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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Bibliometric study of international scientific production in O'nyong-Nyong virus during the years 1962—2016

Dear Editor,

O'nyong-Nyong virus (ONNV) was first isolated by the Institute of Uganda Virus Research (UVRI) in Entebbe (Uganda) in 1959 [1]. The disease caused by the virus known as o'nyong'nyong fever, with symptoms such as fever, rash, polyarthritis, among others. There were probably three known outbreaks of o'nyong'nyong fever, between 1959 and 1962, affecting two million people, a situation in which the virus was discovered in Uganda and Mozambique environs to another between 1996 and 1997 and confined to Uganda there is evidence of a previous between 1904 and 1906 [2]. Al ONNV it is considered as a differential diagnosis of Zika (ZIKV) and Chikungunya (CHIK) [3].

The proposed objective was to evaluate the international scientific production O'nyong-Nyong virus during the years 1962—2016, so a bibliometric analysis was performed using the information stored in databases indexing the journal. The search was conducted in the databases Pubmed/Medline (using GoPubMed®), Science Citation Index (SCI), LILACS (Latin American Literature on Health Sciences), SciELO (Scientific Electronic Library Online) and Google Scholar. The search strategy used was ''O'nyong-Nyong virus OR ONNV'' were repeated discarded items.

During the period of time were found 437 articles, of which 82 items were found in PubMed/Medline, with an average annual production by 1.59 ± 1.05, the peak of production was in 2011, where you can see 5 articles and in 2013 to 4 items, the country with more publications was the United States with 11 items, followed by Uganda, France, Nigeria and England with articles 2 (Fig. 1). SCI was found in 190 articles of which 16 were published during 2015, 14 during 2010 and 2009 and 12 in 2014, whereas the previous database United States, the country with the highest publication (18 items). In search SCIELO was found 1 article published in 2013 in Spain in Google academics have been found 164 items being as in previous databases led by the United States, Britain and Uganda, in search LILACS no items were found.

In this study, we can appreciate the low scientific productivity in this virus, which implies a low knowledge regarding infection by this virus, lack of complications, including risks to life and consequences that could lead to infection. We can also consider that the United States (9.61% product) is the leading country in the production databases consulted, followed by Uganda, being the Virus Research Institute in Uganda affiliation of all articles published by this country among Latin American countries that have scientific production in this issue are Brazil and Colombia, however, only mention the existence of this virus, and compare it other emerging viruses in the region such as Chikungunya (CHIKV) and Zika (ZIKV) without stopping in behavior, or clinical and epidemiological manifestations.

As some authors this virus could re-emerge in the Americas and Europe said, since it can be transmitted by the Aedes [4] and this very common vector worldwide and especially in tropical and subtropical areas, because what research in this theme is imperative to prevent potential outbreaks and proper containment in the event of them also like the other viruses mentioned the search for a preventive vaccine and serological techniques expedite diagnosis for timely treatment based international collaboration and promotion research on this virus.

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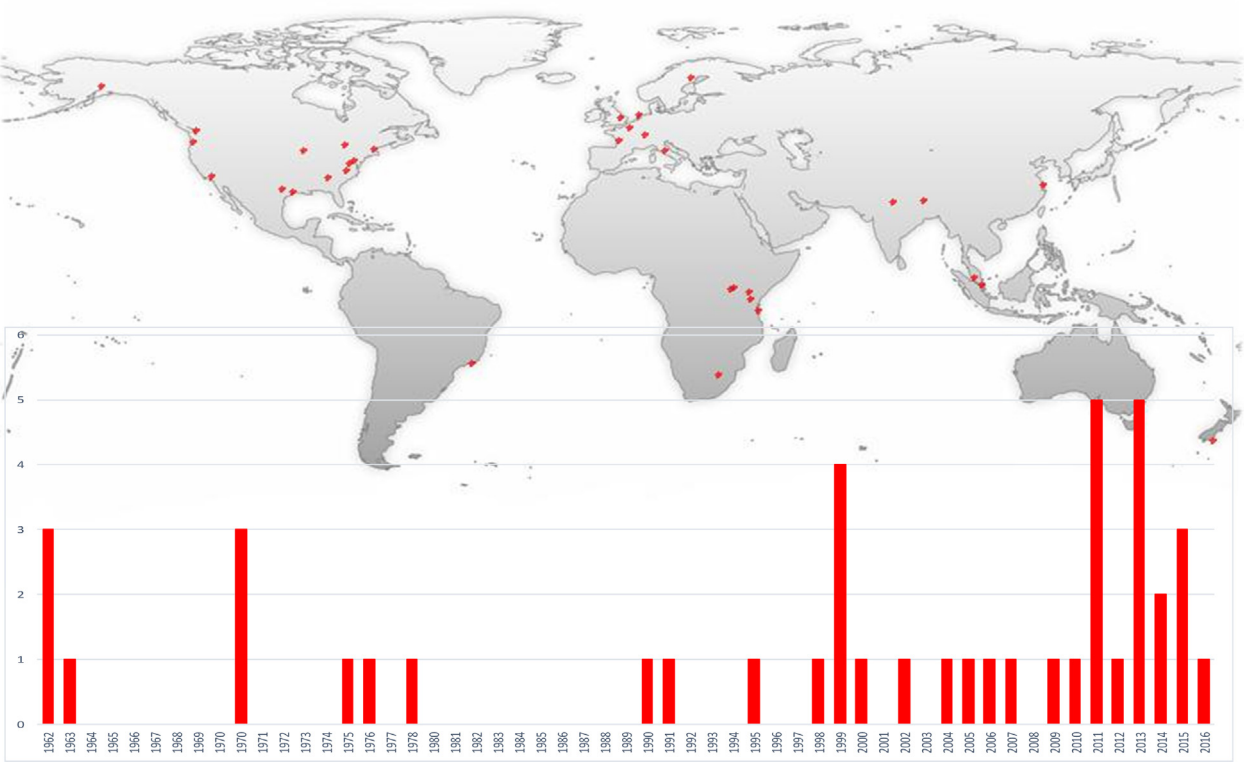

Figure 1 Scientific production by country and number of publications on the Viru O'nyong-Nyong, 1962—2016. *Source:* GoPubMed®.

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Competing interests

None declared.

Ethical approval

Not required.

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