

Special anniversary issue

To the Editor

I spent last week and until now reading and re-reading most of the articles in Saudi Med J 2004; 25 Suppl 1: S2-S5. I must thank you for every word and idea in it. While reading Yaqub's<sup>1</sup> article I felt that there was something wrong in **Figures 1 & 2**, and would very much appreciate any clarification on how could countries such as Australia and the United Kingdom be considered among countries with less than 1000 publications per country, **Figure 1**, and the same for **Figure 2**. I hesitated a lot before commenting on your view of assessing every country according to its output of publications! May I say, that if one looks in depth at such publications, one would be shocked that even those meager numbers of publications are also much more meager and modest in their quality and content. Thus, the huge schism between the developed and underdeveloped worlds will become deeper and more difficult to approximate. I admired most or all of the articles, but let me especially mention that

from Oman, Antony and Al-Hussaini<sup>2</sup> and from Iran, Etemadi et al.<sup>3</sup>

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**Reply from the Editor**

Thank for your letter, which is self-explanatory. There was a mistake in the printing of the figures and they should have appeared as follows.

**References**

1. Yaqub BA. Research in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region. Where do we stand. *Saudi Med J* 2004; 25 Suppl 1: S2-S5.
2. Antony SX, Al-Hussaini A. Editing and publishing of a medical journal. Success of an unconventional workflow. *Saudi Med J* 2004; 25 Suppl 1: S13-S17.
3. Etemadi A, Raiszadeh F, Alaeddini F, Azizi F. Views of Iranian medical journal editors on medical research publication. *Saudi Med J* 2004; 25 Suppl 1: S29-S33.

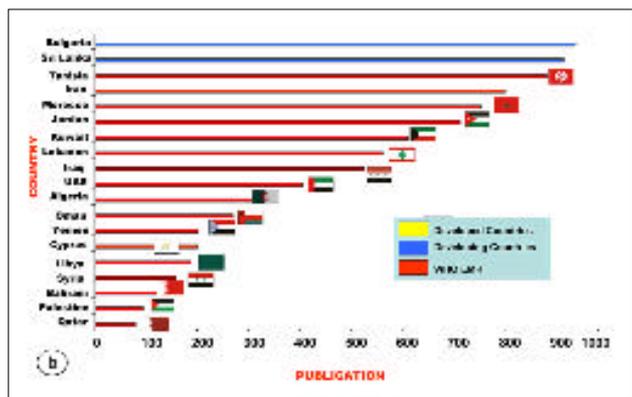
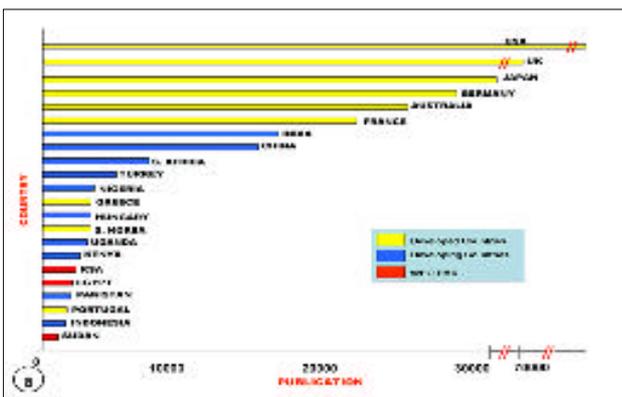


Figure 1 - Number of publications from different countries worldwide a) more than 1000 publications per country. b) Less than 1000 publications per country.

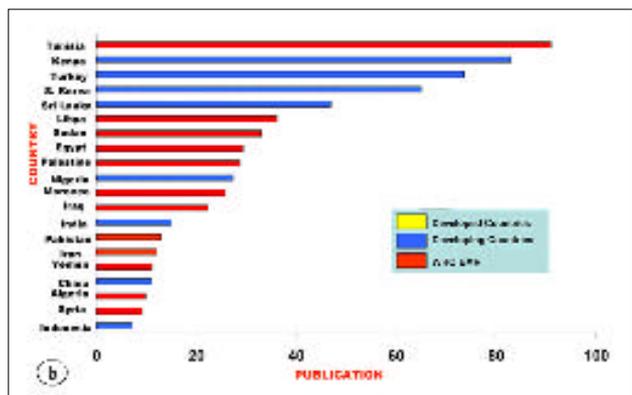
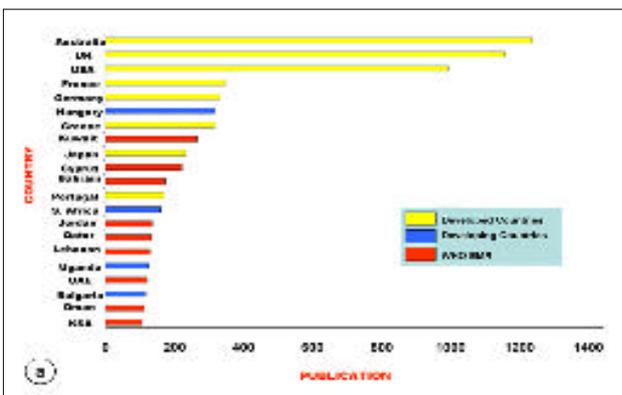


Figure 2 - Number of publications per million population from different countries worldwide a) more than 100 per million population. b) Less than 100 per million population.