

**Abstract Text:****Introduction:**

Breast augmentation is one of the most commonly performed cosmetic surgery operations<sup>1</sup>. The importance of citations in modern day scientific correspondence is indisputable given that the impact factor of a journal is actually a reflection of the average number of citations to recent articles within a particular journal<sup>2,3</sup>. The authors aimed to identify and analyze the top 50 most cited articles pertaining to breast augmentation.

**Methods:**

A literature search was performed utilizing the Thomson/Reuters Web of Knowledge to identify highly cited articles on breast augmentation in seven prominent plastic surgery journals from origin (1945) to current day (August 2014). The top 50 papers were analyzed for journal, total citations, publication year, citations/year, authors, article type, national and institutional origin.

**Results:**

Articles came from seven journals: PRS, Annals, APS, CPS, ASJ, BJPS, JPRAS. PRS represented 80% of articles. The articles spanned from the year 1984 to 2008. The average number of citations was 88.3 citations/article (range 58-207). Citations/year averaged 8.6/year (2.9-41.4). Years of publication ranged from year to year, with 34% of articles being published in the 1990s and 56% in the 2000s. Average years since publication was 13.9, ranging from 4 to 29. The correlation between number of citations and years since publication was 0.05, with consequent linear trend analysis yielding a slope of 5.2, indicating that on average, each article attracted 5.2 citations per year following publication of the article. 58% of articles were outcomes related, followed by 26% technique, 8% psychosocial, and 8% review. National affiliation of first authors indicated 62% from the USA.

**Conclusions:**

The most highly cited article (207 citations) was a technique paper by Yoshimura et al, describing supporting evidence for the use of adipose derived stem cells in fat grafting for breast augmentation. This paper was also the one with the most citations per year at 41.4. The most prolific author was Cunningham BL who was first or co-author on 4 of the top 50 most cited papers, and Tebbetts JB, Deapen DM, Burkhardt BR, and Brody GS, who had 3 each. This work and list serves as an educational adjunct and instrument to help plastic surgeons identify the most highly cited articles on cosmetic breast surgery in our field.

**Reference Citations:**

1. American Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery. "Cosmetic Surgery National Databank Statistics." ASAPS Statistics. N.p., n.d. Web. 14 Aug. 2014. <[http://www.surgery.org/sites/default/files/Stats2013\\_3.pdf](http://www.surgery.org/sites/default/files/Stats2013_3.pdf)>.
2. Seglen PO. Why the impact factor of journals should not be used for evaluating research. *BMJ* 1997;314:498.
3. Seglen, Per O. "Causal relationship between article citedness and journal impact." *Journal of the American Society for Information Science* 45.1 (1994): 1-11.