An Analysis of Prosthodontic Publications from US Institutions for Last 10-year Period

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Abstract

Changes in selected prosthodontics journals were examined between 2000 and 2010. The articles were classified by authorship of first and corresponding authors, research type, and the funding sources. Changes in articles reported by authors in US institutions were evaluated. The number of articles increased during the 10-year period. The proportion of original research decreased, and private company became the most common funding source in the US researches.

Introduction

Researches in prosthodontics were conducted by increased collaboration and research contribution was distributed more equally by continents than before. These results generated curiosity whether the research activities from major contributing countries in the past have changed over time.

The aim of this study is to investigate the changes in the amount, the research type, and the funding sources of articles reported by authors in US institutions (US articles) during 10-year time span.

Methods


Data analysis: changes in the amount of US articles, the rate of research type in US articles, and the proportion of the funding source in US articles using Chi-square test (P<.05)

Results

Table 1. Changes in the amount of total articles during 10 years; the amount of articles decreased remarkably from 142 to 95. Decreases of technical report and original researches in the same period. Figure 1. Changes in percentage of research type in US articles; original research decreased remarkably from 14% to 8% while case report increased from 9% to 13% during 10 years.

Figure 2. Changes in percentage of US articles out of total articles by research type during 10 years; significant decrease of original research and original research was also remarkable among the research type.

Table 2. Changes in the amount of US articles during 10 years; it revealed 33% decrease in US articles, from 49.4 to 33.5. Decrease of technical report and original research was also remarkable among the research type.

Figure 3. Changes in fund sources supporting US articles; government, college, and academy was reduced, while private company was increased.

Discussion

It could be concerned that research activity of prosthodontics in the United States has been decreasing from this result that original researches as well as the amount of US articles decreased during 10 years. Future studies are suggested to clarify the decrease of research activity in prosthodontics in the United States.

Though it is not described in this study there is another result that most of the funds from government and colleges went to original researches in the same period. This result demonstrates that reduced extramural fund could be one of the reason that original research became lower in the United States.

It is one of limitations in this study that this result was obtained from three sample journals, and two sample periods. For the more exact conclusion, further research that includes more sample articles is required.

Conclusion

The amount of US articles was decreased in 2010 compared to the amount in 2000. The rate of technical articles and case report increased in the same period while original research decreased. Private company became the most common source of funding to the US researchers in the same period.

References