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Comments on: Long et al. (2024) 'Trends and hotspots in research of traumatic brain injury from 2000 to 2022: A bibliometric study', Neurochemistry International, 172, 105646

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Long et al. (2024) recently published a paper in *Neurochemistry International* entitled 'Trends and hotspots in research of traumatic brain injury from 2000 to 2022: A bibliometric study.' In their original paper, the authors employed the search strategy TS = "traumatic brain injur*" AND PY=(2000–2022) AND LA = English AND DT=(article or review). A total of 47,337 papers were searched, including 46,758 papers (99% of 47,337 papers) published from 2000 to 2022 in the SCI-EXPANDED (updated on 20 February 2024). Among these 46,758 papers, the authors of 20,039 (43%), 18,863 (40%), and 31,827 (68%) papers mentioned the search keywords "traumatic brain injur*" within the paper title, abstract, and author keywords, respectively. Notably, 10,651 papers (23%) did not include any search keywords on their "front page," including titles, abstracts, and author keywords (Wang and Ho, 2011). Finally, only 36,107 papers (77%), including 30,961 articles and 5146 reviews, involved the search keywords on their "front page." A significant difference (24% of 47,231 papers) between the 36,107 papers with a search strategy with "front page" as a filter and the total count of 47,231 papers reported in the original paper by Long et al. (2024). An improved approach to pursuing effective bibliometric studies involves categorizing articles lacking search keywords on their "front page" as irrelevant to the targeted topic (Fu and Ho, 2015), which is further emphasized by Ho (2021). Fig. 1 illustrates the comparison of developmental trends in traumatic brain injury publications between the results of 36,107 papers and the initially reported count of 47,231 papers (Long et al., 2024).

In their recent publication titled "Trends and hotspots in research of traumatic brain injury from 2000 to 2022: A bibliometric study," Long et al. (2024) presented a comprehensive analysis in *Neurochemistry International*. However, meticulous scrutiny of their work has brought forth concerns regarding their selected search keywords and strategy, implying the possibility of misleading implications for readers. It is essential to emphasize the significance of employing meticulous and appropriate search strategies in future research endeavors. This emphasis is of great significance for maintaining the integrity and accuracy of scholarly contributions within traumatic brain injury research.

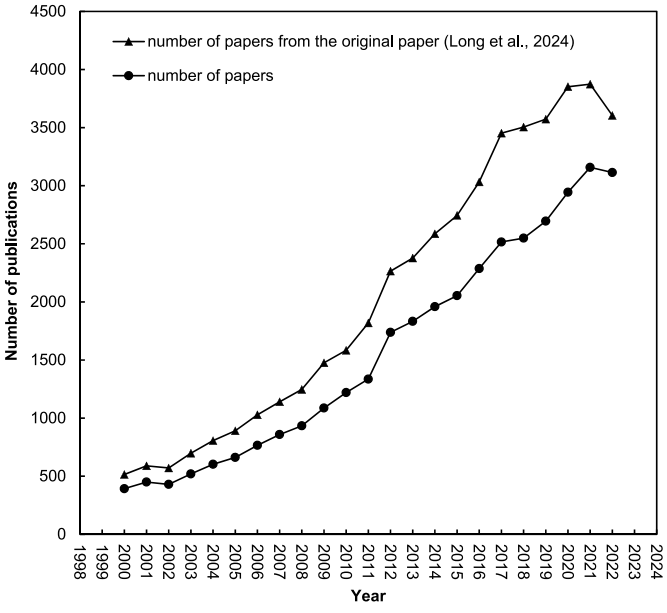

Fig. 1. Comparison of publication trends with the results from original paper (Long et al., 2024).

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Yuh-Shan Ho: Writing – original draft. **Ali Ouchi:** Writing – original draft.

Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

Data availability

The data that has been used is confidential.

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