

# Navigating the pandemic: Insights and innovations from COVID-19 research

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THE ADVENT of COVID-19 has undeniably transformed the global health and scientific communities. In response to the crisis, researchers worldwide have conducted a surge of studies addressing various facets of the virus and its effects on human health. This special issue of the *Iberoamerican Journal of Science Measurement and Communication* aims to illuminate the groundbreaking work conducted during these unprecedented times, highlighting findings that could shape future healthcare practices, policymaking, and research directions.

This special issue presents a select group of scientometric articles that exemplify the rigorous scientific investigation that has characterized the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. From the societal impact of mobile health (mHealth) initiatives during the pandemic to a comprehensive analysis of coagulopathy associated with SARS-CoV-2 infection, these studies offer valuable insights into the disease's mechanisms, research trends, and consequences.

One noteworthy article examines the social attention garnered by mHealth research during the outbreak of the novel coronavirus (Basumatary, Gul, & Verma, 2023). By employing altmetric tools, this study elucidates the disparate levels of engagement across social media

platforms and elucidates the implications of social dissemination for a broader audience reach. The findings emphasize the necessity of advancing mHealth innovations, particularly in periods of crisis when conventional healthcare delivery may be compromised.

Another article examines the complexities of coagulopathy associated with the COVID-19 virus, offering a comprehensive scientometric analysis of research outputs in this crucial field (Gupta *et al.*, 2023). By mapping the contributions of various countries, institutions, and authors, the study not only charts the trajectory of research but also offers insights into the collaboration patterns that have emerged in response to the pandemic. The insights derived from this analysis are vital for comprehending the indispensable collaborative endeavors for confronting pressing public health concerns.

Moreover, a bibliometric analysis of the intersection of COVID-19 and sarcopenia revealed the emerging research hotspots. They identified the need for further investigation into the long-term implications of the virus on muscle health (Vaishya *et al.*, 2023). As the ramifications of the virus continue to emerge, researchers must remain diligent in their pursuit of understanding its multifaceted impact on human physiology.

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The global scientific community has demonstrated remarkable resilience and adaptability in the face of the ongoing pandemic. As we persist in our efforts to address the challenges posed by the virus, this special issue serves as a testament to the ingenuity and resolve of researchers working assiduously to identify solutions. The articles presented here contribute to a broader understanding of the 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV), its ramifications, and the ongoing efforts to mitigate its impact on public health.

This compilation of research about COVID-19 not only provides insight but also motivates further investigation and action. As we look to the future, we must utilize the insights gained during this pandemic to propel our understanding, enhance health outcomes, and fortify our preparedness for global health challenges.

We want to express our gratitude to all the authors, reviewers, and contributors for their unwavering dedication to scientific research during this critical period. It is our collective responsibility to work towards the creation of a healthier future.

### Conflict of interest

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest. ●

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