

Global Observatory on Health Research and Development (R&D)

Search methods for analysis on:

Trends and volume of peer-reviewed publications on neglected diseases

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Search methods

Go Pubmed (<http://www.gopubmed.com/web/gopubmed/>) search engine was used to retrieve publication trends on 36 diseases: the lists of WHO R&D Blueprint pathogens, WHO neglected tropical diseases and Malaria, Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS.

The search included the number of publications per year, country of residence of the corresponding authors and authors with the top number of publications.

The search terms are provided in Table 1, below. Search was made using the disease names or relevant synonyms provided by gopubmed, without the inclusion of the causal vector/parasite/virus or treatment to avoid biases to certain diseases, except in cases where they were part of the disease name such as in the case of "Ebola virus disease". Two exceptions are Chikungunya virus disease and Dengue.

"Chikungunya virus" search term was chosen over chikungunya as chikungunya was not a precise search term which also would include phrases such as "chikungunya viral RNA". Additionally "chikungunya virus disease" as a search term was not recognised within gopubmed leaving "chikungunya virus" to be the only optimal option for this search.

No publications were retrieved when searching for Zika virus and MERS-CoV at the date of this analysis.

Table 1. Search terms

| Disease name | Search terms |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Buruli ulcer | "Buruli Ulcer"[mesh] |
| Chagas disease | "Chagas Disease"[mesh] |
| Chikungunya virus disease | "Chikungunya virus"[mesh] |
| Dengue | ("Severe Dengue"[mesh] or "Dengue"[mesh]) or "Dengue Virus"[mesh] |
| Dracunculiasis (guinea-worm disease) | Dracunculiasis[mesh] |
| Echinococcosis | Echinococcosis[mesh] |
| Clonorchiasis | Clonorchiasis[mesh] |
| Opisthorchiasis | Opisthorchiasis[mesh] |
| Fascioliasis | Fascioliasis[mesh] |
| Paragonimiasis | Paragonimiasis[mesh] |

| Disease name | Search terms |
|--|--|
| African trypanosomiasis | ("Trypanosomiasis, African"[mesh] or "Trypanosoma brucei gambiense"[mesh]) or "Trypanosoma brucei rhodesiense"[mesh] |
| Leishmaniasis | Leishmaniasis[mesh] |
| Leprosy | Leprosy[mesh] |
| Lymphatic filariasis | "Elephantiasis, Filarial"[mesh] |
| Onchocerciasis | Onchocerciasis[mesh] |
| Rabies | Rabies[mesh] |
| Schistosomiasis | Schistosomiasis[mesh] |
| Ascariasis | Ascariasis[mesh] |
| Trichuriasis | Trichuriasis[mesh] |
| Ancylostomiasis | Ancylostomiasis[mesh] |
| Necatoriasis | Necatoriasis[mesh] |
| Taeniasis | Taeniasis[mesh] |
| Cysticercosis | Cysticercosis[mesh] |
| Trachoma | Trachoma[mesh] |
| Yaws | Yaws[mesh] |
| Crimean-Congo Haemorrhagic fever | "Hemorrhagic Fever, Crimean"[mesh] or "Hemorrhagic Fever Virus, Crimean-Congo"[mesh] |
| Ebola virus disease | "Hemorrhagic Fever, Ebola"[mesh] |
| Lassa fever | ("Lassa Fever"[mesh] or "Lassa virus"[mesh]) |
| Marburg virus disease | "Marburg Virus Disease"[mesh] |
| Nipah virus | Nipah[mesh] |
| Rift Valley fever | "Rift Valley Fever"[mesh] |
| Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome [SARS] | "Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome"[mesh] |
| Severe fever with thrombocytopenia syndrome [SFTS] | "severe fever with Thrombocytopenia"[mesh] -"Rift Valley Fever"[mesh] -"Rift Valley fever virus"[mesh] -"Sandfly fever Naples virus"[mesh] -Coccidioidomycosis[mesh] |
| HIV/AIDS | HIV[mesh] OR "HIV Infections"[mesh] OR "Lymphoma, AIDS-Related"[mesh] |
| Malaria | Malaria[mesh] |
| Tuberculosis | Tuberculosis[mesh] |

Notes:

We consulted the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10) in developing search terms.

For the list of neglected tropical diseases:

Available at: http://www.who.int/neglected_diseases/diseases/en/

The individual pathogens for "Foodborne trematodiasis" , one of the diseases on the WHO neglected tropical diseases list, were used. These are: "Clonorchiasis", "Opisthorchiasis", "Fascioliasis" and "Paragonimiasis".

[http://www.who.int/foodborne trematode infections/infections_more/en/](http://www.who.int/foodborne_trematode_infections/infections_more/en/)

Similarly, "Soil transmitted Helminthiases" have been separated into the individual pathogens as follows: Ascariasis, Trichuriasis, Ancylostomiasis, Necatoriasis.

http://www.who.int/intestinal_worms/disease/en/

Finally, "Taeniasis/Cysticercosis" were also included separately for consistency, using their ICD-10 disease names, since they belong to two different pathogens.

For the list of R&D blueprint pathogens

Available at: http://www.who.int/csr/research-and-development/list_of_pathogens/en/

"Nipah virus" was used as the search name as listed in the R&D Blueprint pathogens list, since there is no equivalent disease name in the ICD-10.