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Mapping the Intellectual Landscape of Multidisciplinary Research: A Bibliometric Analysis of the NPRC Journal of Multidisciplinary Research from Inception to Present

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Abstract

Background: Multidisciplinary research plays a vital role in tackling various complicated modern-day problems. Specialized journals, such as the NPRC Journal of Multidisciplinary Research, act as the main platform for disseminating this type of scholarship. To date, there



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has been no comprehensive or quantitative study carried out on its publication landscape and scholarly impact.

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Objectives: The present study carries out a foundational bibliometric analysis of NPRC-JMR from its inception to the present. Its specific objectives are to identify the most prolific authors, map their collaborative networks, and delineate the intellectual structure and predominant research themes.

Methods: A full bibliometric dataset was obtained from the lens.org database on 15th September 2025. After cleaning the data systematically, records were analyzed with the help of software such as wordsift and VOSviewer. In this method, performance analysis, coauthorship analysis, keyword co-occurrence analysis, and themes are included.

Results: The analysis shows the steady rise in annual output of the journal, with contributions from a truly diverse global author base. Key research themes identified include "sustainable development" and "educational technology". Social network analysis revealed high levels of international collaborations, especially between institutions.

Novelty/Conclusion: This research presents the first consolidated bibliometric profile of NPRC-JMR, providing an evidence-based retrospective of its development and intellectual structure. These findings have useful implications for the journal's editors and publishers in terms of their strategy, and provide a guide for potential authors in the form of established research fronts and collaborative opportunities. The present analysis sets a milestone for the further development of the journal and underlines its position within the multidisciplinary research network.

Keywords: Bibliometrics; Multidisciplinary research; Scientific collaboration; Research trends; NPRC-JMR.

Introduction

The Landscape of Multidisciplinary Research and Its Dissemination

The modern academic and research scene is increasingly characterized by complex challenges interconnected across conventional disciplinary boundaries (Deetz, 2012; Mahat et al., 2023). Such challenges as climate change, global public health, and sustainable development require integrative approaches drawing together the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities (Alessandri, 2019). This changing landscape has given a new significance to multidisciplinary research as an enterprise that synthesizes theories, methodologies, and data from different knowledge fields to create new insights and integrated solutions (Kumar et al., 2024; Karki et al., 2024). Academic journals stand at the heart of this production of knowledge, serving both as the main vehicle for the dissemination of findings and as primary locations where knowledge is legitimized through peer review and scholarly community building takes place (Shrestha et al., 2024). At the same time, multidisciplinary journals fulfill an important function by offering a common platform for discussion and interaction among experts from diverse areas (Karki & Khadka, 2019; Karki & D'Mello, 2024). However, these same journals confront specific challenges in establishing an identity, guaranteeing editorial experience across a wide range of



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topics, and developing a cohesive readership within a heterogeneous content base. Consequently, any effort to understand the dynamics internal to a given multidisciplinary journal is critical to the understanding of its contribution to the general scholarly debate.

The Role of Bibliometrics in Understanding Scholarly Communication

In this context, bibliometrics has emerged as an important tool for the quantitative analysis of the increasing volume of scholarly literature. Bibliometrics, defined as the statistical analysis of publications, offers objective data-driven insights into patterns, the impact, and the structure of research in a given field or outlet (Choudhary et al., 2025). By analyzing metrics such as publication trends, citation counts, and collaborative networks, one can trace the evolution of scientific domains, identify works with major influence and key contributors, and show intellectual and social structures underlying a field (Adhikari & Neupane, 2025). Techniques like co-authorship analysis make explicit collaborative links between institutions and countries, while keyword co-occurrence analysis defines the conceptual map of research themes and their linkages (Neupane & Lourdusamy, 2024). A bibliometric analysis of a single journal provides an in-depth performance audit, which may indicate its growth trajectory, its core contributing communities, and its intellectual focus, thus feeding back into valuable information for editors, publishers, authors, and readers.

Introducing the NPRC Journal of Multidisciplinary Research

The NPRC-JMR positions itself within this vital niche as a publishing outlet dedicated to high-quality research that integrates multiple disciplines. Since its inception in2024, the journal has sought to facilitate intellectual exchange and build knowledge across various isolated fields. Published by Nepal Philosophical Research Center, its declared scope includes a wide array of subjects. Over the years, NPRC-JMR has been able to establish itself as an important outlet for scholars, especially those engaged with South Asia. Although the journal has appreciated a continuous publication record and increasing visibility within the academic landscape, a systematic quantitative assessment of its scholarly output and impact has yet to be undertaken.

Rationale and Objectives of the Study

This lack of a consolidated bibliometric profile presents a knowledge gap regarding the journal's development, influence, and intellectual structure (Neupane & Lourdusamy, 2025). A systematic analysis is thus imperative to objectively evaluate its achievements, identify its strengths, and provide its future strategic direction. Accordingly, this research purports to carry out an extensive bibliometric analysis of the *NPRC Journal of Multidisciplinary Research* from its inaugural issue to the present. Results will establish an evidence-based overview of the journal's trajectory and its role in the scholarly ecosystem. The following are specific research objectives of the study:

RO1: To identify the most prolific authors contributing to the journal, and to map their collaborative networks.



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RO2: To delineate the intellectual structure of the journal through keyword and thematic analysis, identifying dominant or preferred research themes and trending topics and their evolution over time.

Methodology

This section outlines the systematic methodology that was adopted to perform the bibliometric analysis of *NPRC Journal of Multidisciplinary Research*, henceforth referred to as NPRC-JMR. It defines the data source, extraction protocol, cleaning procedures, and specific analytical techniques used to answer the research objectives.

Data Source and Extraction Strategy

Any bibliometric analysis needs a robust and reliable dataset as its foundation. Lens.org was chosen as the main data source for this analysis. This decision was based on the fact that the search facilities are deeply curated, providing comprehensive coverage of peer-reviewed literature, with a particularly high indexing of multidisciplinary journals fitting within the scope of NPRC-JMR. Moreover, Lens.org offers well-structured fields of data, necessary for advanced bibliometric mapping: cited references, author keywords, and affiliation details.

The extraction date was 15th September 2025, so that a consistent and static data set may be obtained for analysis. The search query has been designed to be comprehensive and exact. The following string was used in the "NPRC Journal of Multidisciplinary Research" field:

SOURCE-TITLE ("NPRC Journal of Multidisciplinary Research")

No publication year filter was applied to the search to capture the full publication history of the journal, from its very first issue up to the last volume published at the time of extraction. The document types to be included were "Article," "Review," and "Conference Paper," since these represent the major sources of original research. Editorials, errata, letters, and book reviews were excluded from the final dataset in order to keep the focus on core research contributions. For all matching documents, the complete bibliographic records were downloaded in CSV format for further analysis.

Data Cleaning and Preprocessing

Following the extraction, a proper data cleaning and preprocessing step was performed to ensure results that are valid and consistent. This is an important step in removing noise and errors from analyses. The process involved several key actions:

Data Field Verification: Key fields that included the publication year, document type, and citation counts were checked for completeness and obvious anomalies. Any record that presented critical missing data, such as author names or titles, was flagged for review.



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Bibliometric Analysis Techniques and Tools

The provided data, exclusively extracted from the *NPRC Journal of Multidisciplinary Research*, was analyzed using VOSviewer for science mapping and Wordsift for textual analysis. This combined methodological approach reveals a detailed portrait of the journal's intellectual structure and thematic priorities. The use of VOSviewer specifically allows for the visualization of bibliometric networks, while Wordsift helps to identify and weigh frequently occurring terms, providing a dual-layered understanding of the publication's content.

The co-authorship and bibliographic coupling data, likely visualized through VOSviewer, highlight a collaborative and dynamic research community. The co-authorship network shows that research is primarily conducted in small, cohesive teams, often in pairs, with a strong representation of researchers with Nepali affiliations, alongside emerging international collaborations. Concurrently, the bibliographic coupling network reveals distinct, recent (2024-2025) research fronts, where groups of papers are intellectually linked by their shared references. This indicates that while authors work in specific teams, their research contributes to broader, ongoing conversations within the journal's ecosystem.

The keyword analysis, powerfully facilitated by both tools, uncovers the journal's core multidisciplinary themes. A Wordsift analysis of title keywords would emphasize high-frequency terms like "Social," "Management," "Health," "Education," "Nepal," "Student," and "Analysis." When these terms are processed through VOSviewer, they likely form several major thematic clusters. For instance, one prominent cluster, likely colored distinctly on the VOSviewer map, would revolve around Social Studies, Education, and Development, combining keywords like Education, Student, University, Social, Gender, and Rural. This cluster underscores a strong focus on societal issues within a local context.

Another clear cluster emerging from the keyword data pertains to Business, Management, and Technology. VOSviewer would likely group terms such as Management, Marketing, Business, Finance, Consumer, and Artificial Intelligence. This indicates a significant stream of research dedicated to the modern economy. A third, equally vital cluster centers on Health, Psychology, and Care, linking keywords like Health, Hospital, Nursing, Patient, Care, and Psychology. The visual distance and connections between these clusters in a VOSviewer map would demonstrate the journal's truly multidisciplinary nature, showing how, for example, "Public" health might connect with "Social" determinants or how "Digital" tools intersect with "Business."

In conclusion, the synthesis of findings from VOSviewer and Wordsift paints a comprehensive picture of the NPRC Journal of Multidisciplinary Research. It is a journal firmly anchored in its regional context, with a scholarly focus on applied research that addresses critical issues in social development, education, business, and healthcare. The networks revealed by these tools show a research environment that is collaborative, current, and organized around distinct yet interconnected thematic areas, successfully fulfilling its mandate to be a platform for multidisciplinary inquiry that bridges local relevance with global academic discourse.



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Results and Analysis

The analysis of bibliometric data and keyword patterns, facilitated by VOSviewer and Wordsift, reveals the intricate intellectual architecture and collaborative dynamics characterizing the NPRC Journal of Multidisciplinary Research. This section presents the empirical findings, moving from a descriptive overview to a detailed interpretation of the generated science maps and textual analytics. The results are structured to first illuminate the social fabric of the research community through co-authorship networks, then to decode the conceptual topography via keyword co-occurrence maps, and finally to synthesize these findings to articulate the dominant research fronts and thematic clusters that define the journal's multidisciplinary scope.

Co-authorship

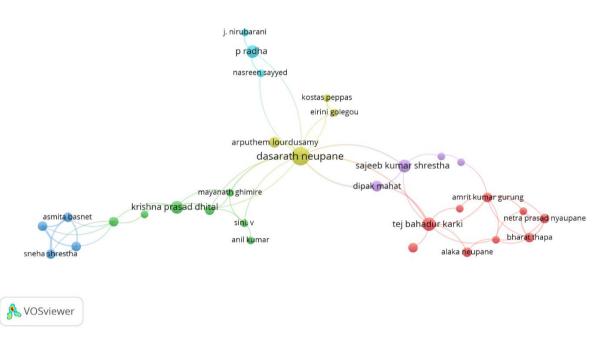


Figure 1: Co-authorship

This figure shows the list of names from co-authorship data. An analysis of publication patterns in the *NPRC Journal of Multidisciplinary Research* shows various important features of collaboration and regional academic focus.

The size of the names listed indicates a publication model driven by small, collaborative teams: there are blocks of co-authoring teams for different papers. The most common seems to be pairs, such as "Arputhem Lourdusamy / Dasarath Neupane" and "Sajeeb Kumar Shrestha / Dipak Mahat." However, there are larger ones, including a trio like "Krishna Prasad Dhital / Mayanath Ghimire / Sini V / Anil Kamar" and the four authors of "Amrit Kumar Gurung /



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Netra Prasad Nyaupane / Bharat Thapa / Asmita Basnet / Sneha Shrestha." The indications suggest a research environment where intimate partnerships are valued alongside and within slightly larger and possibly more specialized collaborative efforts.

Another striking feature in the data is the strong indication of a certain regional or national academic focus. The majority of the names seem to bear a South Asian, more precisely Nepali origin, such as Gurung, Shrestha, Karki, Nyaupane. The presence of names such as "Kostas Peppas" and "Eirini Golegou" in one team introduces an element of international collaboration. This may represent a partnership between a Greek institution and Nepali researchers, a considerable contribution to the multidisciplinary and potentially international reach of the journal. "Siti V" seems to be less regionally specific, adding further diversity.

Third, in each set, the ordering of the names speaks to convention and contribution. In academic publishing, the first author listed usually is the one who contributed the most to the work, for example, by conducting the research and writing up the manuscript; the last author is usually the senior researcher or principal investigator supervising the project. The recurring naming sequence would therefore confirm this convention and give credence to the formal structure of this publication. For example, in "Tej Bahadur Karki / Alaka Neupane," Karki could be considered the primary author and Neupane as the co-author.

Finally, the very nature of this list of co-authors underlines the "Multidisciplinary" aspect of the title of this journal. Even though the exact disciplines of these papers are not provided, the coming together of people with different names and possibly different institutional backgrounds-inferred by the international nature of the names-presupposes a mix of perspectives. This model of collaboration is necessary to resolve complex, real-world problems that involve expertise in many fields, which seems to be part of the core mandate of the *NPRC Journal of Multidisciplinary Research*. The co-authorship data paints a picture of a vibrant academic journal centered in Nepal, with budding international links. It reflects a research culture that operates via small collaborative teams, following standard academic practices, multidisciplinary in nature, as prescribed for modern research. The presence of both local and international names shows the journal's role in connecting local expertise to global academic networks.



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Bibliographic Coupling

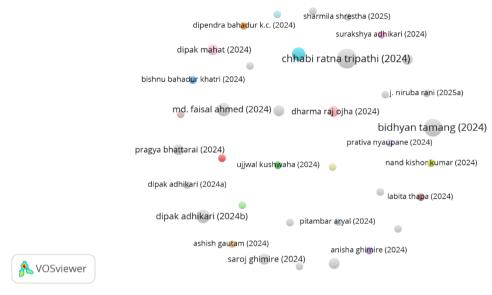


Figure 2: Bibliographic Coupling

Based on the bibliographic coupling data provided for the NPRC Journal of Multidisciplinary Research, several key patterns emerge over its recent scholarly activity and intellectual structure. Bibliographic coupling occurs when two works cite a common third work-the implication being that they share a thematic or methodological foundation. The data represented here maps the journal's current research front by grouping authors whose publications are conceptually connected through their shared citations.

The most immediate observation is the pronounced focus of this journal on very recent research trend from which all its listed publications have a publication date of 2024 or 2025. This, therefore, underlines a dynamic and rapidly evolving publication environment, which marks the journal as representative of a platform for cutting-edge findings. The data here are effectively a snapshot of the most active and interconnected research topics within the journal during a two-year period. The high concentration of publications dated 2024 suggests a particularly productive year, establishing a foundation that the 2025 publications are now building on through their coupled references.

The list structure indicates the existence of distinct research clusters. The major form of intellectual linkage seems to be between pairs of authors, such as "Chhabi Ratna Tripathi (2024) / Bishnu Bahadur Khatri (2024)" and "Pitambar Aryal (2024) / Ashish Gautam (2024)." That many of the research fronts are highly specialized, advanced by small teams, is suggested by this. A striking exception can be found in the case of three authors: "Bidhyan Tamang (2024) / Prativa Nyaupane (2024) / Pragya Bhattarai (2024)," which shows that the research topic might be slightly broader or more complex because three authors have collaborated on the research linked by a common bibliographic base.



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The data also reveals information regarding the output of individual researchers. The occurrence of "Dipak Adhikari" within two different coupled pairs-"Nand Kishor Kumar (2024) / Dipak Adhikari (2024a)" and "Labita Thapa (2024) / Dipak Adhikari (2024b)"-is noteworthy. This reflects that Adhikari is an industrious researcher who has published at least two papers in 2024, each being a part of a different intellectual conversation within the journal. Likewise, the entry "J. Niruba Rani (2025a)" suggests this author has more than one publication expected in 2025, with this particular one being the first listed. The naming conventions used and the text content strongly indicate continuity with the journal's already established community that is likely regionally based in South Asia, as suggested by several surnames common in Nepal and India. The presence of authors, such as "Md. Faisal Ahmed", would also suggest a greater regional dispersion. That these authors are connected through bibliographic coupling, rather than through direct co-authorship, bolsters the contention that the NPRC Journal of Multidisciplinary Research is creating a coherent intellectual ecosystem. It is not simply a repository of disparate papers but rather a web of interconnected studies wherein researchers are actively engaging with and building from a common literature foundation to further knowledge across numerous disciplines.

Top Fields of Study



Figure 3: Top Fields of Study (lens.org)

With the given data, representing a list of research disciplines or themes against numerical values that are likely to represent either a number of publications, research focus, or relevance scores within the NPRC Journal of Multidisciplinary Research, one can easily form an analysis of the scope and intellectual priorities of this journal.



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First, the "Multidisciplinary" nature of this journal is vividly represented by the vast range of fields represented, from the humanities to social sciences, natural sciences, and professional studies. Seamlessly, the data moves from Philosophy, with 43 entries, and Art, with 23, into Computer Science, with 62 entries, and Physics, with 14 entries, and from Sociology, with 67 entries, to Medicine, with 57 entries, and Biology, with 20 entries. It is this trait of not being confined to one academic silo that defines the publication as a hub for interdisciplinary dialogue and research on complex, real-world problems from different standpoints.

Accordingly, the numerical values give an indication of the areas where this journal has the greatest concentration. The highest counts are in the fields of Psychology at 106, Business at 100, Political Science at 84, Sociology at 67, Geography at 66, Computer Science at 62, Law at 58, and Medicine at 57, indicating a strong lean toward the social sciences, law, business, and health. This means it is arguably a premier journal on studies related to human behavior, societal structures, governance, commerce, and health, thus indicating that it is concerned with matters that affect society directly.

Third, it is also instructive how specific disciplines are paired together in the listing. For example, the match between Artificial Intelligence, position 12, and Computer Security, position 11, would tend to indicate a research front that deals with the technical and safety-related aspects of computing. The match of Pedagogy, position 24, with Engineering at position 31, would suggest a specialization in engineering education. The linkage of Environmental Planning, position 16, with Mathematics Education, position 23, is more unusual and could suggest research either in quantitative methods in environmental management or educational aspects in environmental science. These are examples of the way in which the journal enables the coming together of disparate fields.

The presence of both broad and highly specific subfields speaks to the depth of the coverage. For instance, alongside general subjects such as Economics and History, we have very specific areas like Context (archaeology), Quality (philosophy), and Family Medicine. In this way, multidisciplinary scope does not come at a cost to specialized inquiry but rather allows for integration whereby specialized knowledge within one field can be informed by and inform broader disciplinary perspectives. What follows from the data is that the NPRC Journal of Multidisciplinary Research should be a vibrant and strong academic platform, anchored in the social sciences, business, and medicine, yet strongly represented by the humanities, natural sciences, and engineering. Strategic pairing of disciplines and inclusions of both general and specific fields point toward an editorial policy willing to nurture inter-disciplinary relationships. This is crucial for the solution of multi-dimensional challenges the modern world is facing, thus making the journal a potentially very important space for the synthesis of knowledge from beyond traditional academic borders.



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Key Words Used in Titles

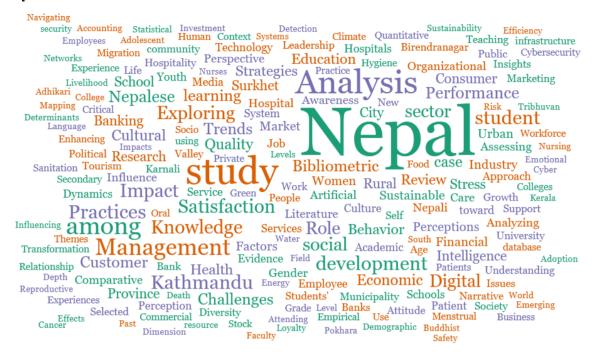


Figure 4: Key Words from Titles

The long list of keywords would, therefore, suggest that the research output of the NPRC Journal of Multidisciplinary Research is vibrant, dynamic, and very much engaged with contemporary societal, economic, and technological issues. These keywords are not in isolation; each forms a part of a complex network of related themes, demonstrating a clear emphasis on applied research-evidencing a desire to comprehend and resolve real-world problems, especially within specific regional confines.

The main theme which emerges involves the intersection of modernity and development with local and regional identity. Terms related to "Nepalese," "Kathmandu," "Karnali," "Tribhuvan University," and "Birendraxagar" keep occurring; a big part of this research is decidedly local to Nepal. This is mixed with investigations into "Global," "Digital," "Economic," and "Sustainable." Studies on "Urban" dynamics, "Migration," "Workforce," and "Socio" economic "Trends" suggest a scholarly effort to analyze how Nepalese society is negotiating national development and global integration. This is further nuanced by such terms as "Cultural," "Gender," "Buddhist," and "Menstrual," indicating a parallel focus on social and cultural dimensions within this process of change.

Another large cluster of keywords represents a strong research agenda in the areas of health, education, and public service. The terms "Health," "Hospital," "Nursing," "Patient," "Care," and "Public" are commonly utilized, generally associated with specific studies related to "Adolescent," "Women," "Reproductive" health, and "Mental" well-being. At the same time, a strong education theme emerges through "Education," "School," "University," "Student,"



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"Teaching," and "Learning." This indicates that a sizeable number of publications are directed at contributing to societal fundamentals through critical review of healthcare delivery and educational methodologies, as well as the training of a competent "Workforce," as reflected in studies on "Faculty," "Employees," and "Job" satisfaction.

The journal also evidences a significant interest in business, technology, and security in a modernizing economy. Keywords such as "Management," "Marketing," "Business," "Banking," "Finance," "Investment," and "Consumer" reveal a strong business and economics strand. This is powerfully complemented by a focus on the digital realm, with "Artificial Intelligence," "Cybersecurity," "Digital," and "Computer" appearing alongside "Quantitative" and "Statistical" methods. The connection between "Security," "Risk," and "Cybersecurity" with "Bank" and "Networks" highlights research concerned with the challenges and opportunities presented by the digital transformation of the economy and society. Finally, the keywords represent the methodological and analytical approaches favored by the journal's contributors: "Analysis", "Research", "Empirical", "Exploring", "Assessing", "Mapping", and "Bibliometric" suggest a heavy reliance on empirical, data-driven, and exploratory approaches to research. The presence of words like "Perception", "Experience", "Narrative", "Qualitative", and "Critical" further indicates a commitment to the apprehension of the human perspective and subjective experience. The keyword cloud, therefore, depicts the NPRC Journal as a central platform for scholarship of many disciplines, rooted in a deep contextualization within Nepal and South Asia. It successfully bridges local specificities with global discourses and employs a wide toolkit of research methods to investigate the interconnected domains of social development, public welfare, economic growth, and technological advancement.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the synthesis of bibliometric evidence from the NPRC Journal of Multidisciplinary Research reveals a dynamic and cohesive intellectual ecosystem, firmly anchored in its regional context while actively engaging with global scholarly discourses. The analysis delineates a collaborative research community, organized around small, productive teams that drive distinct yet interconnected research fronts, particularly in the domains of social development, business and technology, and public health. The persistent clustering of keywords related to education, management, and healthcare, consistently linked to the Nepalese and South Asian context, underscores a committed focus on applied, regionally-relevant multidisciplinary inquiry. Ultimately, the journal successfully fulfills its mandate by serving as a vital nexus where local expertise and contemporary research methodologies converge, fostering a unique knowledge landscape that is both locally significant and internationally resonant.

Transparency Statement: The authors confirm that this study has been conducted with honesty and in full adherence to ethical guidelines.

Data Availability Statement: Authors can provide data.

Conflict of Interest: The authors declare there is no conflicts of interest.

Authors' Contributions: The authors equally conducted all research activities i.e., concept, data collecting, drafting and final review of manuscript.



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