

Analysis of internationally-indexed Turkish psychiatric publications: journal affiliations and open-access policies in a developing country



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Introduction

- Access policies and funding models of the journals inevitably depend on the socioeconomic status and development level of the countries in which they are published.
- In Turkiye, psychiatry is a well-developed discipline in terms of in both clinical and academical perspectives compared to many developing countries.
- However, Turkish scientific journals specific to psychiatry and related sciences need to be academically improved to correspond to the international audience.
- Indeed, there is a lack of well-coordinated information about these journals with respect to their indexes, official affiliations, open-access policies and funding models.

Objectives

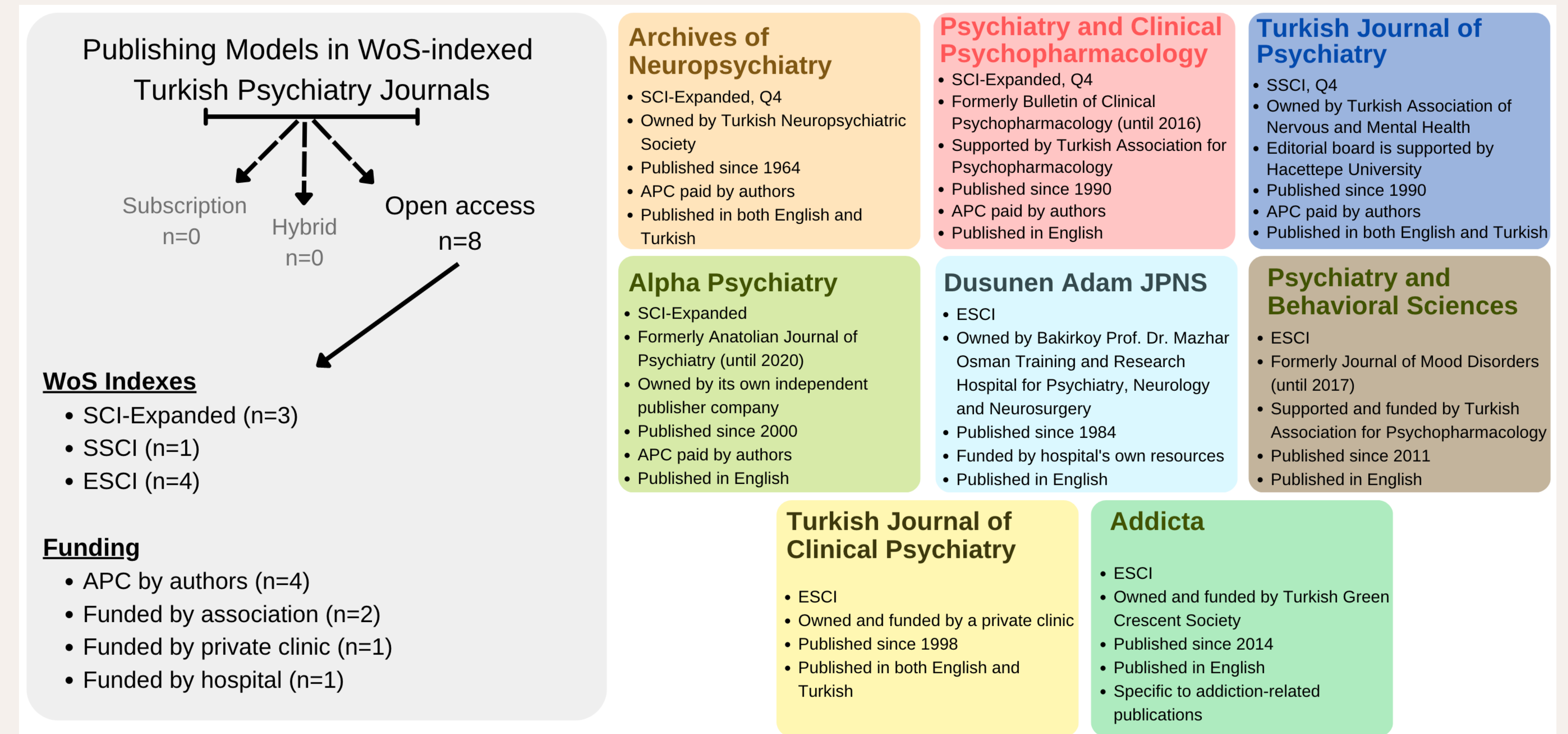
- To provide an analysis of Web of Science-indexed psychiatry journals based in Turkiye regarding their essential publication features.
- To introduce the details of these journals to international colleagues and to present academic publication models of a well-established clinical discipline in a developing country.

Methodology

- We searched the Web of Science Journal Citation Reports database on May 5, 2023.
- The search filter was used by marking "Turkey" as the country and "psychiatry" as the category.
- Websites of the journals were also examined in detail. Editorial boards of the journals were contacted if necessary.
- Open access policies, first publication years and affiliations of the journals were analyzed and recorded

Findings

- 8 Turkish psychiatry journals are indexed in the Web of Science.
- 3/8 indexed in SCI-E, 1/8 in SSCI, 4/8 in ESCI
- 4/8 owned by scientific societies or associations, 1/8 an official publication of a non-profit non-governmental organization, 1/8 owned by its publisher, 1/8 owned by a private clinic, 1/8 owned and funded by a non-university state hospital
- All journals are open access, 4/8 receive publication fees or APCs. Charges ranged between 200 – 690 USD.



Conclusions

- The majority of Turkish psychiatry journals are owned by national scientific societies/ associations or non-profit non-governmental organizations.
- All journals indexed in the higher categories of Web of Science (SCI-E and SSCI) are required publication fees/APCs.
- Authors to pay APCs may aid to avoid sustainability problems due to the lack of financial resources of non-profit organizations.
- However, a majority of Turkish researchers in psychiatry are state-run clinicians, not able to get grants or funds, and hardly afford such fees to publish in the higher categories of Web of Science indexes.
- This situation leads that editorial boards expect articles from authors abroad instead of Turkish researchers, and Turkish authors refrain from submitting articles to these journals.
- Owners of these journals should review their publication fee policies — e.g. flexible funding models, transition to gratis journal models, to improve the quality of psychiatric research in Turkiye and promote accessible scientific knowledge to international audiences.

References

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