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# Global research trends of diabetes remission: a bibliometric study

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**Background:** Research on diabetes remission has garnered prominence in recent years. However, to date, no pertinent bibliometric study has been published. This study sought to elucidate the current landscape and pinpoint potential new research directions through a bibliometric analysis of diabetes remission.

**Methods:** We perused relevant articles on diabetes remission from January 1, 2000, to April 16, 2023, in the Web of Science. We utilized CiteSpace software and VOSviewer software to construct knowledge maps and undertake analysis of countries, institutional affiliations, author contributions, journals, and keywords. This analysis facilitated the identification of current research foci and forecasting future trends.

**Results:** A total of 970 English articles were procured, and the annual publication volume manifested a steady growth trend. Most of the articles originated from America (n=342, 35.26%), succeeded by China and England. Pertaining to institutions, the University of Newcastle in England proliferated the most articles (n=36, 3.71%). Taylor R authored the most articles (n=35, 3.61%), and his articles were also the most co-cited (n=1756 times). *Obesity Surgery* dominated in terms of published articles (n=81, 8.35%). "Bariatric surgery" was the most prevalently used keyword. The keyword-clustering map revealed that the research predominantly centered on diabetes remission, type 1 diabetes, bariatric surgery, and lifestyle interventions. The keyword emergence and keyword time-zone maps depicted hotspots and shifts in the domain of diabetes remission. Initially, the hotspots were primarily fundamental experiments probing the feasibilities and mechanisms of diabetes remission, such as transplantation. Over the course, the research trajectory transitioned from basic to clinical concerning diabetes remission through bariatric surgery, lifestyle interventions, and alternative strategies.

**Conclusion:** Over the preceding 20 years, the domain of diabetes remission has flourished globally. Bariatric surgery and lifestyle interventions bestow unique advantages for diabetes remission. Via the maps, the developmental milieu, research foci, and avant-garde trends in this domain are cogently portrayed, offering guidance for scholars.

#### KEYWORDS

diabetes mellitus, remission, bibliometric study, Citespace, VOSviewer

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# **1** Introduction

In recent years, the incidence of diabetes has escalated precipitously (1, 2), and its detriment to humans surpasses that of cardiovascular diseases, ascertaining its position first among the world's top ten chronic diseases (3). Diabetes inflicts considerable physiological (4–7), psychological (8–10), and economic (3) adversities to patients. The cognizance rate of diabetes remains low (11), and an increasing number of young individuals are succumbing to it (12). Thus, it is imperative to elucidate effective methods for the prevention and treatment of diabetes.

Historically, diabetes has been perceived as an intractable and perpetual ailment necessitating the prolonged administration of hypoglycemic agents. However, concomitant with the evolution in medical technology and the amassment of pertinent evidence-based findings, the remission of diabetes is progressively being substantiated (13). A plethora of studies have illuminated the salutary effects of diabetes remission, especially the remission of type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM), and have realized monumental accomplishments in strategies, mechanisms, and predictive indices (14-16). "Remission" denotes that, via certain interventions, diabetes patients can sustain glycated hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) levels, or blood glucose levels, at normative or near-normative thresholds absent the deployment of hypoglycemic agents, for a duration exceeding a specified span (17). One investigation revealed that from pre-diabetes to manifest diabetes, the risk of cardiovascular pathology in patients augmented to an approximate 23% (18). Furthermore, subsequent to the remission of diabetes, not solely did the metrics pertinent to glucose and lipid metabolism exhibit marked amelioration, but the cardiovascular disease risk plummeted to 7%, whilst the probability of other chronic sequelae such as diabetic foot notably diminished (18). Hence, the remission of diabetes bears profound relevance. Over preceding decades, a myriad of studies on diabetes remission has been disseminated. Yet, no study has holistically assessed the associated publications.

Bibliometrics empower the application of mathematical and statistical techniques to quantitatively scrutinize a multitude of articles within a designated research domain, thereby unveiling its research status and trajectories. CiteSpace and VOSviewer constitute the preeminent literature information visualization software tools, extensively employed across diverse disciplines such as medicine, science and technology, economic governance, jurisprudence, agronomy, and humanities (19-24). Within the realm of metabolic disorders, a multitude of researchers have harnessed this methodology to assess their investigative content (25-30). However, as of this juncture, there exists no distinct scholarly metric examination of knowledge schematics pertaining to diabetes remission. This study appraised articles on diabetes remission promulgated from January 1, 2000, to April 16, 2023. Our objective is to delineate the extant paradigm in this domain and ascertain emergent research vectors.

# 2 Materials and methods

## 2.1 Data collection

On April 16, 2023, the two authors (ZH and QC) independently undertook searches and accrued articles from the Web of Science database, probing for articles bearing the title "diabetes remission" or "diabetes mellitus remission" or "type 2 diabetes remission" or "type 2 diabetes mellitus remission" or "T2DM remission" or "remission of diabetes" or "remission of diabetes mellitus" or "remission of type 2 diabetes" or "remission of type 2 diabetes mellitus" or "reversal of diabetes" or "reversal of diabetes mellitus" or "reversal of type 2 diabetes" or "reversal of type 2 diabetes mellitus" or "reversal of T2DM" or "reverse diabetes" or "reverse diabetes mellitus" or "reverse type 2 diabetes" or " reverse type 2 diabetes mellitus" or " reverse T2DM" or "diabetes be reversed" or "diabetes mellitus be reversed" or "type 2 diabetes be reversed" or "type 2 diabetes mellitus be reversed" or "T2DM be reversed" spanning from January 1, 2000, to April 16, 2023, in the English language. Post exclusion of news reports, conference abstracts, health science dissemination, and articles that were incongruous to the theme, salient data (titles, keywords, author metadata, abstracts, citations, etc.) was retrieved and archived in TXT format for subsequent utilization. Thereafter, two authors (GC and CL) omitted articles that were inapposite to the central theme, culminating in a total of 970 references.

## 2.2 Statistical methods

Initially, we fabricated cooperation network maps of nations, institutions, and contributors utilizing CiteSpace (6.1.R6 Advanced). Within these maps, each node signifies a distinct nation, institution, or contributor, and the connectors imply that the associated nodes have collaborative affiliations. The more pronounced the connectors, the more robust the collaborative affiliations. Subsequently, we incepted keyword co-occurrence and keyword emergence maps. We then executed a keyword clustering exploration: a clustering map, a chronology map, and a temporal sector map. The magnitude of the circle within the map corresponds to the recurrence: the more expansive the circle's diameter, the more elevated the recurrence of the node. The breadth of the circle depicts the recurrence of the associated content manifested across distinct years, and the links between nodes denote co-presence. The collaborative network maps generated by CiteSpace lack the capability to delineate the dimensions of the nodes; hence, they are unable to delineate variances in magnitude. Additionally, a multitude of labels, such as nations, institutions, and authors, often induce overlap, diminishing the visual clarity. The collaborative network map fashioned by VOSviewer possesses the merit of succinctness and lucidity (31). As such, we harnessed VOSviewer (1.6.18) to conduct

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a concurrent analysis of nations, institutions, authorship, and collaborations in articles, and to instigate a co-presence examination of co-citations and article sources. The circles on the map represent distinct nations, institutions, authors, and journals, and the size of the circle delineates quantity. The more expansive the circle's diameter, the greater the node count. The connector extending between the circles indicates a co-presence association amongst nodes.

# 3 Results and analysis

# 3.1 Analysis of the source of the article's publication

### 3.1.1 Annual growth trend of publications

Based on the distribution of the 970 included articles by publication time (Figure 1), the articles pertaining to diabetes remission exhibited a progressive upward trend from January 1, 2000, to April 16, 2023. Notably, post-2010, this escalation became even more pronounced. The volume of articles published peaked at 112 in 2021 and experienced a marginal decline to 97 by 2022. Overall, research in the realm of diabetes remission has garnered increasing scholarly attention.

#### 3.1.2 Countries analysis

A cumulative of 790 articles were gleaned from 63 countries, and we selected the top ten countries based on their publication output for the publication scale (Table 1). America had the preeminent publication volume (n=342, 35.26%), trailed by China (n=130, 13.40%) and England (n=108, 11.13%). A topological representation of inter-country collaboration is delineated in Figure 2. Figure 2B underscores the America's dominant publication activity, while Figure 2A highlights the symbiotic scholarly activities primarily among European nations.

### 3.1.3 Institutions analysis

These articles were disseminated by 1,568 institutions. The foremost institutions in terms of publication volume are cataloged in Table 2. Evidently, Newcastle University in England leads with the maximum number of articles (n=36, 3.71%), succeeded by Harvard University in America (n=33, 3.40%), and the State University System of Florida in America (n=30, 3.09%). Half of the top ten institutions are American, collectively contributing 134 articles, which constitutes 50.76% of the articles from these leading institutions. Inter-institutional collaboration networks are depicted in Figure 3. Figure 3A elucidates the extensive synergy among institutions, with Newcastle University's predominant partnership being with the University of Glasgow. Figure 3B accentuates the robust collaborative network among American institutions.

#### 3.1.4 Authors and co-cited authors analysis

A staggering 5,697 authors contributed to these articles. The top ten prolific authors are enumerated in Table 3. The triumvirate of authors with the most substantial publication contributions are Taylor R (n=35, 3.61%), Lean MEJ (n=19, 1.96%), and Sattar N (n=17, 1.75%). As depicted in Figure 4A, the nexus between authors from Taylor R's contingent at Newcastle University in the UK is particularly strong. Moreover, Taylor R's assemblage manifests significant collaboration with Lean MEJ's and Sattar N's teams at the University of Glasgow. Figure 4B reveals the presence of several research consortia dedicated to diabetes remission. Taylor R, apart from being the most published author, also exhibits extensive inter-team collaborations. Additionally, authors like Lee WJ, Gerstein HC, and le Roux CW exhibit notable interdisciplinary collaborations.

When two or more authors are concurrently cited in a separate article, a co-citation relationship materializes. As presented in Table 4, 66 authors have been co-cited more than five times. The



TABLE 1 Top 10 countries in the number of published articles.

Rank	Country	Count	Percent
1	America	342	35.26%
2	China	130	13.40%
3	England	108	11.13%
4	Italy	61	6.29%
5	Canada	52	5.36%
6	Germany	48	4.95%
7	Japan	47	4.85%
8	Spain	45	4.64%
9	India	43	4.43%
10	Denmark	38	3.92%

three authors with the highest co-citation frequencies are Taylor R (1,756 times), Lean MEJ (1,569 times), and Sattar N (1,593 times), attesting to the wide recognition and impact of their scholarship in the diabetes remission domain. Figure 5 showcases the co-citation networks of the top 20 authors, underscoring the pervasive co-citation relationships among them.

### 3.1.5 Journals analysis

In aggregate, 790 articles were procured from 379 journals. Table 5 enumerates the top ten journals by publication count, with *Obesity Survey* (n=81, 8.35%), *Diabetes* (n=51, 5.26%), and *Diabetes Care* (n=42, 4.33%) predominating. Among the top 10 journals (Table 5), 50% (5/10) originated from America, succeeded by 30% (3/10) from England. The journal impact metric for *Diabetes Care* was the most notable (JIF2022 = 16.2, JCI2022 = 3.69), with *Diabetologia* following (JIF2022 = 8.2, JCI2022 = 1.83). Figure 6 depicts the collaborative network amongst journals disseminating research articles pertinent to diabetes remission. Figure 7 offers a density map, highlighting the predilection of different journals within the context of diabetes remission.

## 3.1.6 Analysis of cited articles

Gleaning from the citation frequency table (Table 6), the paramountly cited article was penned by Kieffer et al., titled "Reverse of diamonds with insulin-producing cells derived *in vitro* from human pluripotent stem cells" and published in Nature Biotechnology in 2014. As of April 16, 2023, this work has garnered 956 citations. The corresponding author of both the second and third most-cited works was Taylor R. In the realm of authorship, Taylor R's contributions have amassed the most citations (1554 times). Within the top 10 articles, entries 1, 6, 7, 8, and 10 pivoted around foundational animal experiments, with articles 1, 6, 7, and 10 emphasizing transplantation therapies (stem cells/adipose tissue/islets) targeting diabetes remission. The residual articles were clinical investigations probing the effects and underlying mechanisms of diverse strategies (metabolic surgery and lifestyle interventions) envisioned for diabetes remission.

# 3.2 Analysis of keywords

## 3.2.1 High-frequency keywords analysis

We identified 606 keywords, with 34 exhibiting a frequency  $\geq$ 30 (Table 7). The predominant five keywords were "bariatric surgery", "mellitus", "weight loss", "type 2 diabetes", and "beta cell function". There are 15 salient keywords with centrality  $\geq$ 0.1 (Table 8), and those with the highest centrality values are "beta cell", "activation", "beta cell function", "adipose tissue", and "clinical remission".

# 3.2.2 High-frequency keywords co-occurrence analysis

Figure 8 renders a high-frequency keyword co-occurrence map. Essential keywords within this representation encompass "type 2 diabetes", "type 1 diabetes", "glucose", "therapy", "obesity", "weight loss", "bariatric surgery", "beta cells", "beta cell function", "insulin resistance", and "expression". Evidently, inquiries into diabetes remission predominantly concentrate on the nexus between obesity and the onset, progression, and remission of diabetes and the elucidation of remission via bariatric surgery and alternative weight loss modalities. Inquiries into remission mechanisms predominantly hone in on beta cell function and insulin resistance.

# 3.2.3 High-frequency keywords emergence analysis

We fabricated a map predicated on the intensity and chronology of keyword appearances (Figure 9), where "Strength" symbolizes the intensity of the sudden emergence. The higher the strength metric, the more profound its influence. "Begin" and "End" respectively signify the inception and culmination years of keyword emergence. It's apparent that with the passage of time, research focal points transitioned from foundational experiments to clinical evaluations of diabetes remission, steered by bariatric surgery, lifestyle intervention protocols, and more. The prominence of "low-calorie diet", "management", and "lifestyle interventions" will persist through 2023, indicative of the current and forthcoming research thrusts in diabetes remission emphasizing lifestyle interventions and remission anchored in dietary therapy.

## 3.2.4 Keyword cluster analysis

Hierarchical analysis was executed on the keywords, and the ten most significant clusters were chosen, resulting in Figure 10. A color gradation from 0 to 10 corresponds to a chronological progression from 2000 to 2023. The clustering labels encompassed #0 "type 1 diabetes", #1 "diabetes remission", #2 "differentiation", #3 "children", #4 "bariatric surgery", #5 "autoimmune diabetes", #6 "lifestyle intervention", #7 "nod mice", #8 "microalbuminuria", and #9 "beta". Intriguingly, labels 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, and 9 exhibited partial overlap, amalgamating into a substantial conglomerate. This indicates that studies pertaining to these clustered themes manifest interconnectedness to varying extents. Conversely, labels 5, 6, and 7 delineate a comparatively autonomous entity, representative of emergent research trajectories in recent years.



The specifics of keyword clustering are elucidated in Table 9. An expansive cluster size implies a more considerable membership. The silhouette value acts as a metric of cluster member homogeneity; a larger value signifies greater member similarity. The silhouette values for each cluster, all surpassing 0.8, evince commendable cluster uniformity and consistency. Moreover, the table delineates the quartet of paramount keywords, in juxtaposition to label words. For instance, the most prominent cluster is denoted by label 1, termed "diabetes remission". This label encapsulates quintessential keywords: diabetes remission, bariatric surgery, laparoscopic sleeve

gastrectomy, remission criteria, and ABCD score. This underscores that research tethered to diabetes remission is most pervasive, with an emphasis on remission criteria, bariatric surgical interventions, and predictive models affiliated with diverse surgical procedures within the scope of diabetes remission.

## 3.2.5 Keyword time zone map analysis

Utilizing time as the ordinate, we envisaged temporal nodes and durations associated with each keyword, culminating in a keyword time-zone map (Figure 11). As delineated, a multitude of high-

TABLE 2 Top 10 institutions in the number of published articles.

Rank	Institutions	Count	Percent
1	Newcastle University - England	36	3.71%
2	Harvard University - America	33	3.40%
3	State University System of Florida - America	30	3.09%
4	University of California System - America	25	2.58%
5	University of Copenhagen - Denmark	25	2.58%
6	University of Glasgow - England	25	2.58%
7	University of Florida - America	24	2.47%
8	University of London - England	23	2.37%
9	National Institutes of Health - America	22	2.27%
10	Network Biomedical Research Center - Spain	21	2.16%

frequency, enduring keywords emerged in 2000, examples being "mellitus", "beta cell function", "insulin resistance", and "obesity". Spanning 2008 to 2013, a myriad of high-frequency, enduring keywords made their presence felt, including "bariatric surgery", "weight loss", "type 2 diabetes", and "diabetes remission".

#### 3.2.6 Keyword clustering timeline map analysis

With time as the ordinate, encapsulating temporal nodes and durations of each clustering label and all affiliated keywords, we procured a keyword-clustering timeline map (Figure 12). Analyzing the temporal trajectory of clustering, labels 0 "type 1 diabetes", 2 "differentiation", and 8 "microalbuminuria" enveloped the entire data acquisition span. However, barring "type 1 diabetes", the keyword distribution in the other clusters was sporadic. Notwithstanding the succinct timespan of label 1 "diabetes remission", the visualization illustrates that the keywords in this cluster are dense. Moreover, there exists an intertwined correlation with cluster 0 "type 1 diabetes", marking it as a focal point of recent research endeavors.

# 4 Discussion

## 4.1 Analysis of articles publication

Through the analysis of article sources, one gains insights into the contemporary professional and preeminent teams and scholars in the realm of diabetes remission research. This elucidation offers directional guidance and foundational underpinning for associated investigators. Future trajectories of specialized domains can be inferred by an integrative assessment of publication tendencies amongst authors, institutions, nations, and journals.

This investigation revealed that, from an authorial standpoint, Taylor R boasts the highest quantity of both authored and cited manuscripts. Furthermore, his affiliated institution, the University of Newcastle, predominates in terms of manuscript publications. In the institutional collaboration network diagram (Figure 3A), the University of Newcastle predominantly liaised with the University of Glasgow in England. Within the authorial collaboration schematic (Figure 4), Taylor R emerged as the most dynamic, forging alliances with an array of teams and individuals, suggesting that he has rendered seminal contributions to the discipline of diabetes remission. Professor Roy Taylor stands as a luminary in the T2DM landscape, dedicating decades to the exploration of efficacious strategies for diabetes remission. He postulated that obesity is intricately intertwined with the genesis, evolution, and remission of diabetes. Through efficacious weight reduction, remission can be achieved, leading him to advocate the mechanism of diabetes progression and remission as the "twin vicious cycle theory" (42). His consortium executed a plethora of investigations into the attainment of diabetes remission via dietary curtailment, encompassing the "COUNTERPOINT study, COUNTERBALANCE study, and DiRECT study" (16). The quintessential exploration within Taylor's oeuvre is the DiRECT study (43), which discerned that relying solely on dietary curtailment, the remission rates for T2DM patients at the 1- and 2-year marks stand at 45.6% and 35.6% respectively. Moreover, when these patients experienced a weight reduction exceeding 15 kg, the remission rates for T2DM at 1 and 2 years escalated to 86.1% and 70.0% respectively. Through the aforementioned series of investigations, Taylor also validated the "double vicious circle theory". By shedding excess weight, patients can diminish superfluous fat burdens, curtail bodily fat proportions below the "personal fat threshold," ameliorate liver and pancreatic fat accumulations, thereby enhancing insulin sensitivity. This facilitates the transformation of de-differentiated islet cells back into insulin-secreting  $\beta$  cells, culminating in T2DM remission. The findings from Professor Taylor's team serve as a watershed in diabetes remission research, offering both a referential framework and directional compass for scholars in analogous domains.

America boasts the predominant count of published articles (Table 1). Numerous institutions within America maintain profound interactions, and among the top ten institutions in terms of article publication volume, five hail from America, collectively representing half of the overall article count published by these leading institutions (Table 2). Fifty percent of the preeminent ten journals that disseminate the majority of articles on diabetes remission are American entities (Table 5). In summation, academic establishments and researchers in America exhibit pronounced zeal for diabetes remission investigations, and intranational affiliations manifest both frequent and intimate collaborations. Publishing bodies in America also confer substantial emphasis on the advancement of diabetes remission. Consequently, America is poised to proffer augmented contributions to the diabetes remission domain in forthcoming years. A multitude of American scholars harbor an inclination towards metabolic surgery research to actualize diabetes remission, exemplified by teams such as Laferrère B's ensemble at Columbia University (44), Schauer PR's collective at the Cleveland Clinic (45), and Cummings DE's contingent at Washington University (46), with evident interdisciplinary collaborations among these groups (Figure 4) (44). There also exist teams oriented towards dietary therapy for diabetes remission, such as the Look AHEAD Research



#### FIGURE 3

Institution cooperation network map. (A) Institution cooperation network map made by CiteSpace. The node represents the certain institution while the links reflect the co-occurrence relationships. The color of node and line indicates different years. (B) Institution cooperation network map made by VOSviewer. The size of node indicates the number of articles published by a certain institution, and the links between two nodes mean a collaboration between each other.

TABLE 3	Top 10	authors	in	the	number	of	published articles	s.
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Rank	Author	Count	Percent	Institutions
1	Taylor R	35	3.61%	Newcastle University - England
2	Lean MEJ	19	1.96%	University of Glasgow - England
3	Sattar N	17	1.75%	University of Glasgow - England
4	Zhang P	13	1.34%	Shanghai Jiao Tong University - China
5	Barnes AC	12	1.24%	Newcastle University - England
6	Le Roux CW	12	1.24%	University College Dublin - Ireland
7	Leslie WS	12	1.24%	University of Glasgow - England
8	Mccombie L	12	1.24%	University of Glasgow - England
9	Thom G	12	1.24%	University of Glasgow - England
10	Lee WJ	11	1.13%	Min-Sheng General Hospital - China



VOSviewer. The size of node indicates the number of articles published by a certain author, and the links between two nodes mean a collaboration between each other.

Group (47). China ranks as the runner-up in terms of overall article publication (Table 1). A significant proportion of Chinese teams are engrossed in metabolic surgery research pertinent to diabetes remission, with exemplars like Zhu S's faction from the Third Xiangya Hospital, Central South University (48), Jia W's group from the Shanghai Jiao Tong University Affiliated Sixth People's Hospital (49), and Zhang P's assembly from the Shanghai Pudong Hospital of Fudan University (50). These teams also engage in intranational collaborations (51). The most salient study on diabetes remission in England emanates from the series of investigations on dietary curtailment by Taylor R's team, as elucidated previously. Moreover, certain English teams frequently establish collaborations with other European nations, notably Italy and Germany, with a predominant focus on metabolic surgery (52, 53). In Canada,

certain teams, such as Lipscombe LL's consortium from the University of Chicago (54) and the Carpentier AC's coalition from the Centre de recherche du Centre hospitalier universitaire de Sherbrooke (55), delve into metabolic surgery, while others, such as Gerstein HC's team, explore alternative remission strategies, encompassing hypoglycemic drugs and lifestyle interventions (56). Canada often forges collaborations with its southern neighbor, America (57). In Japan, metabolic surgery remains a paramount research area (58, 59). Spain hosts teams engrossed in metabolic surgery (60) and others probing the impact of dietary regimens on diabetes remission, exemplified by the CORDIOPREV study (61). In India, the majority of teams are engrossed in metabolic surgery (62, 63). Danish research related to diabetes remission is likewise dominated by metabolic surgery (64, 65).

#### TABLE 4 Top 10 authors in the number of co-citation.

Rank	Author	Articles	Co-citations	Total linkstrength
1	Taylor R	24	1756	147
2	Lean MEJ	16	1569	120
3	Sattar N	16	1593	117
4	Peters C	10	1523	102
5	Thom G	11	1283	102
6	Barnes AC	10	1449	99
7	Mccombie L	10	1291	99
8	Zhyzhneusk S	9	1438	98
9	Leslie WS	9	1272	96
10	Hollingsworth KG	9	1295	89



Author co-citation network map. The size of node indicates the co-cited frequency of a certain author, and the links between two circles mean a co-citation relationship between authors.

TABLE 5 Top 10 journals that publish research articles.

Rank	Journal	Count	Percent	Country	JIF (2022)	JCI (2022)	JCR (2022)
1	Obesity Surgery	81	8.35%	America	2.9	1.23	Q2
2	Diabetes	51	5.26%	America	7.7	1.68	Q1
3	Diabetes Care	42	4.33%	America	16.2	3.69	Q1
4	Diabetic Medicine	26	2.68%	England	3.5	0.71	Q3
5	Diabetologia	24	2.47%	Germany	8.2	1.83	Q1
6	Surgery for Obesity and Related Diseases	24	2.47%	Netherlands	3.1	1.35	Q1
7	Plos One	16	1.65%	America	3.7	0.91	Q2
8	Pediatric Diabetes	13	1.34%	England	3.4	1.01	Q3
9	Diabetes Metabolism Research and Reviews	12	1.24%	England	8	1.42	Q1
10	Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism	12	1.24%	America	5.8	1.27	Q1



Journal cooperation network map. The size of node indicates the number of articles published by a certain journal, and the links between two nodes mean a collaboration between each other.



International collaboration on diabetes remission is somewhat scant, primarily confined to geographically proximate nations. Broadly speaking, endeavors in diabetes remission necessitate an enhancement in collaborative synergies; however, there are understandable rationales behind the current state of affairs. One impeding factor is that prior to 2021, the definition of diabetes remission remained nebulous, and its criteria were discordant for an extended duration. Such ambiguities rendered the design and outcomes of pertinent studies variably heterogeneous, potentially curtailing intergroup collaborations. In August 2021, an assemblage of international multidisciplinary specialists, orchestrated by the American Diabetes Association, advocated for the term "remission" as the most apt descriptor. Furthermore, they posited that HbA1c <6.5%, ascertained a minimum of three months post the discontinuation of hypoglycemic therapeutic agents, should serve as the benchmark for remission (17). Given this resolution of terminological and criteria disputes concerning T2DM remission, it is anticipatory that ensuing research in diabetes remission will exhibit enhanced cohesion, fostering more streamlined alliances amongst research collectives and nations. Numerous modalities exist for diabetes remission, inclusive of bariatric surgery (14, 15), lifestyle interventions (16), short-term intensive insulin therapy (14), non-insulin hypoglycemic agents (66), immune modulation (67, 68), and transplantation (13, 69). Distinct research paradigms

#### TABLE 6 Top 10 cited articles.

Rank	Title	Journal	Corresponding author	Year	citations
1	Reversal of diabetes with insulin-producing cells derived <i>in vitro</i> from human pluripotent stem cells (32)	Nature Biotechnology	Kieffer TJ	2014	956
2	Primary care-led weight management for remission of type 2 diabetes (DiRECT): an open-label, cluster-randomised trial (33)	Lancet	Taylor R	2018	842
3	Reversal of type 2 diabetes: normalisation of beta cell function in association with decreased pancreas and liver triacylglycerol (34)	Diabetologia	Taylor R	2011	712
4	Association of bariatric surgery with long-term remission of type 2 diabetes and with microvascular and macrovascular complications (35)	JAMA	Sjostrom L	2014	665
5	Reversal of nonalcoholic hepatic steatosis, hepatic insulin resistance, and hyperglycemia by moderate weight reduction in patients with type 2 diabetes (36)	Diabetes	Petersen KF	2005	627
6	Reversal of insulin-dependent diabetes using islets generated <i>in vitro</i> from pancreatic stem cells (37)	Nature Medicine	Peck AB	2000	551
7	Surgical implantation of adipose tissue reverses diabetes in lipoatrophic mice (38)	Journal of Clinical Investigation	Reitman ML	2000	474
8	Fibroblast growth factor 19 increases metabolic rate I and reverses dietary and leptlin- deficient diabetes (39)	Endocrinology	Stewart TA	2004	430
9	Association of an intensive lifestyle intervention with remission of type 2 diabetes (40)	JAMA	Gregg EW	2012	418
10	Prolonged diabetes reversal after intraportal xenotransplantation of wild-type porcine islets in immunosuppressed nonhuman primates (41)	Nature Medicine	Hering BJ	2006	405

adhered to by various teams might circumscribe collaborative endeavors. Notwithstanding the inherent discrepancies in research foci and their consequent findings, there exists mutual edification and facilitation. Such interplay can be bolstered by the instigation of scholarly symposia and the fostering of scholarly exchanges. Additionally, the pandemic milieu of recent years has invariably impacted the momentum of pertinent clinical research and team interactions. Yet, during this health crisis, the publication trajectory concerning diabetes remission has persisted in its growth. With the ongoing stabilization of the epidemic, it is optimistically projected that investigations germane to diabetes remission will witness continued vigor, yielding more profound insights in the foreseeable future, and ultimately bestowing greater therapeutic dividends upon diabetic patients.

# 4.2 Analysis of research hotspots

In illuminating research focal points, we rendered various network diagrams predicated on keywords from the articles, presenting a comprehensive panorama of the specific content and temporal evolution of these focal points. The keyword with the preeminent frequency was "bariatric surgery". Moreover, terms such as "weight loss", "beta cell function", and "insulin resistance"/"resistance" were prominent among high-frequency and high-centrality keywords. These terms, alongside their related keywords, made recurrent appearances in the maps elucidating keyword co-occurrence (Figure 8) and keyword clustering (Figure 10) in subsequent sections. This suggests a rich repository of studies centered on weight loss, particularly focusing on the remission of diabetes (primarily T2DM) via bariatric surgery. Investigations into remission mechanisms predominantly hinge on two cardinal pathogenic mechanisms: beta cell functionality and insulin resistance. Overweight/obesity-induced fatty liver and pancreas, which result from energy surfeit, are intricately linked to the pathogenesis and progression of T2DM (70, 71). Taylor's proposition of the "twin cycle hypothesis" posits that excessive caloric intake culminates in significant adipose accumulation in the body, engendering insulin resistance and perturbations in beta cell functionality, eventually manifesting as T2DM. If the aforementioned sequela is attenuated via weight reduction, the natural corollary is the remission of diabetes (34, 42). An escalating corpus of literature underscores weight reduction as a pivotal factor in the remission of diabetes (33, 72-74). Currently, the two preeminent modalities for weight loss in the therapeutic regimen for T2DM encompass bariatric surgery and lifestyle modifications. These strategies have garnered significant attention in recent diabetes remission research, a trend corroborated in our subsequent keyword emergence (Figure 9) and keyword time-zone map (Figure 11) analysis.

Emergent terms, being high-frequency words discerned via fluctuations in keyword frequency within a delineated timeframe, encapsulate the zeitgeist of research during that epoch. The research was trifurcated based on the commencement and culmination of keyword emergence (Figure 9). The inaugural stage spanned 2000 to 2005, with research keywords predominantly revolving around "beta cells", "differentiation", "translation", "*in vivo*", "expression", and "t-cell". During this phase, a majority of studies embarked on exploratory endeavors into the feasibility and underlying mechanisms of remission [mainly Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus

TABLE 7 High frequency keywords list (frequency  $\geq$  30).

Rank	Keyword	Frequency	Centrality	
1	bariatric surgery	266	0.09	
2	mellitus	228	0.06	
3	weight loss	166	0.11	
4	type 2 diabete	161	0.04	
5	beta cell function	123	0.24	
6	metabolic surgery	89	0.02	
7	insulin resistance	85	0.08	
8	roux-en-y gastric bypass	83	0.03	
9	sleeve gastrectomy	83	0.01	
10	gastric bypass	83	0.01	
11	diabetes remission	77	0.04	
12	obesity	77	0.06	
13	type 2 diabetes mellitus	76	0.02	
14	therapy	74	0.09	
15	glucose	71	0.05	
16	association	71	0.01	
17	obese patient	64	0.03	
18	type 1 diabete	63	0.04	
19	glycemic control	62	0.11	
20	risk	risk 55		
21	mechanism	55	0.04	
22	expression	54	0.09	
23	diabetes mellitus	52	0.03	
24	outcome	46	0	
25	medical therapy	46	0.02	
26	gastric bypass surgery	44	0.01	
27	insulin sensitivity	44	0.01	
28	life style intervention	37	0.01	
29	oxidative stress	35	0.09	
30	beta cell	35	0.25	
31	body mass index	34	0.03	
32	children	33	0.09	
33	insulin	31	0.01	
34	secretion	30	0	

(T1DM)] in the context of transplantation-related or *in vivo* studies. They emphasized the pivotal role of transformations in beta cell functionality during the remission trajectory.

During this time frame, the primary emphasis of research in transplantation therapy was directed towards pancreas transplantation and islet transplantation. The pancreas could be

TABLE 8 High centrality keywords list (centrality  $\geq$  0.1).

Rank	Keyword	Centrality	Frequency	
1	beta cell	0.25	35	
2	activation	0.25	25	
3	beta cell function	0.24	123	
4	adipose tissue	0.18	13	
5	clinical remission	0.17	9	
6	t cell	0.15	24	
7	sensitivity	0.13	25	
8	weight loss	0.11	166	
9	glycemic control	0.11	62	
10	disease	0.11	26	
11	in vivo	0.11	22	
12	autoimmunity	0.11	7	
13	cell	0.1	21	
14	progression	0.1	14	
15	antibody	0.1	7	

transplanted either independently or in conjunction with the kidneys. In December 1966, a significant milestone was achieved when four surgeons, namely Kelly, Lillehei, Merkel, and Idezuk, hailing from the University of Minnesota Hospital in America, successfully conducted the inaugural pancreas kidney transplantation procedure for two individuals with diabetes and renal failure (75). This groundbreaking achievement marked the commencement of a novel epoch in the realm of clinical pancreas transplantation, offering hope to individuals afflicted with diabetes and renal failure, who were facing imminent mortality. Subsequently, a substantial volume of pancreas transplantation procedures has been conducted globally, resulting in a notable rise in the post-transplantation insulin detachment rate from 40% to exceeding 70% within the preceding decade (76).

Islet transplantation, which had its genesis in the mid-1970s, resurged in prominence due to the successful execution of the Edmonton protocol in 2000 (77). Edmond administered pancreatic islet transplantation to 7 T1DM patients presenting with pronounced hypoglycemia and metabolic instabilities, culminating in all the patients ceasing insulin administration. The mean HbA1c values normalized, blood sugar variability markedly diminished, and no instances of severe hypoglycemia were reported subsequently. Absence of noteworthy contraindications or adverse reactions, and the obviation of hormonal therapy were also notable. In 2022, the Edmonton protocol team published findings from a cohort study conducted at a single center, examining the outcomes of islet transplantation up to 20 years post-transmission (78). The study encompassed a median follow-up period of 7.4 years and included 255 patients who underwent allogeneic islet transplantation. Of these patients, 78 (70%) experienced sustained graft survival, while 77 (30%) experienced non-sustained graft survival. Among the total patient population, 201 individuals



# Top 25 Keywords with the Strongest Citation Bursts

Keywords	Year S	trength I	Begin	End	2000 - 2023
oeta cell	2000	7.54	2000	2015	
differentiation	2000	5.07 2	2000	2010	
ransplantation	2001	4.97	2001	2016	
n vivo	2002	6.37	2002	2015	
expression	2002	4.61	2002	2012	
nellitus	2000	5.25	2004	2005	
cell	2004	4.93	2004	2009	
n vitro	2005	7.82	2005	2011	
nouse	2005	4.65	2005	2010	
nod mice	2006	6.87	2006	2014	
nsulin	2006	5.94	2006	2012	
eceptor	2006	4.38	2006	2015	
egulatory t cell	2008	7.41	2008	2015	
esistance	2009	6.23	2009	2015	
glucose	2001	6.9 2	2010	2016	
nsulin secretion	2011	4.6	2011	2014	
medical therapy	2013	12.36	2013	2015	
nypertension	2014	7.08	2014	2016	
ow calorie diet	2019	5.41	2019	2023	
association	2009	5.32	2019	2021	
ong term remission	2019	4.5	2019	2021	
/ gastric bypa	2011	4.32	2019	2020	
diarem score	2020	4.65	2020	2021	
management	2019	5.91	2021	2023	
ife style interventior	2016	4.42	2021	2023	

FIGURE 9

Keyword emergence map. The blue line represents the period from 2000 to 2023 and the red line represents the burst's maintenance period.



(79%) achieved insulin independence. Notably, the rate of insulin independence was higher among transplant survivors compared to non-transplant survivors. The prevalence and stability of HbA1c levels and fasting blood glucose levels, along with a notable improvement in hypoglycemia, were observed over the course of the follow-up period. These findings provide evidence for the safety and efficacy of islet transplantation as a treatment modality for T1DM. Furthermore, the continued advancement and implementation of relevant technologies in the field of islet transplantation hold promise for achieving a definitive cure for T1DM in the future.

Simultaneously, the Edmonton protocol team conducted a comparative analysis of the follow-up data pertaining to patients who underwent pancreatic islet transplantation (n=266) and pancreas transplantation pancreas transplantation (n=146) at the research center within the same time frame (79). The findings revealed that while the pancreas transplantation group exhibited elevated mortality rates, surgery-related complications, and readmission rates, it demonstrated superior outcomes in terms of insulin independence, graft survival rate, and blood glucose control.

These results suggest that pancreas transplantation holds greater potential than islet transplantation in diabetes remission.

Since the year 2000, numerous investigations have been conducted in the domains of islet transplantation and pancreas transplantation. Both approaches to transplantation offer potential benefits such as reducing patients' dependence on insulin, mitigating the occurrence of severe hypoglycemic events, and enhancing the management of blood sugar levels. In the wake of Edmonton protocol, a plethora of clinical and animal studies were conducted, yielding favorable experimental outcomes (80, 81). Such pioneering results further galvanized preliminary investigations into immunosuppressive modalities, stem cell transplantation, and genetic therapeutic interventions (37, 82-84), and catalyzed a myriad of studies on beta cell function (85, 86). This era was marked by a profusion of studies investigating potential strategies for the reversal/remission of T1DM. In 2005, the American Diabetes Association (ADA) promulgated an article titled "Thirty years of investigating the autoimmune basis for type 1 diabetes: why can't we prevent or reverse this disease?" (87). This manuscript offered a retrospective examination of the knowledge amassed during this

#### TABLE 9 Keyword clustering information table.

ID	Size	Silhouette	Cluster	Top 5 keywords of the cluster based on LLR algorithm (loglikelihoodratio, p-level)
1	46	0.871	diabetes remission	diabetes remission (60.37, 0.0001); bariatric surgery (22.34,0001); laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy (19.61,0.0001); remission criteria(16.07,0.0001); ABCD score(16.03,0.0001)
0	43	0.871	type 1 diabete	type 1 diabetes (18.22, 0.0001); type 2 diabetes mellitus (14.16, 0.001); insulin secretion (11.59, 0.001); adipose tissue (9.24, 0.005); glucose metabolism (9.06, 0.005)
2	36	0.93	differentiation	differentiation (22.69, 0.0001); proliferation (17.73, 0.0001); hyperglycemia (17.12,0.0001); bariatric surgery (15.67, 0.0001); xenograft (12.12,0.001)
3	35	0.891	children	children (20,0.0001); beta cell function (18.14,0.0001); type 1 diabetes (15.53, 0.0001); c-peptide (12.93, 0.001); adolescent (12.18,0.001)
4	31	0.895	bariatric surgery	bariatric surgery (14.86, 0.001); arterial blood pressure (14.08, 0.001); angiotensinconverting enzyme (14.08, 0.001); mesenchymal stem cells (14.08, 0.001); engraftment (14.08, 0.001)
8	31	0.912	microalbuminuria	microalbuminuria (18.96, 0.0001); resistance (17.35, 0.0001); mellitus (15.62, 0.0001); regression (14.21,0.001); association(11.48,0.001)
6	29	0.925	life style intervention	life style intervention (15.78, 0.0001); follow up (12.75, 0.001); quality of life (10.01, 0.005); reversibility (10.01, 0.005); prevention (9.95,0.005)
5	28	0.951	autoimmune diabetes	autoimmune diabetes (21.59, 0.0001); activation (17.15, 0.0001); phosphorylation (14.38, 0.001); abl tyrosine kinase (14.38, 0.001); c abl(14.38, 0.001)
9	27	0.873	beta	beta (16.46, 0.0001); anti cd3 (16.46, 0.0001); islet neogenesis (12.67, 0.001); islets (9.83, 0.005); monoclonal antibody (8.95,0.005)
7	26	0.9	nod mice	nod mice (18.63, 0.0001); transplantation (16.35, 0.0001); therapy (14.35, 0.001); response (13.38, 0.001); diabetes remission (12.14,0.001)

time, and in tandem with the analysis of these research endeavors, proffered guidance for forthcoming inquiries with aspirations to translate these findings into efficacious modalities for the prevention or reversal of T1DM.

From 2005 to 2010, keywords such as "in vitro", "mouse", "nod mice", "receptor", and "regulatory T cells" manifested in succession, signifying that in vitro and mouse experiments transitioned into primary research foci. A significant portion of investigations during this timeframe endeavored to elucidate the phenomena and underlying mechanisms of diabetes remission via foundational experiments. This epoch, representing the second stage, extended until 2015. Concurrently, there was an intensified quest to identify modalities for diabetes reversal beyond mere transplantation. This pursuit was underscored in 2006 when D'Amour et al. disseminated a seminal article detailing the synthesis of endocrine pancreatic cells (88). These cells exhibit a secretion profile comprising insulin, glucagon, somatostatin, pancreatic polypeptides, and auxinreleasing peptides. This pioneering investigation marked the inaugural documentation of the derivation of hormone-expressing endocrine pancreatic cells from human embryonic stem cells subjected to in vitro differentiation. The research posits that the transplantation of insulin-producing pancreatic beta cells, with the intent to augment the depleting reserve of such cells in T1DM patients, could potentially herald a therapeutic paradigm or even a definitive resolution for the condition, thereby rejuvenating optimism for diabetes remission.

Subsequent to 2010, terms such as "medical therapy", "glucose", "hypertension", and other clinical pertinent keywords emerged, denoting a transition in the research trajectory on diabetes remission from a foundational to a clinical orientation. Spanning 2010 to 2015, a plethora of clinical evaluations substantiated the premise that short-term intensive insulin therapy possesses the efficacy to facilitate T2DM remission (89, 90). This evolution in research emphasis signified a shift from foundational experiments towards clinical trials, with the primary research axis transitioning from T1DM to T2DM.

In 2016, coinciding with the promulgation of guidelines for metabolic surgery as an intervention for diabetes (91), the research interest in employing this modality for achieving T2DM remission experienced a notable upsurge. A considerable body of literature attested that metabolic surgery emerged as the technique boasting the superior remission rate amongst all extant remission strategies (14, 15). Consequently, the research vigor persisted, yielding substantive findings. Investigations concerning its remission mechanisms, prognostic indicators, and predictive models attained a high degree of sophistication (92, 93). The triumphant outcomes of metabolic surgery in facilitating T2DM remission illuminated the potential of weight reduction as a realistic avenue towards T2DM remission. This spurred researchers to delve deeper into alternative methodologies for weight reduction conducive to T2DM remission. Subsequent investigations corroborated that a substantial proportion of patients, nearing half, could attain a drugfree remission state for T2DM solely via dietary and lifestyle alterations aimed at weight loss (15, 16, 94). In the wake of these revelations, lifestyle intervention swiftly ascended as a pivotal research domain within the wider landscape of diabetes remission, succeeding metabolic surgery. Specifically, dietary regimens underscored by caloric restriction emerged as focal





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points. The 2021 remission guideline for T2DM accentuated the paramountcy of lifestyle interventions in ameliorating diabetes (17). In 2020 (95) and 2022 (96), ADA unveiled two distinct guidelines emphasizing dietary therapy for T2DM remission. This trajectory underscores the indispensable role of diet therapy in mitigating diabetes, heralding it as an epicenter of research endeavors both presently and in foreseeable future epochs. Post-2019, a preponderance of investigations has gravitated towards clinical research, characterized by keywords such as "low-calorie diet", "long-term remission", "roux-en-y gastric bypass", "management", and "lifestyle intervention". This inclination elucidates that within the clinical domain of diabetes remission, bariatric surgery and lifestyle interventions underscored by a lowcalorie diet remain the predominant foci. The triad of "low-calorie diet", "management", and "lifestyle intervention" are poised to maintain their prominence through 2023, signifying that contemporary and imminent research nuclei in diabetes remission revolve around lifestyle interventions fortified by dietary regimens. The manifestation of these keywords attests to the prevailing trend that research on diabetes remission through bariatric surgery and lifestyle interventions targeting weight reduction has gained momentum in recent years, and prognostications suggest an inclination towards lifestyle intervention-centric research in the near future. This trend is corroborated by observations from the keyword time zone map (Figure 11) and the keyword clustering timeline map (Figure 12).

Various strategies have been proposed to realize diabetes remission, encompassing metabolic surgery, lifestyle intervention, insulin intensive therapy, and non-insulin hypoglycemic drugs (14). Metabolic surgery is the most efficacious, with a maximum remission rate of approximately 70%–80% at 1–2 years after surgery (97, 98), followed by lifestyle interventions with caloric restriction, with a 40%–80% average remission rate at 1 year after intervention (95), and intensive insulin therapy, which can also provide remission in 30%–70% of patients with T2DM (66, 99). However, the efficacy of oral hypoglycemic drugs as an intervention for diabetes remission understudied, with limited research indicating remission rates predominantly below 30% (14, 100).

Lifestyle interventions commonly prioritize interventions involving low calorie or even very low calorie diet. However, patients often encounter difficulties in maintaining adherence due to intense and persistent hunger. In cases where patients are unable to sustain dietary control after restricting their intake, weight regain may occur, thereby impacting the attainment and sustenance of remission. Metabolic surgery is specifically designed for individuals with severe obesity, particularly those experiencing complications. Nevertheless, its application is limited in scope and it is an invasive treatment option that is often met with low patient acceptance. Nevertheless, there is a scarcity of research examining the efficacy of antidiabetic medications in remission of T2DM, despite their relatively high acceptance and compliance rates. Current research findings indicate that these drugs exhibit inferior remission outcomes compared to lifestyle intervention and metabolic surgery. However, in recent times, novel hypoglycemic drugs, such as glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists (GLP-1RA), Sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 inhibitors (SGLT-2i), and dipeptidyl peptidase-4 inhibitors, have been introduced both domestically and internationally (101-103). These medications, which operate through diverse mechanisms, demonstrate favorable hypoglycemic effects and offer potential benefits in preserving or even safeguarding pancreas function. Among these, SGLT-2i, GLP-1RA, dual glucosedependent diabetes peptides (GIP), and the GLP-1RA tirzepatide exhibit a range of additional advantages beyond glucose reduction, including potential mechanisms for remission of T2DM, such as weight loss (71, 103-105). Hence, there exist numerous unexplored and enhanced areas within the domain of diabetes remission research that warrant future investigation. These areas encompass evaluating the efficacy of recently introduced hypoglycemic medications, examining the potential benefits of combining diverse mitigation strategies to enhance compliance and response rates, and exploring the impact of improved care and management on increasing remission rates, among others.

Given that China has the highest number of diabetes patients globally, the imperative to discover effective approaches for treating and remission of diabetes is even more pronounced. Chinese traditional medicine possesses distinct advantages in the treatment of various diseases. While certain medications, such as Tianqi capsule, Jin qi jiang tang tablet, and Jin li da granule, have demonstrated efficacy in remission/reversal of prediabetes (106), limited research exists on their effectiveness in remission of clinical diabetes. Consequently, further investigation is warranted to explore mitigation strategies tailored to the Chinese population, with particular emphasis on harnessing the unique attributes of traditional Chinese medicine for the treatment and remission of diabetes.

# 5 Strengths and limitations

This study employed two bibliometric software packages to furnish a holistic multidimensional map display. Marking a pioneering endeavor, this study probed publications on diabetes remission, delineating their evolutionary trajectories in a lucid, unbiased, and precise manner, thus offering invaluable insights for clinicians and academicians in this domain. However, there exist certain constraints intrinsic to this study. Our chosen search strategy, anchored in title-based queries, might have inadvertently bypassed articles which, though not explicitly referencing "diabetes remission" in the title, incorporated pertinent discussions on the topic within the main body of the text. We engaged in iterative deliberations regarding the optimal search strategy and consequently instituted a subject-based search. Notwithstanding the identification of a plethora of articles via this approach, a preliminary analysis upon their integration into the software discerned the presence of numerous high-frequency keywords, keyword clusters, and other analytic components that bore tenuous or negligible relevance to diabetes remission. Given the potential that certain articles, perhaps those centered on bariatric surgery, might delve into facets specifically tied to the surgical procedure rather than glycemic control/remission, there was a palpable risk of introducing considerable analytical bias. Consequently, to circumvent such pitfalls, we prudently elected to constrain our search to titles alone.

# 6 Conclusion

In general, the study of diabetes remission is relatively popular at present. Currently, bariatric surgery and lifestyle interventions are widely studied strategies, particularly lifestyle interventions based on dietary therapy, which are becoming increasingly popular. We hope that this study will help researchers to better understand the overall trends in this field and provide guidance for future research.

# Data availability statement

The raw data supporting the conclusions of this article will be made available by the authors, without undue reservation.

## Author contributions

CL: Conceptualization, Methodology, Project administration, Supervision, Writing – review & editing. XY: Data curation, Formal Analysis, Methodology, Software, Visualization, Writing – original draft, Writing – review & editing. ZH: Data curation, Formal Analysis, Investigation, Methodology, Software, Visualization, Writing – review & editing. QC: Data curation, Formal Analysis, Investigation, Methodology, Software, Visualization, Writing – review & editing, Resources. YC: Conceptualization, Formal Analysis, Supervision, Writing – review & editing. GC: Conceptualization, Investigation, Methodology, Project administration, Supervision, Writing – review & editing.

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# Conflict of interest

The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

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