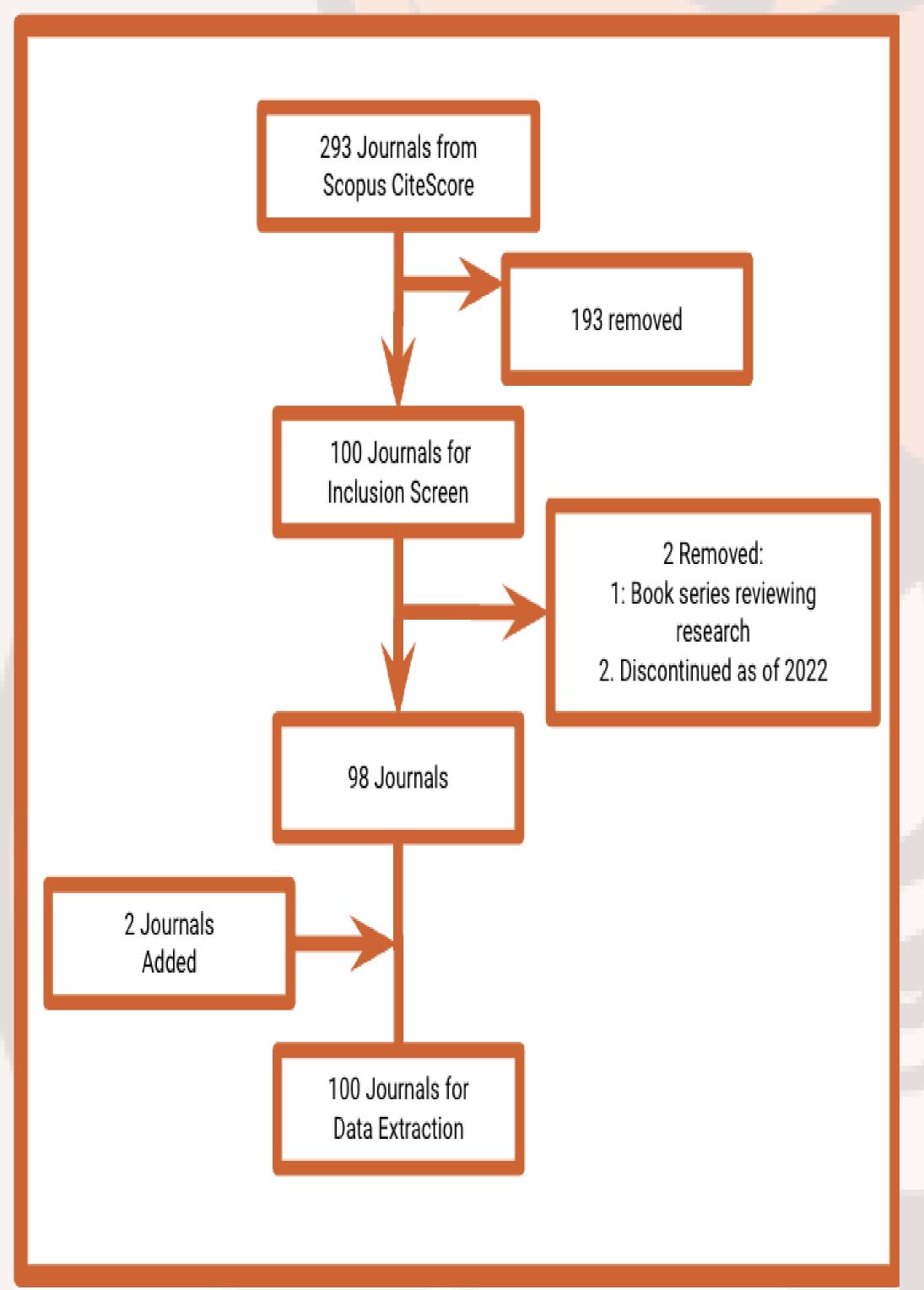
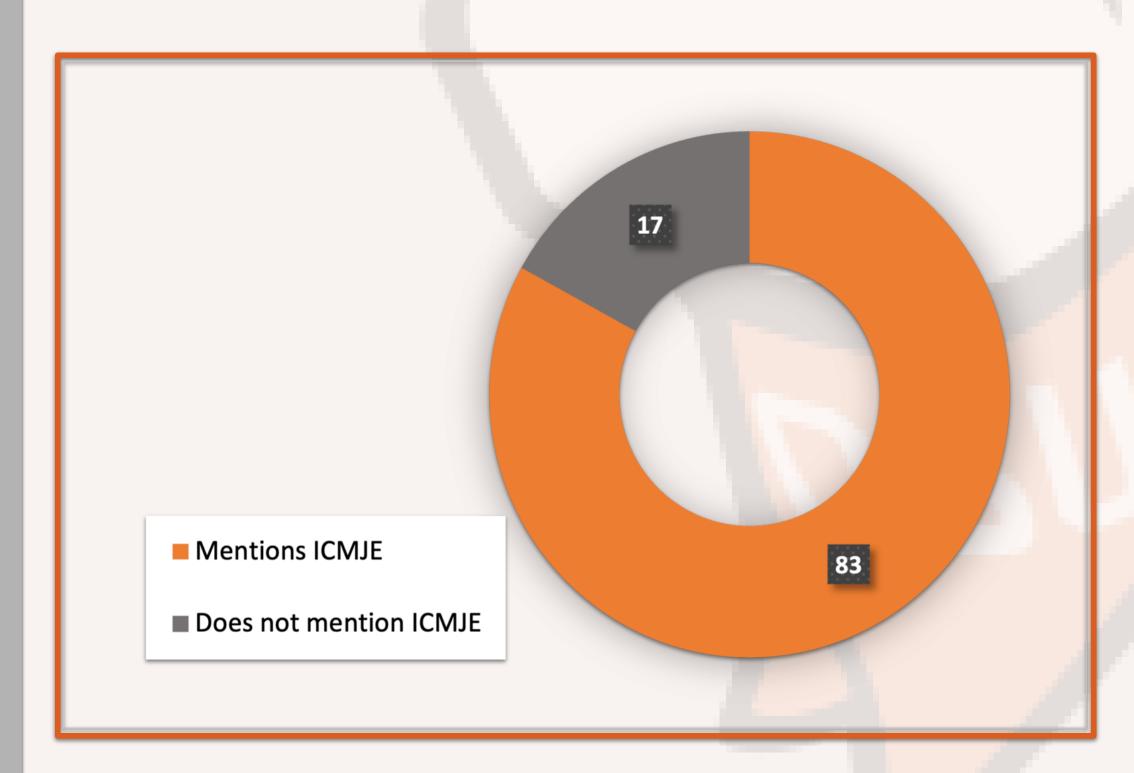


Table 1. Data by Reporting Guidelines

n = 100
21 (22%)
50 (52%)
25 (26%)
46 (47%)
44 (45%)
8 (8.2%)
36 (38%)
56 (58%)
4 (4.2%)
92 (93%)
6 (6.1%)
1 (1.0%)
93 (97%)
1 (1.0%)
2 (2.1%)

Figure 2. Data by ICMJE Reporting Guidelines



Required study registration 1

Recommended study registration 61

Recommended study registration 8

Did not mention study

Figure 3. Data Clinical Trial Registration

CONCLUSION

- . CONSORT, PRISMA, & ARRIVE were the most frequently reported guidelines amongst infectious disease journals.
- . Many reporting guidelines were rarely mentioned, although their study designs were accepted for publication (i.e. MOOSE & QUORUM).
- . Future requirement of reporting guidelines by infectious disease journals may aid in increasing both transparency and reproducibility, as well as standardized data reporting.

REFERENCES



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