

Bibliometric Analysis

Exploring the Impact of Art-Based Interventions on the Mental Health of Domestic Violence Survivors: A Comprehensive Bibliometric Analysis (2000-2023)

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Abstract: Arts-based interventions are gaining recognition for their significant impact on mental health, particularly for domestic violence survivors. This bibliometric analysis (2000-2023) reviews 70 studies, with 16 from Web of Science (WoS) and 54 from Scopus, to assess the effects of arts interventions on this population. Utilizing RStudio 4.2.1 and biblioshiny in bibliometrix, we identified a steady increase in Scopus publications and minor fluctuations in WoS. "Art therapy" was the most common keyword, with the International Journal of Art Therapy and Art in Psychotherapy receiving substantial attention. J. Bird emerged as the most influential author in Scopus, while WoS showed no prominent authors with all authors having a relevance score of 1. The United States led in research output, driving advancements in the field. The growing number of publications highlights the importance of arts interventions. Future research should integrate art-based interventions with other therapies, conduct rigorous empirical studies with long-term follow-ups, and develop culturally adaptive approaches to enhance their global applicability and effectiveness for domestic violence survivors.

Keywords: Art therapy; art-based intervention; mental health; bibliometric analysis; domestic violence

Introduction

Domestic violence, as defined by Su et al. (2022), constitutes a profound societal issue with enduring impacts on individuals and communities globally. According to Ramakrishnan et al. (2019) and WHO (2021), it includes any gender-based act that causes physical, sexual, or mental harm to women. This includes threats, coercion, or deprivation of liberty in both public and private settings. Domestic violence affects about one-third of women globally, highlighting its pervasiveness and significant social ramifications (WHO, 2021).

The consequences of domestic violence—spanning physical, sexual, and emotional abuse—significantly increase victims' vulnerability to psychological distress and physical ailments (Maji et al., 2023). Common outcomes include depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), alongside feelings of shame, guilt, and emotional dependence (Backos & Pagon, 1999; Binkley, 2013; Ikonopoulou et al., 2017; Zlotnick et al., 2006).

Despite the pivotal role of psychotherapy in trauma recovery, it faces inherent limitations in addressing the complex psychological trauma experienced by domestic violence survivors. Traditional therapeutic approaches heavily reliant on verbal communication may hinder the effective expression of trauma-related emotions (Van der Kolk, 2014), potentially re-traumatizing survivors during therapy sessions. In contrast, art-based interventions offer distinct advantages by circumventing verbal barriers through creative and sensory

engagement. These interventions promote emotional release and foster self-exploration through physical interaction with art materials. As survivors of trauma may struggle with verbalizing their experiences, the non-verbal nature of artmaking provides a therapeutic pathway to process emotions without direct confrontation of traumatic memories (Malchiodi, 2020). Recognizing these complexities, integrated therapeutic approaches are increasingly acknowledged for their potential to assist survivors in processing traumatic memories, rebuilding self-esteem, and restoring emotional stability (Courtois & Ford, 2009).

This study employs a comprehensive bibliometric analysis and review using RStudio and biblioshiny to investigate the impact of art-based interventions on the mental health of domestic violence survivors. By elucidating current research trends and assessing the potential of art therapy within this specific context, our aim is to contribute to a deeper understanding of its effectiveness and scope. Subsequent sections will critically review existing literature, discuss empirical methodologies, and summarize key findings from our analysis. Each section seeks to synthesize experimental outcomes, offer interpretations, and propose conclusions that advance knowledge on the role of art therapy in addressing the mental health needs of domestic violence survivors.

Literature Review

Arts interventions are an important component of broader expressive interventions. These interventions are especially relevant for domestic violence survivors because they offer non-verbal ways to process trauma and promote emotional release without re-traumatization. Survivors of domestic violence often struggle to verbalize their experiences, and these creative methods provide a crucial therapeutic outlet. Studies confirm that art-based interventions effectively improve emotional expression, mental health, and social well-being, addressing the unique challenges faced by this population (Fancourt & Finn, 2019).

1. Positive Impacts of Art-based Interventions

For survivors of domestic violence, art-based interventions offer specific benefits that go beyond general mental health improvements. Recent research shows these interventions enhance self-esteem, foster self-discovery, and support identity reconstruction—all critical for overcoming the psychological effects of abuse (Hass-Cohen et al., 2021). These practices also help reduce physical pain, alleviate symptoms of anxiety and depression, and restore interpersonal relationships, which are often damaged by trauma (Hass-Cohen et al., 2021).

Arts-based interventions are particularly effective for addressing post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), which is common among domestic violence survivors (Ezeh et al., 2023). These interventions boost mental health significantly by encouraging creative expression (Mohd Bakri et al., 2024). Different forms of art serve complementary purposes in the recovery process. Painting and sculpture provide non-verbal outlets, allowing survivors to express complex emotions they might find overwhelming to articulate. Drama and poetry, by contrast, enable survivors to reclaim their personal narratives and regain a sense of agency over their experiences (Malchiodi, 2020). These creative outlets are especially valuable for those who struggle with verbal expression or find traditional therapies too confrontational (Binkley, 2013).

2. Characteristics of Art-based Intervention

Though psychotherapies provide valuable support, they can be intrusive for domestic violence survivors struggling to express their experiences, leading to reservation and resistance that hinder and prolong their healing (Srivastava et al., 2021).

Art intervention offers a potential alternative treatment for these patients because it aligns with the often wordless and nonverbal nature of traumatic memories (Herman, 1992; Van der Kolk, 1999). According to Henderson (2007), Murray (2017), and Ikononopoulos (2017), art interventions are particularly effective in providing a creative outlet for domestic violence survivors to transforming suffering into something meaningful. For example, painting and clay (McGarry & Bowden, 2017) encourage emotional release through hands-on interaction with materials, helping survivors of domestic violence regain a sense of control. Meanwhile, photography (López-Ruiz & López-Martínez, 2019), music (De Juan, 2015), and poetry (Allen

& Wozniak, 2014) facilitate narrative reconstruction, turning fragmented memories into coherent stories, which promotes empowerment and personal growth. These interventions not only foster healing but also validate the experiences of survivors of domestic violence, encouraging long-term recovery (Skop et al., 2022). In current practice, art interventions focus on building strengths, self-worth, social trust, and constructive coping techniques, providing survivors with sustainable recovery paths beyond trauma.

Methodology

This chapter details the collection methods, the search strategies employed in the Scopus and WoS databases, and the strategies for data analysis using RStudio and biblioshiny.

1. Sources of Data and Search Methods

This study adheres to PRISMA guidelines to ensure scientific rigor and transparency in the bibliometric analysis. The primary objective is to gather English-language literature published between 2000 and 2023 concerning the impact of art-based interventions on domestic violence. Two major academic databases, Scopus and WoS, were utilized. The search was conducted on June 16, 2024, to maintain consistency and completeness in data collection, mitigating biases introduced by frequent database updates. The selection of Scopus and WoS aims to provide a broader perspective by covering distinct disciplinary areas within the research landscape. WoS excels in natural sciences and engineering, while Scopus emphasizes social sciences. This distinction highlights the importance of utilizing both databases, as their combined strengths enable a more thorough literature review and analysis of the diverse research landscape (Kumpulainen & Seppänen, 2022) Include all document types (such as conference papers, book chapters, and review articles) rather than limiting to research articles is to ensure a comprehensive perspective on the research field. Different types of literature can provide diverse insights and enrich the understanding of the impact of art interventions. The following Table1 presents the search formulas for two different databases, and Table 2 illustrates the inclusion and exclusion criteria.

Table 1. Search formulas for two databases

Database	Search string strategy Boolean operators	No.
Scopus	TITLE-ABS-KEY (("art-based intervention" OR "art intervention" OR "art therapy") AND ("domestic violence" OR "family violence" OR "domestic abuse" OR "intimate partner violence")) AND PUBYEAR > 1999 AND PUBYEAR < 2024 AND (LIMIT-TO (LANGUAGE, "English"))	55
WoS	TS= (("art-based intervention" OR "art intervention" OR "art therapy") AND ("domestic violence" OR "family violence" OR "domestic abuse" OR "intimate partner violence")) AND PY= (2000-2023) AND LA=(English)	16

Table 2. The inclusion and exclusion criteria

Database Criteria	Inclusion	Exclusion
Document type	All type of documents	Not applicable
Language	English	Non-English
Timeline	2000-2023	Before 2000
Location	Worldwide	Not applicable

2. Eligibility Criteria and Selection Process

The initial screening included 55 articles from Scopus and 16 articles from WoS. After removing 8 duplicates and 1 invalid record from Scopus, 62 articles remained for further analysis. The title, abstract, and full text of each article were analysed in detail to ensure compliance with the study's inclusion criteria and research objectives. As the aim of the study was to trend and compare the two databases, duplicate records were not excluded from the final dataset to maintain the integrity of the duplicates in the respective databases. That is, 16 articles were included in WoS and 54 in Scopus. Figure 1 illustrates the article screening process.

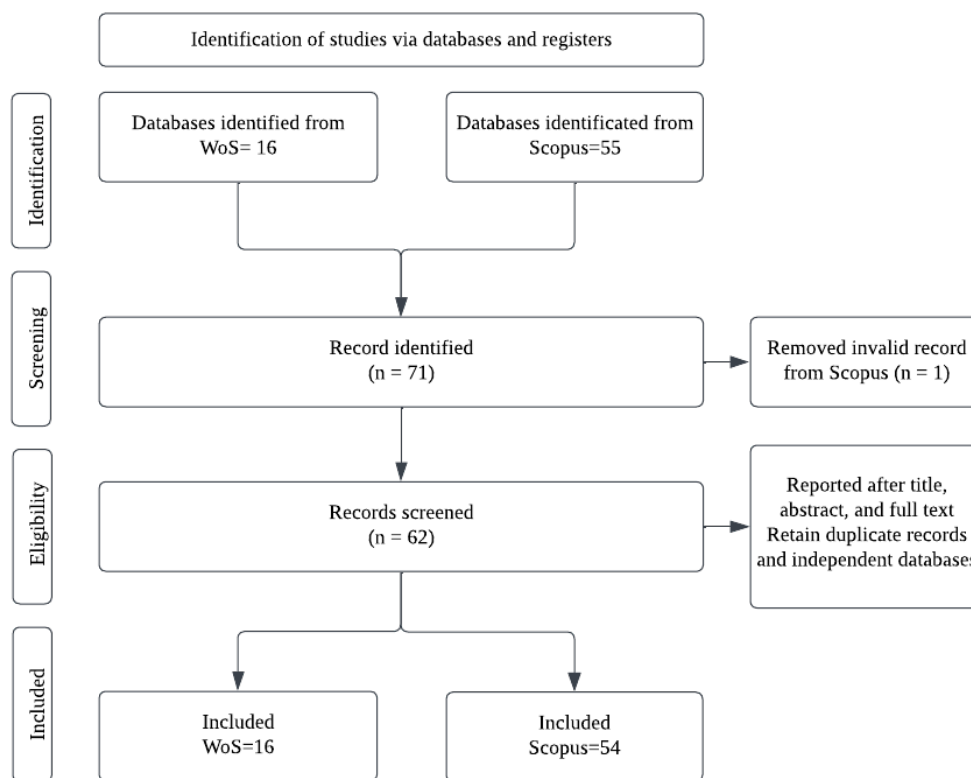


Figure 1. Flowchart for study selection

3. Data Processing and Cleaning

Prior to data analysis, duplicate records were removed using EndNote. However, for the purposes of trend analysis and database comparison, further data processing and cleaning were not conducted in RStudio. The data retained their respective integrity and original state from Scopus and WoS before being imported into RStudio. The bibliometrix R package was used for bibliometric analysis within the RStudio environment. This package is specifically designed for bibliometric and scientometric research, providing a comprehensive and adaptable framework for analyzing large datasets (Aria & Cuccurullo, 2017).

4. Data Acquisition and Analysis Tools

Data extraction and analysis were performed using RStudio 4.2.1 and biblioshiny 4.0 to ensure comprehensive and accurate data processing. RStudio 4.2.1 is an integrated development environment (IDE) based on the R language, providing users with an efficient and intuitive interface for writing and running code. BiblioShiny 4.0, on the other hand, is a web application interface developed based on the Bibliometrix software package, allowing users to perform complex bibliometric analyses through intuitive operations, thereby gaining a deeper understanding of the structure and trends in the research field (Aria & Cuccurullo, 2017; R Core Team, 2024). These tools facilitate in-depth data visualization and analysis, aiding in understanding patterns and trends in the impact of art-based interventions on domestic violence. The bibliometric packages were installed and executed in RStudio as follows:

- i. `install.packages("bibliometrix")`
- ii. `library(bibliometrix)`
- iii. `biblioshiny(bibliometrix)`

5. Data Analysis Procedures

Using the biblioshiny web interface, a series of rigorous bibliometric analyses were conducted in accordance with scholarly standards. These analyses included:

- i. Annual Scientific Production: Analyzing annual scientific production and average citations per year to reveal publication frequency trends over specific periods. Keyword Analysis: Mapping the most frequent words and their co-occurrence networks.
- ii. Journal Analysis: Identifying the most influential journals within the field.
- iii. Author Analysis: Highlighting top authors as major contributors.
- iv. Geographical Analysis: Assessing countries' scientific production to evaluate their research output and contributions.

This comprehensive analytical framework not only provides insights into publication trends but also effectively identifies significant contributors within the field and comprehensively depicts the geographical distribution of global scientific research.

Findings

This chapter presents a detailed analysis of annual scientific production, citation trends, prevalent themes identified through word frequency and co-occurrence networks, key journals, influential authors, and global research contributions in the field of arts interventions for mental health among victims of domestic abuse.

1. Annual Scientific Production and Average Citation Per Year

Between 2000 and 2023, the Scopus database contains 54 relevant publications and the WoS database contains 16. Figure 2 shows the detailed data, and the analysis of this data is as follows:

Both Scopus and WoS data show increased research interest, peaking in 2022-2023. Figure 2 shows the total number and trend of publications on this topic from 2000 to 2023 in two databases.

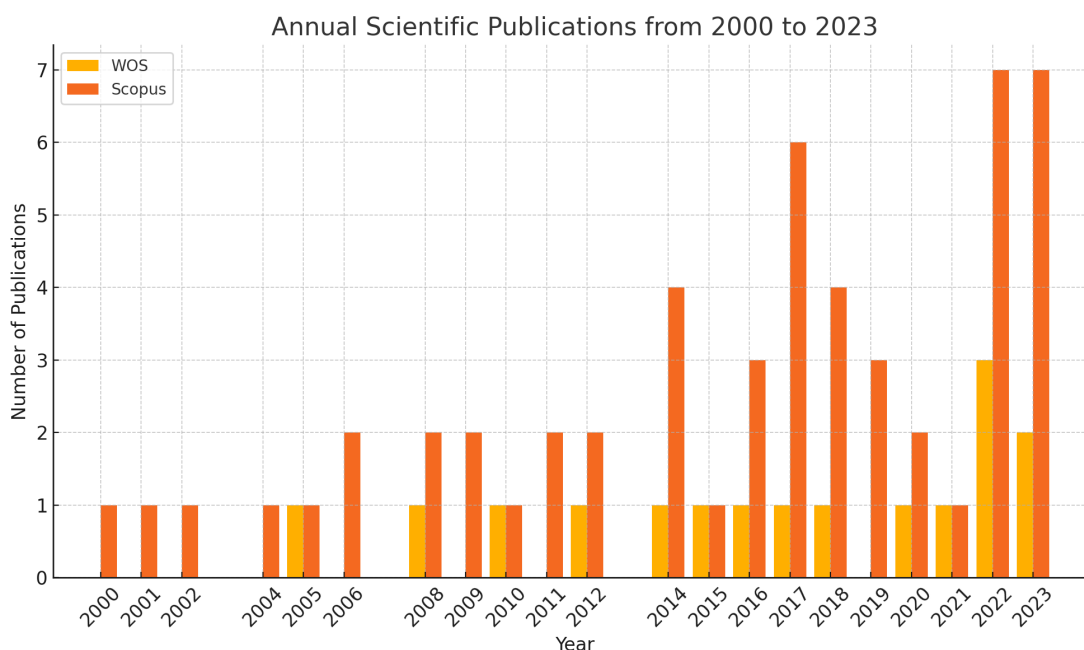


Figure 2. Annual scientific publications from 2000 to 2023

As shown in Table 3, 2001 and 2011 in Scopus averaged 1.58 and 2.57 citations/year, indicating sustained impact. The average annual citation rates in the WoS database were 3.65 citations/year for 2005 and 3.33 citations/year for 2010, indicating that the research outputs of these years have also had a significant academic impact. 3.33 citations/year, indicating that this literature has a greater long-term impact on academia.

Table 3. Annual scientific publications and average citation per year from 2000 to 2023

Year	Scopus				WoS			
	MeanTC perArt_	N Documents	MeanTC perYear	Citable Years_	MeanTC perArt_	N Documents	MeanTC perYear	CitableYears _
2000	8	1	0.32	25				
2001	38	1	1.58	24				
2002	0	1	0	23				
2004	8	1	0.38	21				
2005	11	1	0.55	20	73	1	3.65	20
2006	10.5	2	0.55	19				
2008	13	2	0.76	17	10	1	0.59	17
2009	3	2	0.19	16				
2010	1	1	0.07	15	50	1	3.33	15
2011	36	2	2.57	14				
2012	17.5	2	1.35	13	21	1	1.62	13
2014	12.25	4	1.11	11	9	1	0.82	11
2015	7	1	0.7	10	2	1	0.2	10
2016	7.33	3	0.81	9	12	1	1.33	9
2017	20.83	6	2.6	8	12	1	1.5	8
2018	8	4	1.14	7	14	1	2	7
2019	3.33	3	0.56	6				
2020	9.5	2	1.9	5	13	1	2.6	5
2021	0	1	0	4	0	1	0	4
2022	2.57	7	0.86	3	3.33	3	1.11	3
2023	0.71	7	0.36	2	1	2	0.5	2

From 2000 to 2023, the annual number of publications in the Scopus database generally shows an increasing trend with an average annual growth rate of 5.65%. This suggests that research activity in the field is increasing year by year and that researchers are paying more attention to the effectiveness of arts interventions in the mental health of domestic violence victims. In contrast, the number of literature publications in the WoS database fluctuated but showed an overall slight increasing trend with an annual growth rate of 0%. The data from a gradual increase in research on the impact of arts interventions on the mental health of victims of domestic violence from 2000 to 2023 suggests that arts interventions are receiving increased attention in improving the mental health of victims of domestic violence.

2. Most Frequent Words and Co-Occurrence Network

To provide a comprehensive overview of the thematic landscape of the research field, we performed an analysis of the most frequent words and their co-occurrence networks using datasets from both the WoS and Scopus databases.

Frequent Words Analysis

The analysis of the WoS dataset identified "art therapy" and "health" as the most frequently occurring terms, each appearing in 5% of the documents. Other notable terms include "violence" (3%), "intimate partner violence" (3%), "transmission" (3%), and "women" (3%). This indicates a strong research focus on therapeutic practices, health, and social issues. The treemap in Figure 3 visually represents these frequencies, with larger blocks denoting higher frequencies. In the Scopus dataset, "art therapy" was similarly recognized as the most used term. Other frequently occurring terms include "human," "female," and "domestic violence." The

presence of "female" and "human" highlights the emphasis on gender-specific issues and the human aspect of interventions, suggesting a growing recognition of the unique challenges faced by individuals in domestic violence situations. This evolution in research reflects a growing awareness of how therapeutic frameworks address intersectionality and emotional well-being in diverse populations. The dendrogram in Figure 4 The dendrogram in Figure 4 depicts these terms, with their sizes corresponding to their frequency of occurrence.

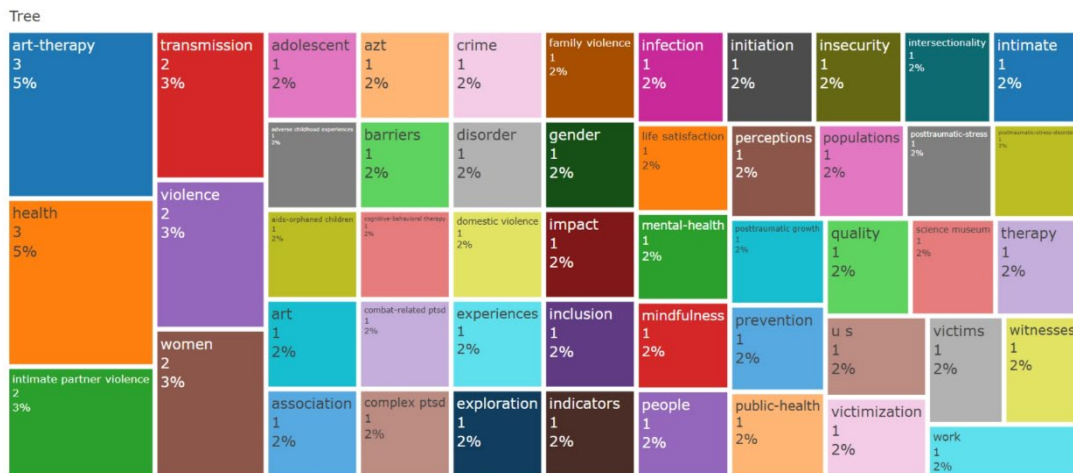


Figure 3. Treemap of most frequent words in WoS

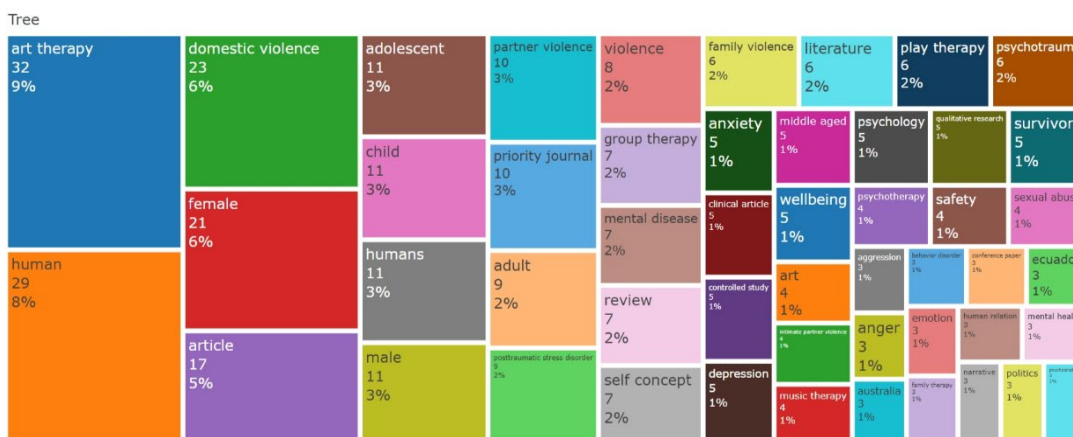


Figure 4. Treemap of most frequent words in Scopus

Co-Occurrence Network Analysis

The co-occurrence network from the WoS dataset reveals important associations between the terms 'art therapy', 'intimate partner violence', 'health' and 'transmission'. These connections highlight the integration of public health principles into art therapy practices, demonstrating the dual focus on individual well-being and societal challenges. This network suggests a multifaceted research focus that includes therapeutic practice, public health, and gender-related violence. Figure 5 illustrates these connections, where the size of the nodes represents the frequency of occurrence of the terms, while the thickness of the edges indicates the strength of their co-occurrence.

In the Scopus dataset, the co-occurrence network highlights important nodes such as "human," "art therapy," and "female," which are closely related to "mental diseases" and "aggression." This network highlights the interdisciplinary nature of mental health research, emphasizing the interconnections between various treatment and intervention strategies. These connections reveal a significant shift in mental health research towards more humanistic, gender-sensitive, and interdisciplinary approaches. This network not only highlights the growing application of art therapy in addressing complex psychological issues, particularly

those related to aggression and women's mental health, but also signifies a paradigm shift in treatment methodologies. The research landscape is evolving from a singular medical model to a more holistic approach that integrates artistic, psychological, and social factors to tackle multifaceted mental health challenges, reflecting the field's adaptation to the complexities of human psychology and societal needs. Figure 6 shows these interconnections, with node size and edge thickness indicating term frequency and co-occurrence strength, respectively.



Figure 5. Co-Occurrence Network in WoS

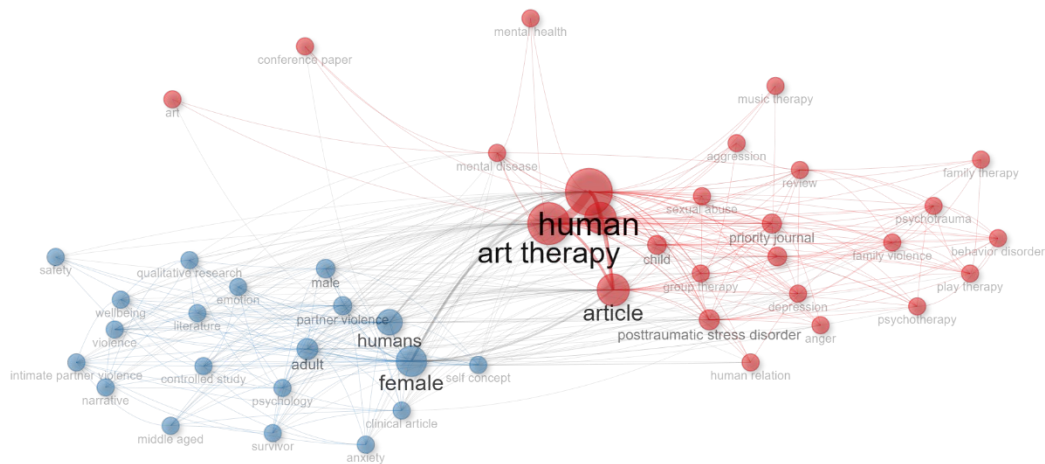


Figure 6. Co-Occurrence Network in Scopus

The frequent words and co-occurrence network analyses from the WoS and Scopus datasets reveal a predominant focus on therapeutic practices, mental health, and social issues. The findings from both databases highlight the interconnected and interdisciplinary nature of the research themes.

3. Most Relevant Journals (Sources)

After analysing the literature data from the Scopus and WoS databases, we found some important trends and insights that reveal the academic impact of different journals and their dynamics in the relevant fields.

Journal Impact and Publication Trends

In the WOS database, as shown in Figure 7, International Journal of Art Therapy is the most influential journal with 4 articles published, followed by Arts in Psychotherapy and Violence Against Women with 2 articles each. Other journals such as American Behavioral Scientist, American Journal of Emergency Medicine, and Art Therapy published 1 article each. The trend graph shows that these journals, particularly the International

Journal of Art Therapy, experienced significant growth after 2016, with a sharp rise between 2022 and 2023. This growth signals the journal's increasing relevance in art therapy scholarship.

The trend graph shows that journals in WOS generally show growth after 2016, especially the rapid growth of International Journal of Art Therapy between 2022 and 2023, as shown in Figure 8, indicating that its academic impact in the field of art therapy is rapidly increasing. In the Scopus database, as shown in Figure 9, Arts in Psychotherapy and International Journal of Art Therapy: Inscap are the most influential journals in the topic, with 11 and 7 articles published, respectively. Moreover, as shown in Figure 10, the number of publications in Art in Psychotherapy has been on a steady upward trend over this period of time. Other journals such as Aggression and Violent Behavior, Child Abuse and Neglect, and Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment and Trauma published 2 articles each. In contrast, the significant growth in Child Abuse and Neglect between 2022 and 2023 suggests that the field has seen an increase in research hotspots or policy attention over this period.

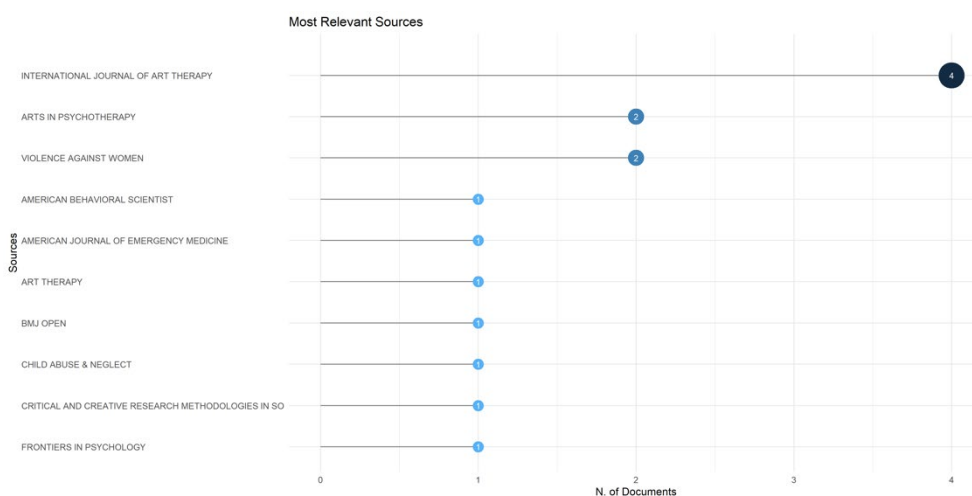


Figure 7. Most relevant journals (WoS)

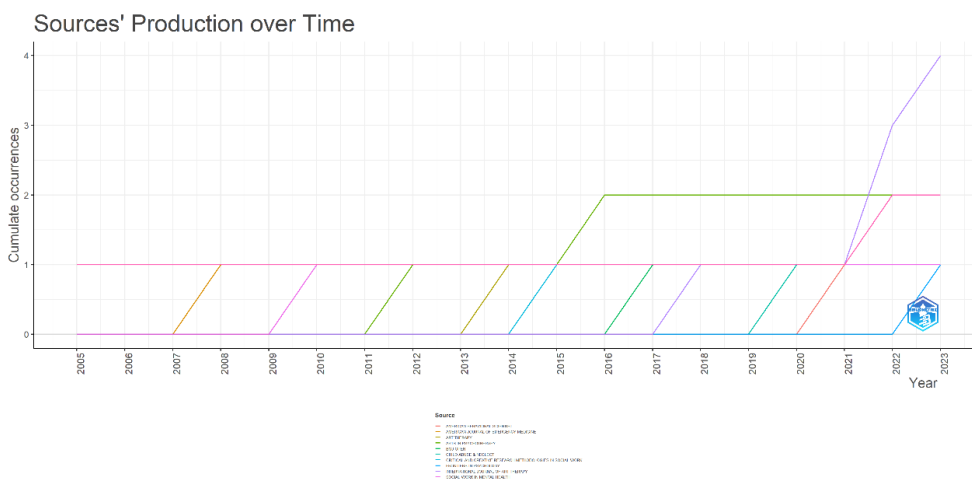


Figure 8. Source's production over Time (WoS)

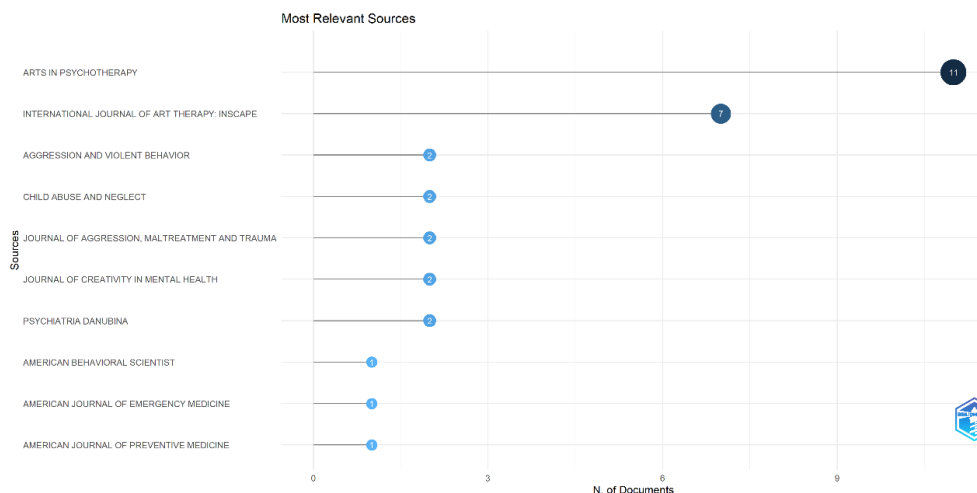


Figure 9. Most relevant journals (Scopus)

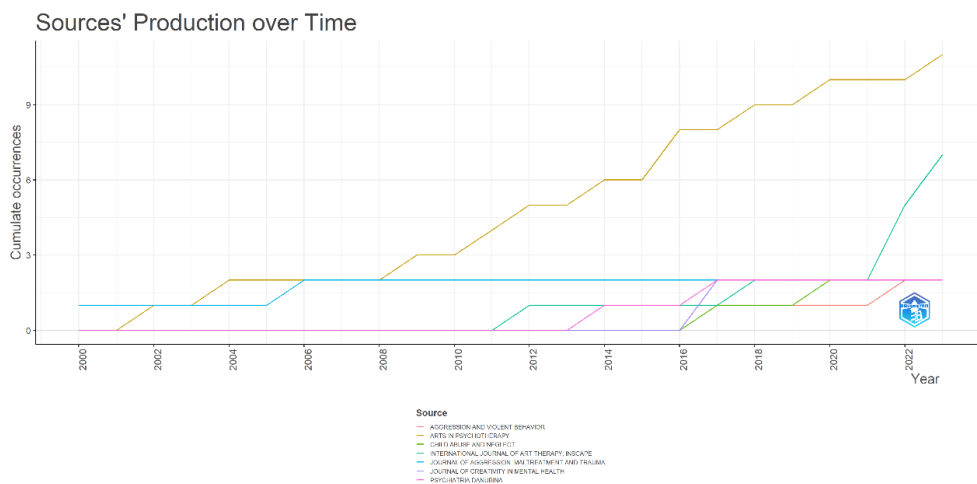


Figure 10. Source's Production over Time (Scopus)

Insights into Interdisciplinary Research

Not only do these journals excel in their respective areas of specialization, but they also play an important role in interdisciplinary research. For example, Arts in Psychotherapy and International Journal of Art Therapy not only focus on psychotherapy and art therapy, but also cover areas such as public health, social work, and education. This interdisciplinary approach to research promotes the exchange and integration of knowledge between different fields and promotes the development of comprehensive therapeutic strategies. In addition, the significant growth of Abuse and Neglect of Children in recent years reflects the growing interest in child abuse and neglect across a few disciplines, including the social sciences, law, and public health. This trend toward interdisciplinary research further highlights the need for academics to approach complex social issues in an integrated manner and from multiple perspectives. For example, Arts in Psychotherapy and International Journal of Art Therapy not only address psychotherapy and art therapy but also intersect with public health, education, and social work. This interdisciplinary approach encourages knowledge exchange across fields and fosters the development of comprehensive therapeutic strategies. Such interdisciplinary research promotes more effective solutions to complex social issues, highlighting the importance of collaborative efforts in advancing therapeutic practices and expanding their real-world impact.

These findings not only reveal the status and influence of different journals in related academic fields, but also demonstrate the importance of interdisciplinary research in solving complex social problems, providing valuable references for future research directions and hotspots.

4. Most Relevant Authors

In the WoS database, as shown in Table 4, several authors have made significant contributions and gained prominence in this field. For instance, Allen (2011), has garnered a total of 50 citations despite having published only one article, resulting in an h-index of 1, indicating substantial attention from the academic community.

Other notable authors such as Bala (2017), Bandeira (2020), Banfield (2017), Bewley (2017), Bird (2018), Buchanan (2015), Carleton (2022), and Chang (2017) have also achieved h-index, g-index, and m-index values of 1, reflecting their initial contributions to this field. Each author's research achievements exhibit distinct characteristics, with citation counts and impact metrics underscoring their significance within academia.

Table 4. Top 10 most relevant author (WoS)

Author	Articles	h_index	g_index	m_index	TC
ALLEN KN	1	1	1	0.067	50
BALA MM	1	1	1	0.125	12
BANDEIRA M	1	1	1	0.2	13
BANFIELD L	1	1	1	0.125	12
BEWLEY S	1	1	1	0.125	12
BIRD J	1	1	1	0.143	14
BUCHANAN F	1	1	1	0.1	2
CARLETON RN	1	1	1	0.333	2
CHANG YP	1	1	1	0.125	12
DILMITIS S	1	1	1	0.125	12

In the Scopus database, as shown in Table 5, Bird (2018, 2019, 2022) is the most influential author in this field, having published three articles with a total of 21 citations and an h-index of 2. Following closely are Ikonomopoulos (2016, 2017) and Vela-(2016, 2017) each with two articles and 22 citations, both having an h-index of 2. Other notable authors include Agliata (2006), Agllias (2015), Aktaş Özkafacı(2020), and Allen(2011), who have made significant contributions in this field. For instance, Allen (2011), has published only one article but has a high impact with a total of 57 citations.

Table 5. Top 10 most relevant author (Scopus)

Author	Articles	h_index	g_index	m_index	TC
BIRD J	3	2	3	0.286	21
IKONOMOPOULOS J	2	2	2	0.222	22
VELA P	2	2	2	0.222	22
AGLIATA AK	2	1	1	0.053	5
AGLLIAS K	2	1	1	0.1	7
AKTAŞ ÖZKAFACI A	1	1	1	0.2	4
ALLEN KN	1	1	1	0.071	57
BANDEIRA M	1	1	1	0.2	15
BAT OR M	1	1	1	0.5	1
BODDY J	1	1	1	0.1	7

5. Country Production over Time

In the WoS database, the United States and the United Kingdom again lead in research output. The United States' research output has steadily increased since 2005, with a notable rise post-2017, reaching over 12

articles by 2023. The United Kingdom also experienced a significant increase in research output post-2015, with an accelerated growth post-2020. Canada and Mexico began to show significant increases in research output after 2016, with Canada's contributions becoming particularly pronounced post-2020. While Tanzania and other countries have lower overall research output, they are still actively contributing and have the potential for future growth in this field. The trend of country production over time in WoS is shown in Figure 11.

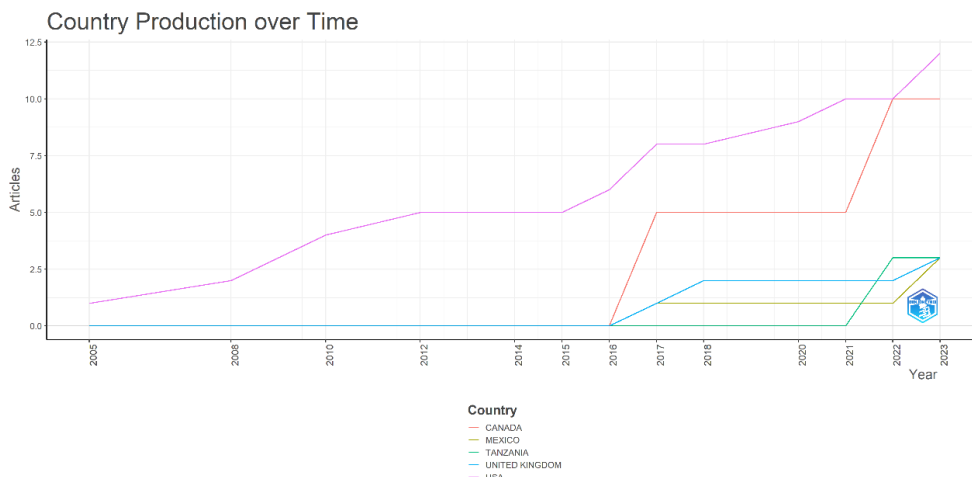


Figure 11. Country production over Time (WoS)

In the Scopus databases, from 2001 to 2023, the research output in this field from the United States and the United Kingdom is notably higher compared to other countries. The United States saw a rapid increase in research starting from 2012, reaching approximately 40 articles by 2023, indicating a sustained upward trend. Similarly, the United Kingdom's research output has steadily grown since 2010, with a significant spike post-2020, totalling around 20 articles. Canada, Australia, and Israel showed increasing contributions, with Canada's surge starting in 2019. These countries' contributions highlight their pivotal role in advancing research in the field of art interventions.

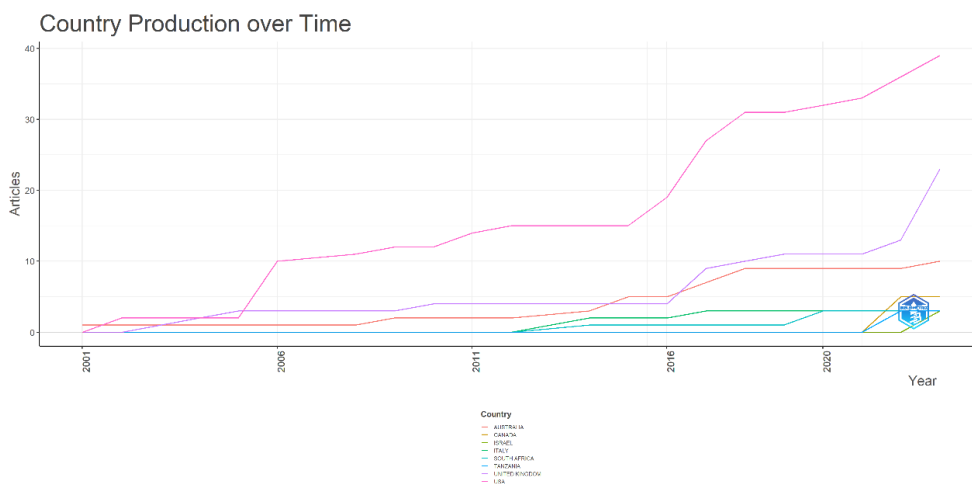


Figure 12. Country production over Time (Scopus)

The analysis of WoS and Scopus data clearly indicates that the United States and the United Kingdom are the primary contributors to research on the topic with a significant and growing body of work over the past decade. Canada, Australia, and Mexico are also showing increasing research output, reflecting a rising global interest in this topic. Overall, art interventions are gaining recognition and attention as a method to support the mental health of domestic violence survivors, with an expanding research base worldwide.

Discussion

In recent years, art-based interventions have gained significant attention in the field of mental health, particularly in the rehabilitation of domestic violence survivors. Through a bibliometric analysis of literature from 2000 to 2023, we have identified key trends and characteristics in this field. The major findings and discussions are as follows:

1. Annual Scientific Production and Average Citation Per Year

Annual scientific output grew steadily from 2000 to 2023, averaging 5.65% growth per year. This suggests a growing academic interest in the effectiveness of art-based interventions for improving the mental health of domestic violence survivors. Although the publication numbers in the WoS database fluctuated, there was an overall upward trend, reflecting sustained global attention and investment in this research area. However, this growth also highlights the need for more rigorous empirical studies to validate the efficacy of these interventions across diverse populations and settings.

2. Keyword Analysis and Co-occurrence Network

Keyword analysis showed that "art therapy" was the dominant term in both the WoS database and the Scopus database. The co-occurrence network analysis further highlighted the diversity and intersectionality of research themes. For instance, strong associations between "art therapy," "health," and "transmission" in WoS indicate a multifaceted and multi-dimensional nature of this research field. These findings demonstrate the broad scope of the research, encompassing specific therapeutic practices as well as broader mental health issues. Future research could benefit from exploring how cultural variations in art expression and therapy reception might influence the effectiveness of these interventions for domestic violence survivors from diverse backgrounds.

3. Key Journals and Academic Impact

Journal analysis showed that the International Journal of Art Therapy and Arts in Psychotherapy had significant academic impact in both the WoS and Scopus databases, underscoring their central role in this field. These journals not only focus on art therapy and psychotherapy but also cover public health, social work, and education, highlighting the importance of interdisciplinary research. To further advance the field, these key journals could encourage more longitudinal studies and randomized controlled trials to enhance the empirical rigor of art-based intervention research.

4. Author Impact and Country Research Output

Regarding author impact, Bird, J. emerged as the most influential author in Scopus, while no single author stood out in the WoS database. This reflects the distribution of academic influence across different databases. In terms of country research output, the United States and the United Kingdom led significantly, indicating their key roles in advancing research on art-based interventions. Canada, Australia, and Israel also showed increasing research outputs, reflecting a growing global interest and investment in this topic. While this global interest is encouraging, it also underscores the need for more cross-cultural studies to address potential access barriers and ensure the applicability of art-based interventions across different sociocultural contexts. Future research could benefit from international collaborations to develop standardized outcome measures and explore the integration of art-based interventions with other evidence-based therapies for domestic violence survivors.

Conclusion

This bibliometric analysis comprehensively reviewed the literature on the impact of art-based interventions on the mental health of domestic violence survivors from 2000 to 2023. The findings highlight a substantial increase in both the number of publications and citations, underscoring the growing academic and practical significance of this research area. The diverse and interdisciplinary nature of the research themes, spanning

art therapy, mental health, public health, and social work, reflects the complexity and broad relevance of art-based interventions.

Our bibliometric approach has revealed several key areas for future research priorities. This approach maps the evolution of research trends and identifies literature gaps, offering researchers a clear roadmap for targeting critical areas that require further exploration. The analysis identified a need for more studies focusing on long-term outcomes, cultural adaptations of art-based interventions, and their integration with other evidence-based therapies. Additionally, the relative scarcity of research from developing countries highlights a significant gap in the literature, suggesting an opportunity for more globally diverse studies.

Policymakers and mental health practitioners can leverage these findings to advocate for the incorporation of art-based interventions into existing therapeutic frameworks, ensuring a more holistic and culturally responsive approach to mental health care. Despite promising results, more rigorous empirical research is needed to confirm the effectiveness and uncover the mechanisms behind art-based interventions. Integrating these interventions into mental health care for domestic violence survivors is essential, and policymakers and practitioners must advocate for their adoption while securing additional funding for research and implementation. Interdisciplinary collaboration will be key to developing a comprehensive understanding and maximizing their impact. With great potential to improve survivors' mental health, future research should focus on refining these methods and establishing best practices to advance the field.

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