

# Jordan Journal of Dentistry

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## Advancing Dental Research in Jordan: The Critical Need for a Specialized Journal

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### ARTICLE INFO

#### Article History:

Received: 16/7/2024

Accepted: 21/10/2024

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### ABSTRACT

This manuscript discusses the strategic initiative of Jordan University of Science and Technology to establish and localize research journals, emphasizing support from the Scientific Research Support Fund. Highlighting Jordan's robust dental-research environment with 500 papers during the last decade and an average citation rate of 14.6 per paper, it underscores the potential for a specialized dental journal. Recognizing dentistry as distinct from general medicine in databases like Scopus and Clarivate, it is vital to advocate for a dedicated dental journal to complement existing publications.

### Jordan University of Science and Technology's Strategic Plan and Research Journals

The strategic plan of Jordan University of Science and Technology outlines a comprehensive implementation strategy aimed at establishing and localizing research journals within the university framework (1). Central to this initiative is the support and inclusion of these journals under the Scientific Research Support Fund at the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (2). Such backing is pivotal for their acceptance, accreditation, and advancement within Jordanian universities, significantly bolstering their prospects for long-term success and sustainability.

Jordan University of Science and Technology has demonstrated effective management of its research journals, exemplified by the Jordan Journal of Civil Engineering's placement in the third quartile of Scopus and inclusion in Clarivate's Web of Science Core Collection under ESCI (3). Similarly, the Jordanian Journal of Nursing Research has maintained regular publication since ministry approval, positioned for

future inclusion in the Scopus database, highlighting the university's commitment to fostering high-impact research publications across disciplines (4).

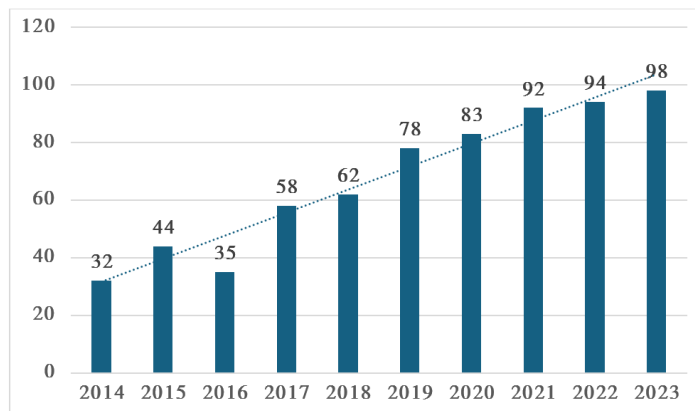
Since its inception, Jordan University of Science and Technology has distinguished itself as a leading research institution, characterized by prolific research output with publications achieving the highest regional citation rates. This academic environment underscores its capacity to support and elevate specialized scientific journals, ensuring their enduring impact and relevance in global-research discourse (5).

### Research in Dentistry in Jordan

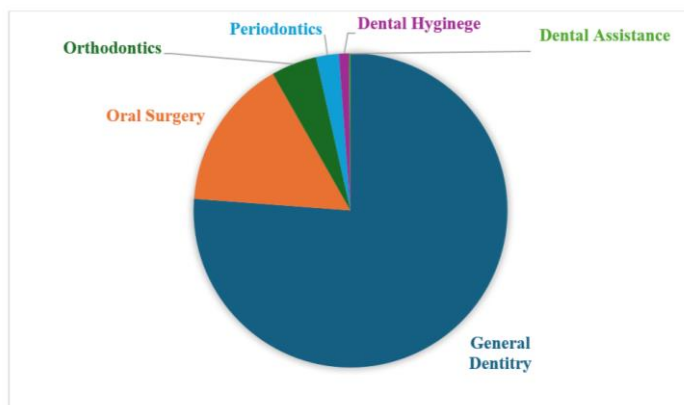
In the field of dentistry, Jordan has witnessed a notable surge in publication output over the past decade. According to the Scopus database and SciVal, more than 500 scientific papers have been published (Figure 1). Covering fields of general dentistry, oral surgery, orthodontics, periodontics, dental hygiene, and dental assisting (Figure 2), these papers have achieved an average citation rate of 14.6 citations per paper (6). This reflects the robust research environment in dental

sciences within Jordan. This promising performance provides early indications of the potential success of a proposed specialized dental journal, projected to

significantly contribute to scientific discourse and gain advanced ranking in prominent databases like Scopus over time.



**Figure 1:** Publications in dentistry in Jordan for the last decade



**Figure 2:** Publications in various dentistry domains

Recognized independently within Scopus and Clarivate databases, dentistry comprises diverse subspecialties distinct from general medicine, underscoring the necessity for a dedicated dental journal in Jordan. Such a journal would complement existing general medical publications, aligning with global trends observed in comparable contexts, such as Saudi Arabia (7-9), where specialized dental journals have thrived alongside broader medical publications, fostering robust academic exchanges among regional researchers.

Research in dentistry within Jordan is primarily driven by leading institutions like the University of Jordan and Jordan University of Science and Technology. National entities, such as the Royal Medical Services and King Hussein Cancer Center, also significantly contribute to this effort. With a growing

number of universities and colleges authorized to establish dental schools, the necessity for a specialized dental journal becomes increasingly evident. This would reflect anticipated growth in dental-research output and academic engagement within the region.

**Conclusion**

In conclusion, the establishment of a specialized dental journal in Jordan is not only timely, but also essential for advancing the nation's research agenda in dentistry, aligning with regional successes and global standards in scholarly publishing. By nurturing a robust research ecosystem supported by strategic initiatives and institutional backing, Jordan is poised to strengthen its position as a hub for impactful scientific contributions in dental sciences and beyond.

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