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Abstract

New environmental regulations and ongoing pressures on cutting costs and improving quality have forced hospitals to improve the performance of their operations, especially in developing countries. Healthcare deals with a significant amount of hazardous and non-hazardous materials and produce polluting outputs. Frameworks that directly address the measurement of environmental performance are regarded as paramount. The present study represents a bibliometric review of the literature on the topic ‘hospital environmental performance measurement’ during the period 1987-2017, i.e, since the publication of the Brundtland Report. A set of 10 papers was regarded as relevant to the study. A certain prevalence of studies placed in high-income countries was found, but a growing focus on the specific context of developing countries was also identified. The content analysis revealed that the proposal and testing of frameworks for the measurement of environmental performance in hospitals are still needed.

Keywords: Environmental performance. Measurement. Hospitals. Bibliometric review.