

Evidence Map of Glimepiride: Results of a Bibliometric Analysis for India, China and the World during 1988-2016

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Introduction

- Glimepiride is a well-established anti-diabetic agent with substantial weight for the evidence based medicine ever since the first publication in 1988
- We explore the continuum of published strength of evidences for glimepiride through a comparative analytical approach across the publications from the World, China and India.

Methods

- The evidence map is based on the systematic review of the published evidences
- We searched pubmed and Cochrane medical library electronic databases since inception to Aug 2016.
- The bubble plot graph methodology is used to depict the quantum and the level of the evidence.
- A systematic search was done using MeSH terms on PubMed.
- The rate of articles published per million population with diabetes across the world was calculated and then compared as a benchmark for India and China to develop an index score of publications

Results

- PubMed revealed 1117 articles cited for Glimepiride of which 744 are human published evidences
- Two thirds (750) of the publications appear in the last one decade of which 60% (443) have been published in last five years.
- India accounts for approximately 16.8% population of diabetics and contributes 8% of publications, compared to 6% contribution from China for publications on glimepiride
- The indexed score from India and China was benchmarked against the global score for the parameters including the human studies, clinical trials, randomised clinical trials, reviews, meta analysis and case reports with the publication time lines for last 5 years and 10 years

Table: Comparative Index Score of Publications for Glimepiride across the world, India and China

Absolute No (Index score)	No. of Diabetes population (million) 2015	Overall	Human Studies	CT	RCTs	Review	Meta Analysis	Case Reports	5 Years	10 Years
World (100)	415	1117	744	292	39	166	14	51	443	750
India (Index Score)	70 (0.16)	95 (0.08)	32 (0.04)	10 (0.03)	8 (0.2)	5 (0.03)	0	3 (0.05)	55 (0.12)	86 (0.11)
China (Index Score)	114 (0.27)	71 (0.06)	39 (0.05)	13 (0.04)	12 (0.3)	3 (0.01)	3 (0.21)	1 (0.01)	49 (0.11)	64 (0.08)

Discussion

- The glimepiride evidence map provides an overview of the published strength of evidences, without taking into account whether these studies are positive, neutral or negative studies
- India scores over China in several parameters with a scope to escalate the quantum with the higher level of evidences for glimepiride

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