

Pietropaolo A.<sup>1</sup>, Geraghty R.<sup>2</sup>, Somani B.K.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University Hospital Southampton Nhs Foundation Trust (uhs), Dept. of Urology, Southampton, United Kingdom, <sup>2</sup>University of Southampton, Dept. of Urology, Southampton, United Kingdom

**Introduction & Objectives:** Ureteroscopy (URS) is increasingly used for treatment of urolithiasis. With widening indications for its use in high risk and complex stone disease, there has also been a proportionate increase in the yearly publications for URS. We wanted to see the publication trends for URS as reported on PubMed over the last 16-years.

**Material & Methods:** All published papers on 'Urolithiasis', 'ureteroscopy', 'URS', 'kidney stones', 'renal stones', 'ureteric stones', 'retrograde intrarenal stone surgery' and 'RIRS' were searched on PubMed over the last 16-years from 2000-2015. There were no language restrictions and all non-English language papers with published English abstracts were also included in our review. While review articles were included, case reports and those papers that did not have a published abstract were excluded from our analysis. Similarly animal and laboratory studies were also excluded from our analysis. Data was divided into two 8-year periods, period-1 (2000-2007) and period-2 (2008-2015)

**Results:** A total of 1200 URS papers were published on PubMed over these 16 years, of which majority (1084, 90%) were in English. Of the non-English articles (116, 10%) majority were in French (n=38) and Spanish (n=26).

There was a linear increase in the rates of URS over the study period (Figure 1) for English language articles from 24 articles in 2000 to 176 articles in 2015 (p<0.001). When comparing the two time periods, there were a total of 323 articles published in period-1, which had increased by x2.7 times (171% rise) to 877 articles in period-2 (p=0.001). The number of English/Non-English language articles in period-1 and period-2 were 280/43 and 804/73 articles respectively.

**Conclusions:** Published papers on ureteroscopy have risen over the last 2 decades (both in English and regional languages), highlighting a growing popularity of this minimally invasive procedure for stone disease.