



MEDIA RELEASE
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Media Contact: Stacey Roseen
sroseen@saem.org
(708) 606-7120

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Benchmarking Methodology Measures Scholarly Productivity in Academic Emergency Medicine

DES PLAINES, IL — Researchers from the University of Massachusetts have designed a standard methodology for building norm-based benchmarks to evaluate scholarly productivity of individuals within academic emergency medicine. This has important implications for performance review, promotion and hiring, and evaluating group productivity. The [results](#) of their work will be published in the June 2019 issue of *Academic Emergency Medicine (AEM)*, a journal of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine (SAEM).

The lead author of the [study](#) is Edwin D. Boudreaux, PhD, professor of emergency medicine, psychiatry and quantitative health sciences and is the vice chair of research in the department of emergency medicine at the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

According to Boudreaux et al., the methodology allows for flexible and highly accurate benchmarking based on the identification of key characteristics, such as academic rank, modifiers (clinical vs research), and filtering, such as restricting the normative pool to only individuals who produced at least one research publication. The ruler has enduring applicability because the procedure is norm-based.

The researchers suggest that the benchmarks may need to be updated over time in the same way that other norm-based efforts are updated, but infrequently because they reflect relatively stable, population-based traits. Further, they recommend that future efforts focus on developing databases for emergency medicine sub-fields, such as prehospital emergency medicine or emergency toxicology, and exploring how individual, regional, and field-based characteristics impact relative scholarly productivity.

Commenting on the study is David Sklar, MD, a professor in the School for the Science of Health Care Delivery and senior advisor to the university provost in health policy and health professions education at Arizona State University. Dr. Sklar is also the Editor in Chief of *Academic Medicine*, the journal of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)

“Boudreaux et al have developed a useful index that identifies highly productive emergency medicine scholars based upon the number of peer reviewed publications and citations over a five-year period. This index could be helpful not only for recognition of highly productive individuals, but also as a way to compare faculty seeking promotion and to identify environments from which clusters of highly productive scholars come. The index will be a useful adjunct to the more commonly used h-index.”

ABOUT ACADEMIC EMERGENCY MEDICINE

Academic Emergency Medicine, the monthly journal of Society for Academic Emergency Medicine,

features the best in peer-reviewed, cutting-edge original research relevant to the practice and investigation of emergency care. The above study is published open access and can be downloaded by following the DOI link: <https://doi.org/10.1111/acem.13704>. Journalists wishing to interview the authors may contact Stacey Roseen at sroseen@saem.org.

ABOUT THE SOCIETY FOR ACADEMIC EMERGENCY MEDICINE

SAEM is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization dedicated to the improvement of care of the acutely ill and injured patient by leading the advancement of academic emergency medicine through education and research, advocacy, and professional development. To learn more, visit saem.org.

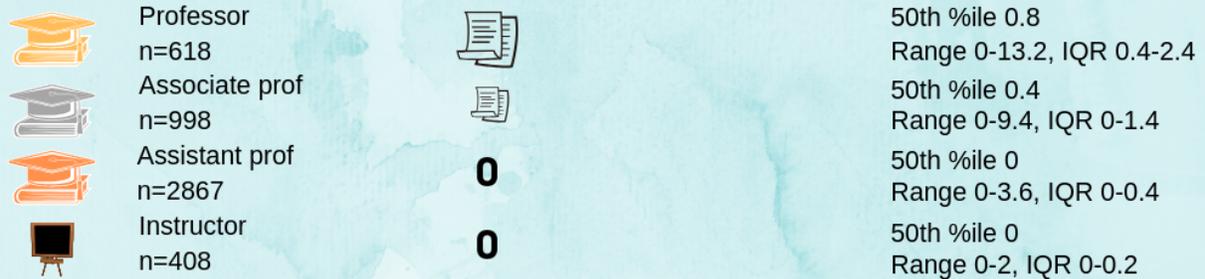
IMAGE: SCHOLARLY PRODUCTIVITY BENCHMARKS IN ACADEMIC EMERGENCY MEDICINE

CREDIT: KIRSTY CHALLEN, B.SC., MBCHB, MRES, PH.D., LANCASHIRE TEACHING HOSPITALS, UNITED KINGDOM.

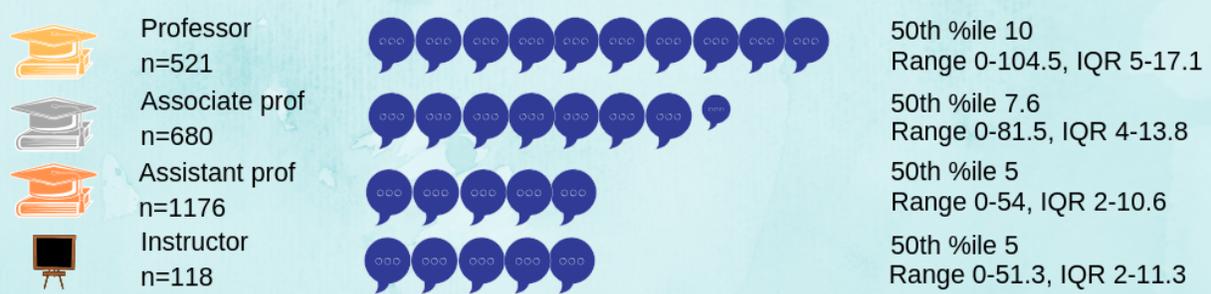
Scholarly productivity benchmarks in AEM

6727 academicians at 186 US academic EDs, output 2011-5 per Scopus, analysed in SciVal
 Excl: ED without available faculty listing, individuals without graduation date

Publications per year



Citations per year (academicians who published)



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