

ELSEVIER

# Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine



May 2026

## Editors message

I'm pleased to inform you that the journal is doing well. The progress that has been made in recent years has continued, and we have received a record number of submissions in the past year.

Within this report, we lay out a number of metrics, datasets and information which provide specific detail to this, but in summary:

- The total number of submissions for 2025: 697 (602 for 2024).
- The overall rejection rate for 2025 was 70% (81% for 2024) We have published more papers compared to previous years. (179 for 2025 and 100 for 2024)
- The median speed for handling a submission is 160 days to make final decision.
- The CiteScore remains at 2.7 compared to 2023, and Impact Factor is at 1.2. We have received 2,634 total citations for 2024.
- Over 515,000 downloads were achieved.

I'm also quite pleased to introduce our newest Associate Editors, including Dr. Alfredo Walker from Canada, Dr. Putri Dianita Ika Meilia from Indonesia, Dr. Bart Latten from the Netherlands, and Dr. Ingo Von Both from Canada. Our new editors join me and our current Associate Editors, Drs. Tristan Krap and Wendy Birch, and will greatly help reduce manuscript processing times. We continue to enjoy excellent support from our editorial management colleagues at Elsevier, Katie Chan and Prakash Marudhu.

We are discussing the development of topics for a couple of special issues, including death in custody. The newly named "Forensic Herald" reviews of current topics will be continued, punctuated with journal club-style reviews on occasion. While I will not be able to join you all in person at the General Assembly this month, I hope to be back for next year's meeting.

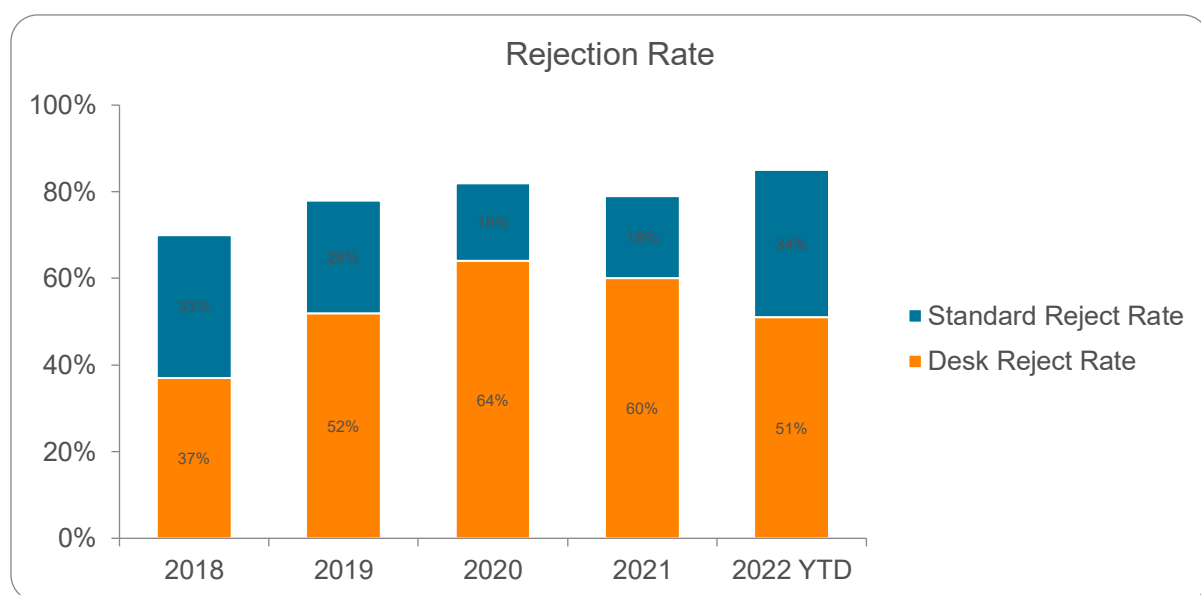
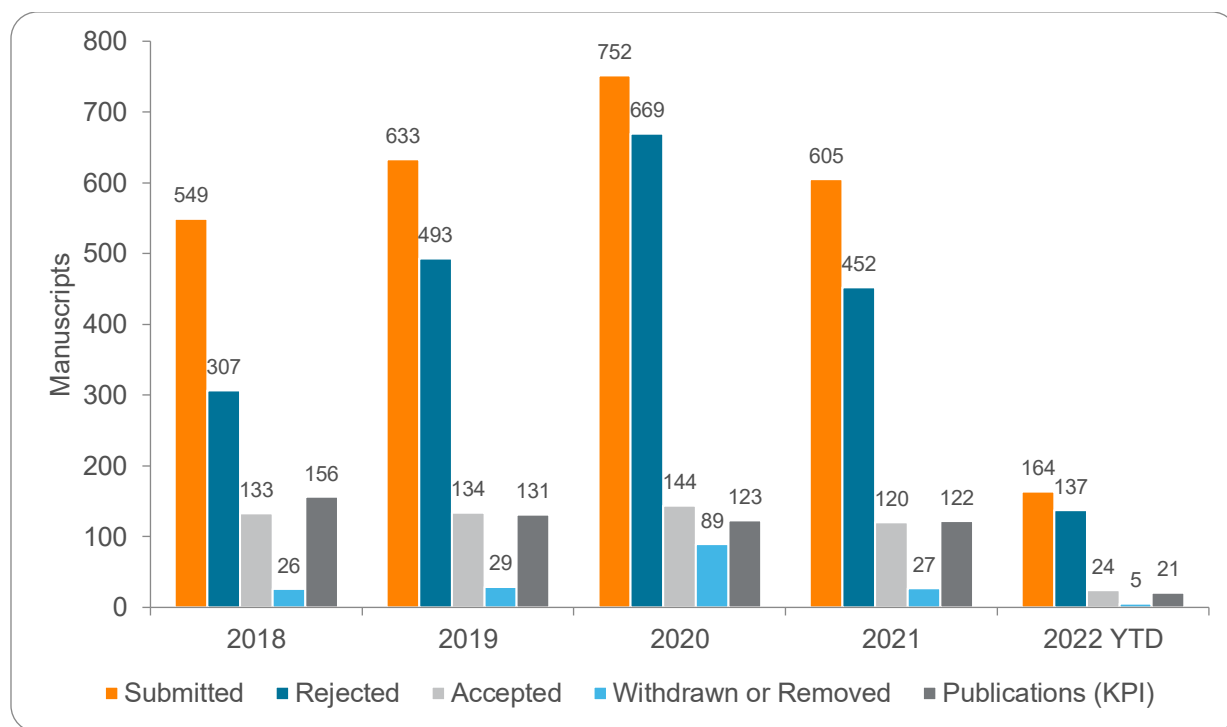
As ever, I am always happy to discuss the Journal with Faculty members, and welcome suggestions and ideas for initiatives and special issues. On behalf of the JFLM team, I thank you for your continued support, and I hope you are all safe and well.

Best wishes to all,

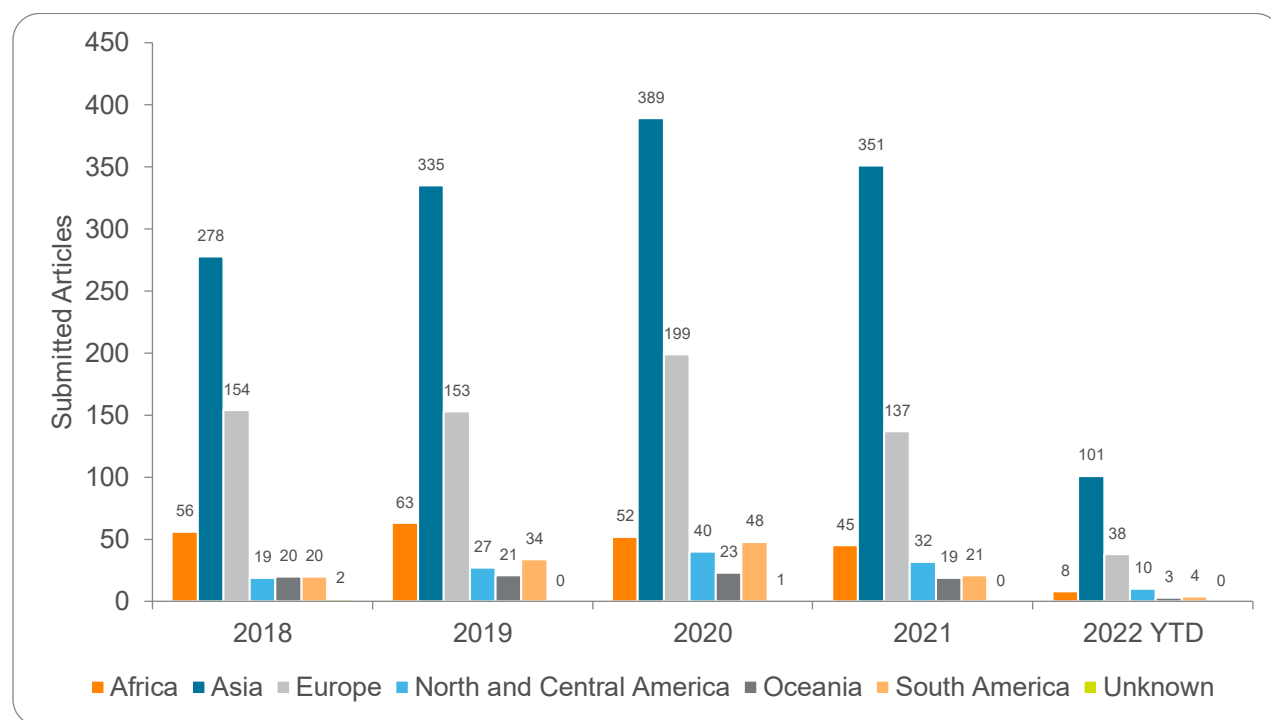
Michael Freeman  
Editor in Chief, Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine

## 2. Manuscript Flow

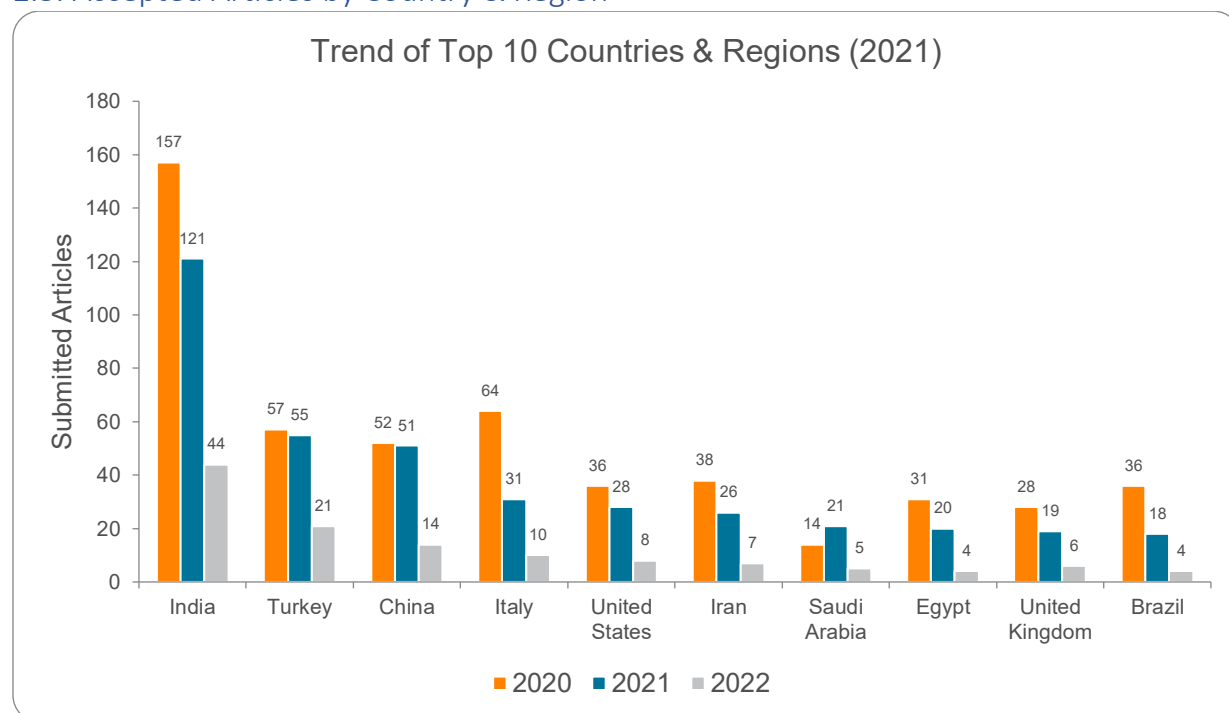
### 2.1. Submitted Manuscripts & Editorial Outcomes

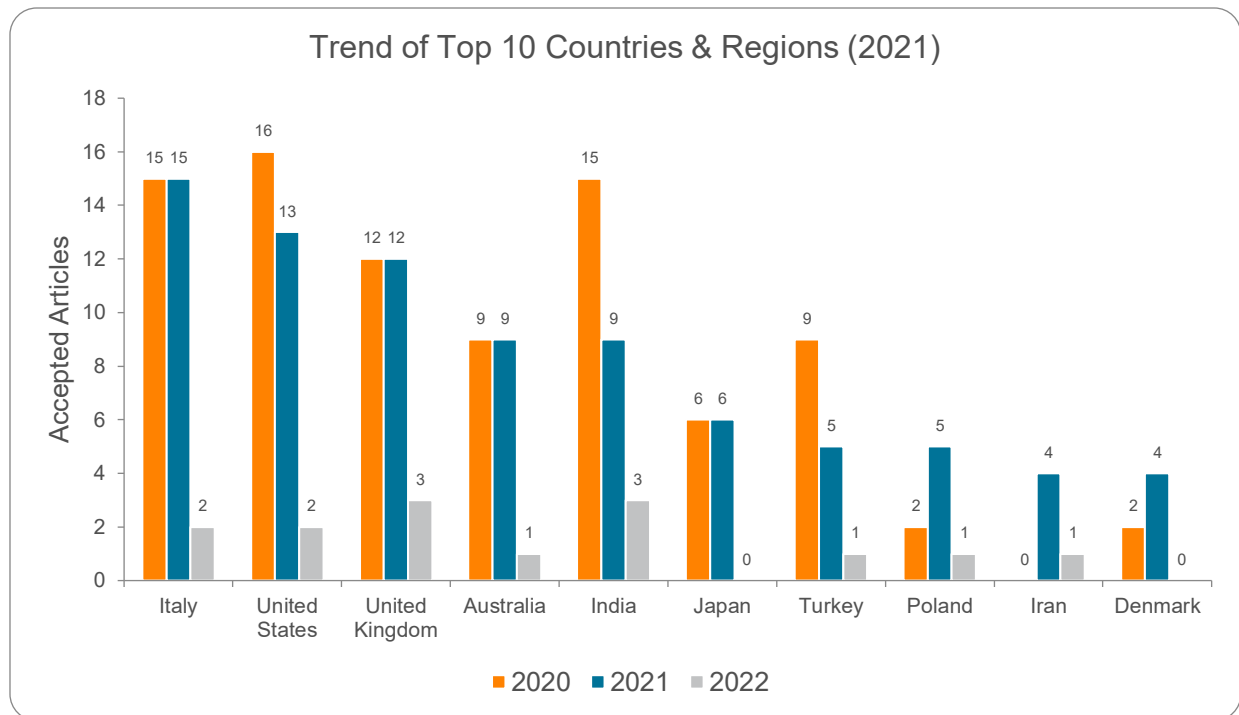


## 2.2. Submitted Articles by Country & Region



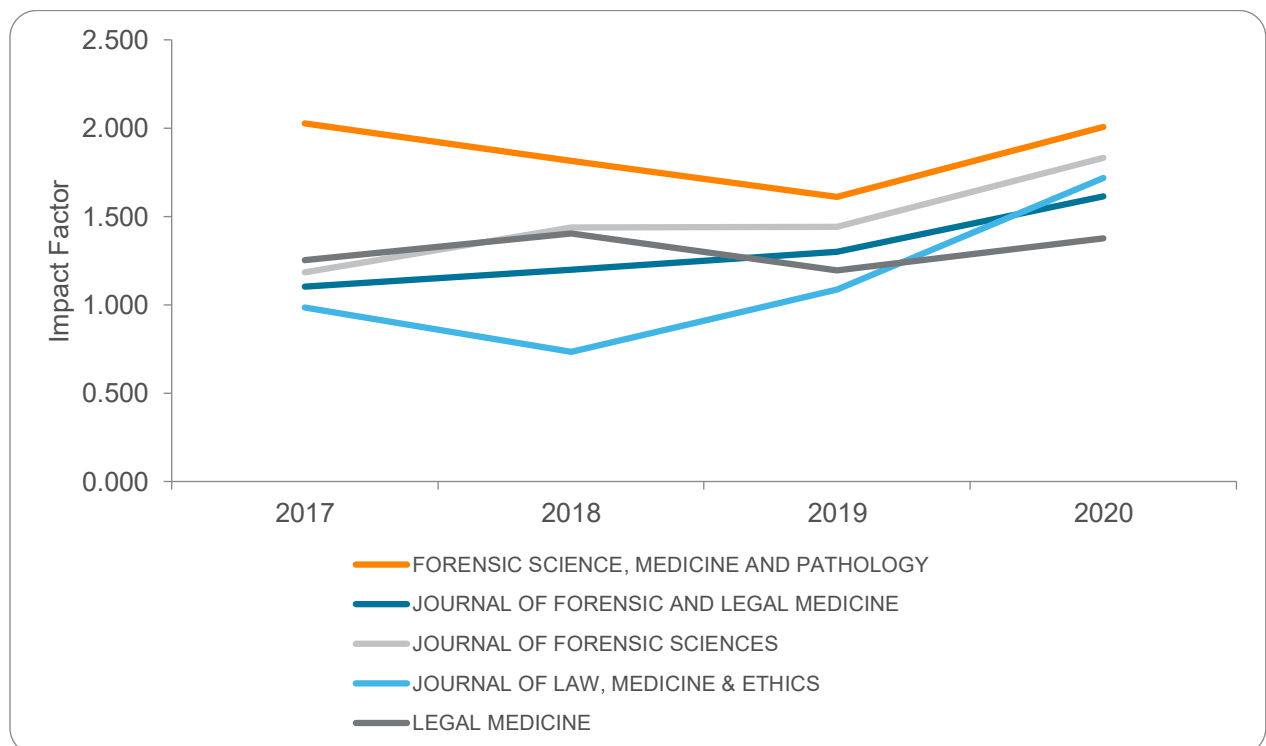
## 2.3. Accepted Articles by Country & Region





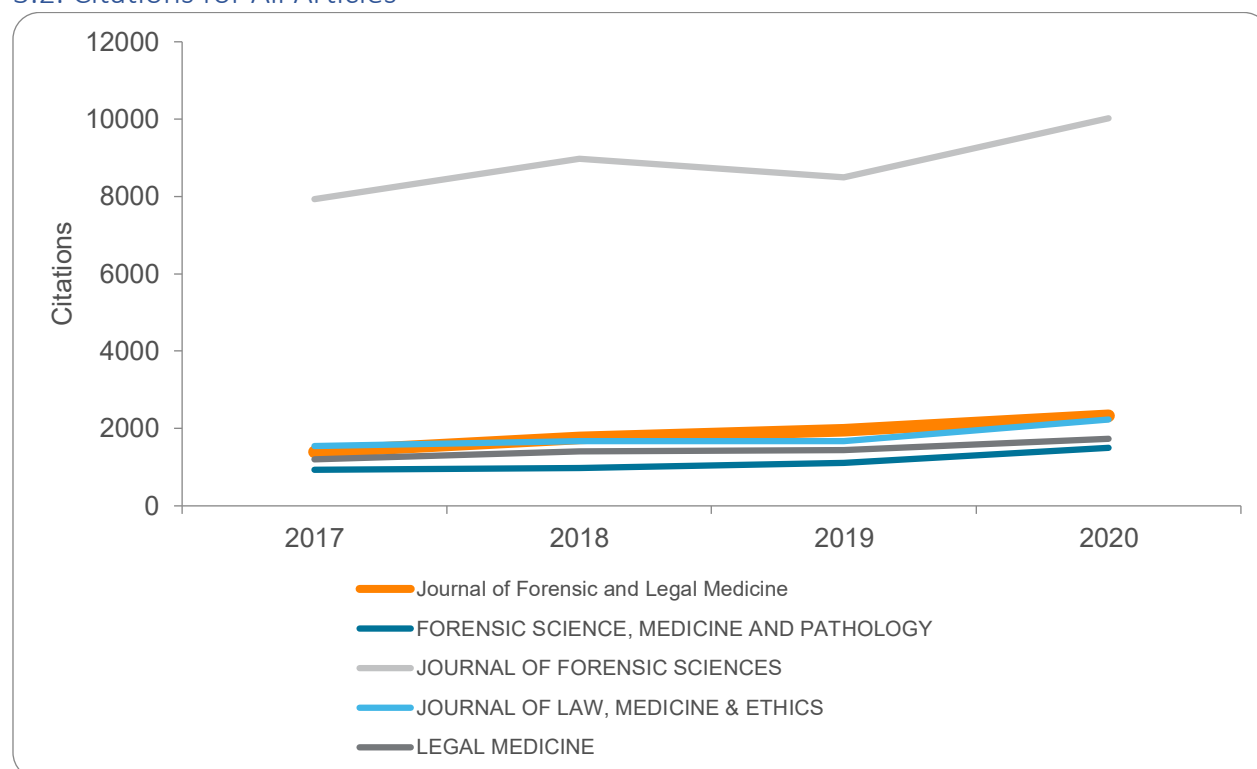
### 3. Citation Impact

#### 3.1. Impact Factor



| ISSN     | Title                                    | 2017  | 2018  | 2019  | 2020  |
|----------|------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1752928X | JOURNAL OF FORENSIC AND LEGAL MEDICINE   | 1.103 | 1.199 | 1.302 | 1.614 |
| 1547769X | FORENSIC SCIENCE, MEDICINE AND PATHOLOGY | 2.027 | 1.815 | 1.611 | 2.007 |
| 00221198 | JOURNAL OF FORENSIC SCIENCES             | 1.184 | 1.438 | 1.441 | 1.832 |
| 10731105 | JOURNAL OF LAW, MEDICINE & ETHICS        | 0.986 | 0.734 | 1.085 | 1.718 |
| 13446223 | LEGAL MEDICINE                           | 1.254 | 1.404 | 1.195 | 1.376 |

### 3.2. Citations for All Articles



### 3.3. Most cited articles

#### Most Cited Articles, 2021 (Published All Time)

Scopus®

| Citations | Citations (lifetime) | Article Title                                                                                                                                 | Authors                                                                             | Publication Year | Document Type | Open Access                            |
|-----------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------|
| 22        | 28                   | Review: The safe handling of a corpse (suspected) with COVID-19                                                                               | Dijkhuizen L.G.M., Gelderman H.T., Duijst W.L.J.M.                                  | 2020             | Review        | Subscription                           |
| 19        | 68                   | Men as victims of intimate partner violence                                                                                                   | Carmo R., Grams A., Magalhaes T.                                                    | 2011             | Article       | Subscription                           |
| 17        | 41                   | Chlorpyrifos poisoning and its implications in human fatal cases: A forensic perspective with reference to Indian scenario                    | Rathod A.L., Garg R.K.                                                              | 2017             | Review        | Subscription                           |
| 17        | 31                   | Artificial intelligence for sex determination of skeletal remains: Application of a deep learning artificial neural network to human skulls   | Bewes J., Low A., Morphet A., Pate F.D., Henneberg M.                               | 2019             | Article       | Subscription                           |
| 16        | 62                   | Knowledge attitude and practice of pesticide use among agricultural workers in Puducherry, South India                                        | Mohanty M.K., Behera B.K., Jena S.K., Srikanth S., Mogane C., Samal S., Behera A.A. | 2013             | Article       | Subscription                           |
| 16        | 35                   | Non-fatal strangulation in sexual assault: A study of clinical and assault characteristics highlighting the role of intimate partner violence | Zilkens R.R., Phillips M.A., Kelly M.C., Mukhtar S.A., Semmens J.B., Smith D.A.     | 2016             | Article       | Subscription                           |
| 13        | 70                   | Retrospective study on suicidal cases by sharp force injuries                                                                                 | Fukube S., Hayashi T., Ishida Y., Kamon H., Kawaguchi M., Kimura A., Kondo T.       | 2008             | Article       | Subscription                           |
| 13        | 24                   | COVID-19 in forensic medicine unit personnel: Observation from Thailand                                                                       | Sriwijitlai W., Wiwanitkit V.                                                       | 2020             | Letter        | Subscription                           |
| 12        | 58                   | A global epidemiological perspective on the toxicology of drug-facilitated sexual assault: A systematic review                                | Anderson L.J., Flynn A., Pilgrim J.L.                                               | 2017             | Review        | Subscription                           |
| 12        | 34                   | Validation of third molar maturity index (I3M) for discrimination of juvenile/adult status in South Indian population                         | Balla S.B., Galic I., Karunakar P., Vanin S., De Luca S., Cameriere R.              | 2017             | Article       | Open Access (Creative Commons License) |

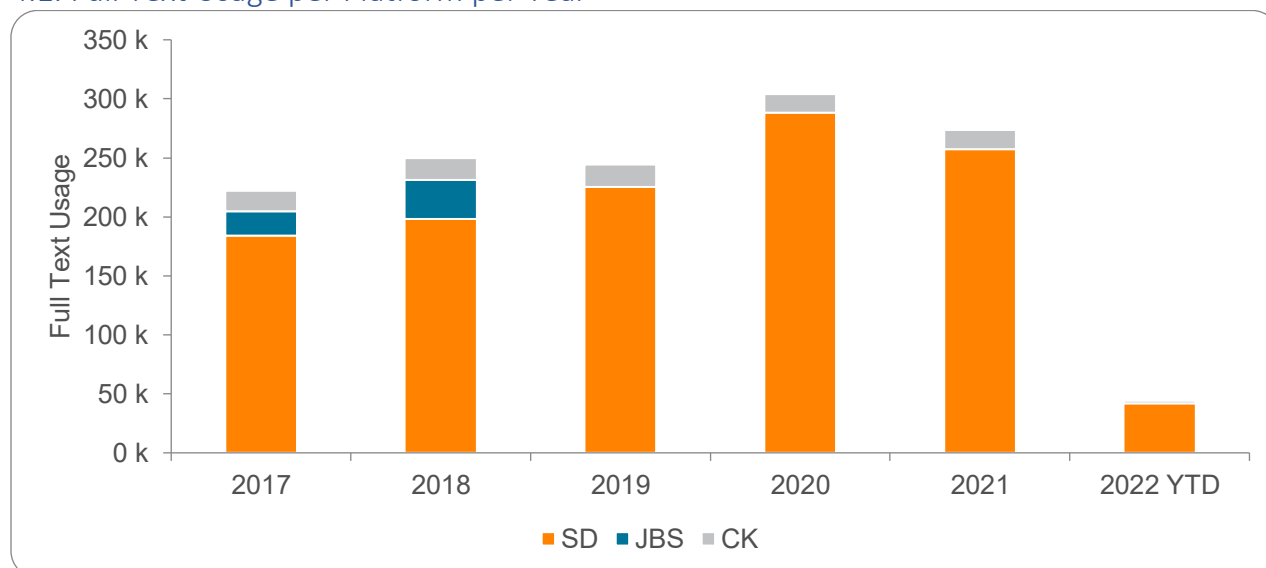


Source: Scopus

Last Updated: March 2022

## 4. Usage

### 4.1. Full Text Usage per Platform per Year



SD: Science direct, JBS: Journal based solutions, CK: Clinical Key

| Type  | 2017    | 2018    | 2019    | 2020    | 2021    | 2022 YTD |
|-------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| SD    | 184,053 | 198,409 | 225,332 | 288,166 | 257,121 | 41,870   |
| JBS   | 20,740  | 32,789  | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0        |
| CK    | 17,497  | 18,377  | 18,805  | 15,957  | 16,634  | 1,966    |
| Total | 222,290 | 249,575 | 244,137 | 304,123 | 273,755 | 43,836   |