Introduction

While metrics have been a part of the academic environment for more than 150 years, the concept of research metrics is relatively recent. Beginning with Garfield’s development of the Journal Impact Factor in the mid-1960s, research metrics have been a critical tool for assessing research activity, but their use has evolved significantly in recent years. These developments have been propelled by advancements in information technology and data science, which have made it possible to calculate and analyze new types of research impact.

Looking to the Future

As research assessment moves beyond traditional citation metrics, researchers and institutions are exploring new types and measurements of impact. Notably, calls to expand traditional research impact on society, including clinical and policy impact, are growing increasingly louder. However, existing metrics fail to capture the full impact and value of research on society. To address this challenge, traditional metrics have been supplemented by non-citation-based metrics to include entities such as authors and articles.

Policy Impact

There is increasing demand on researchers to demonstrate public engagement with their research and impact on government policy and practice. However, traditional metrics fail to capture the full impact and value of research on society. To address this challenge, traditional metrics have been supplemented by non-citation-based metrics to include entities such as authors and articles.

Clinical Impact

Clinical and health-related metrics are critical for tracking the impact of research on public health. Traditionally, research impact on society has been measured in terms of its influence on clinical practices or its use in clinical education. However, these measures fail to capture the full impact and value of research on society. To address this challenge, traditional metrics have been supplemented by non-citation-based metrics to include entities such as authors and articles.

Classical impact

Classical and health-related metrics are critical for tracking the impact of research on public health. Traditionally, research impact on society has been measured in terms of its influence on clinical practices or its use in clinical education. However, these measures fail to capture the full impact and value of research on society. To address this challenge, traditional metrics have been supplemented by non-citation-based metrics to include entities such as authors and articles.

Future

Emerging technologies and shifts in the research landscape are reshaping the way we measure and understand research impact. As metrics evolve, there is a growing need to develop new tools and frameworks to assess the societal impact of research. These developments are expected to further enhance the role of metrics in research assessment and advance the field of research evaluation.