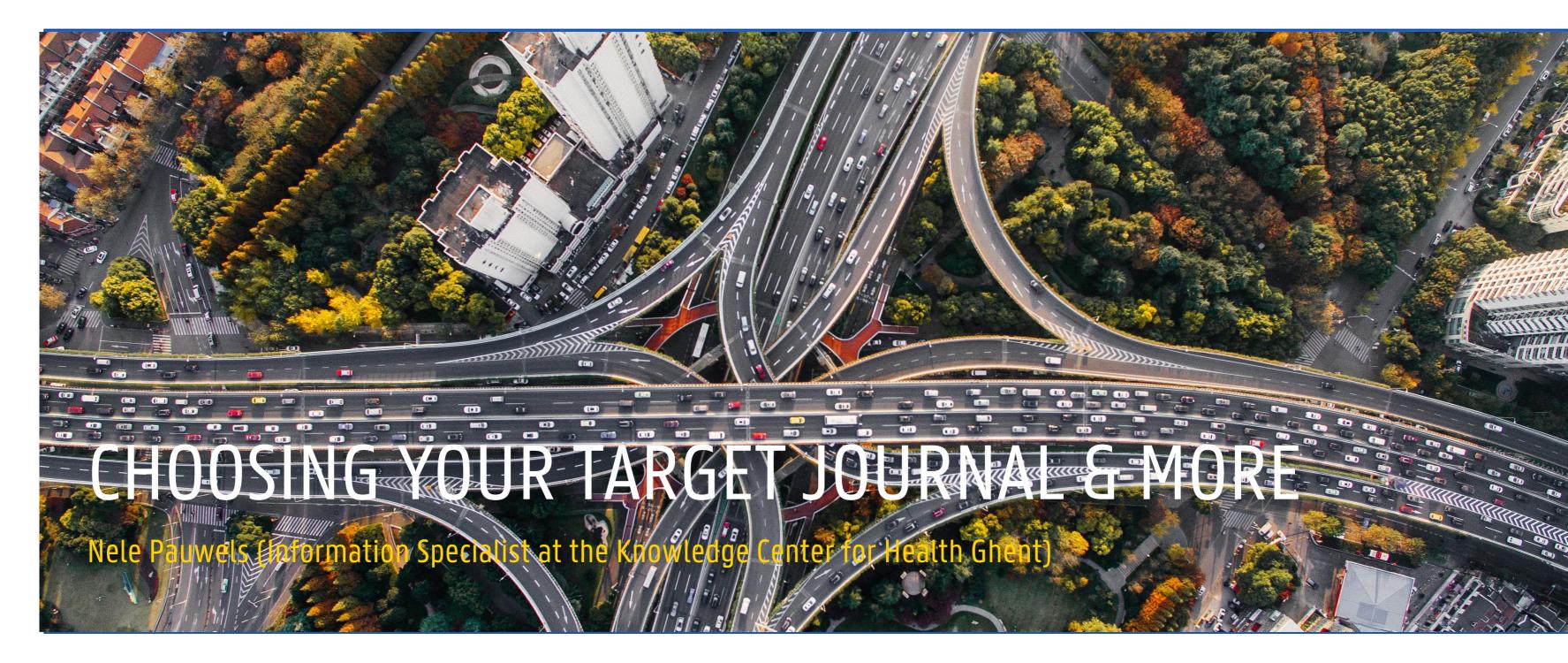
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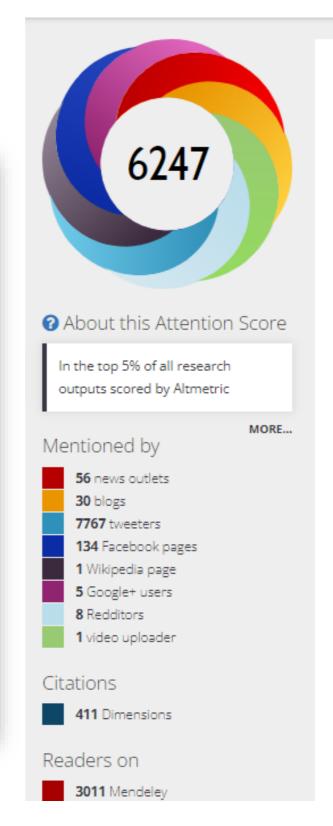


Work organization and mental health problems in PhD students

Katia Levecque ^{a, b} △ ☑, Frederik Anseel ^{a, b, c} ☑, Alain De Beuckelaer ^{d, e, a} ☑, Johan Van der Heyden ^{f, g} ☑, Lydia Gisle ^f ☑

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Authors Katia Levecque, Frederik Anseel, Alain De Beuckelaer, Johan Van der Heyden, Lydia Gisle

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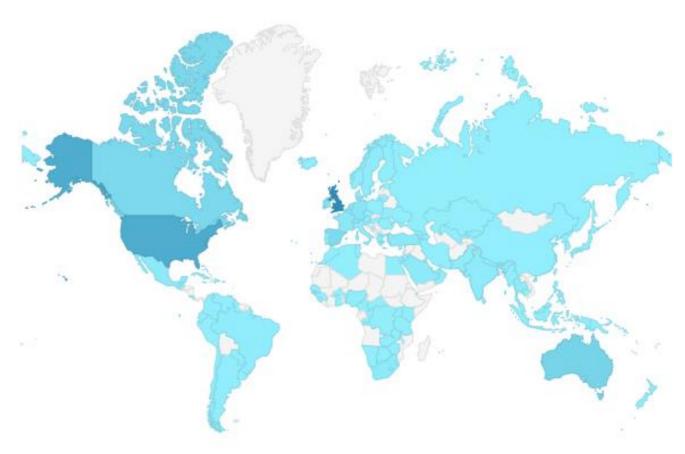
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Work organization and mental health problems in PhD students

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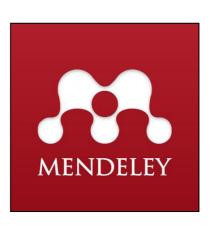


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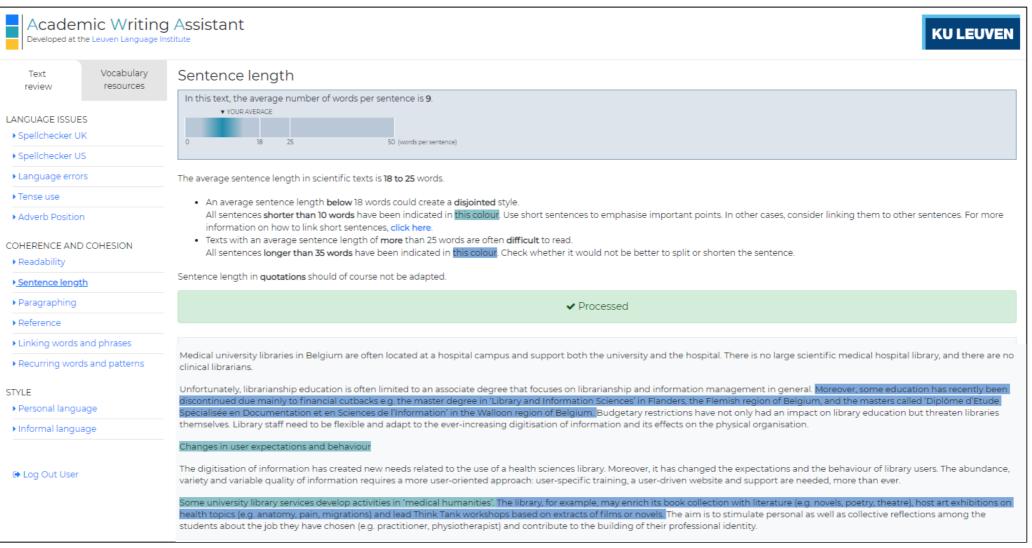
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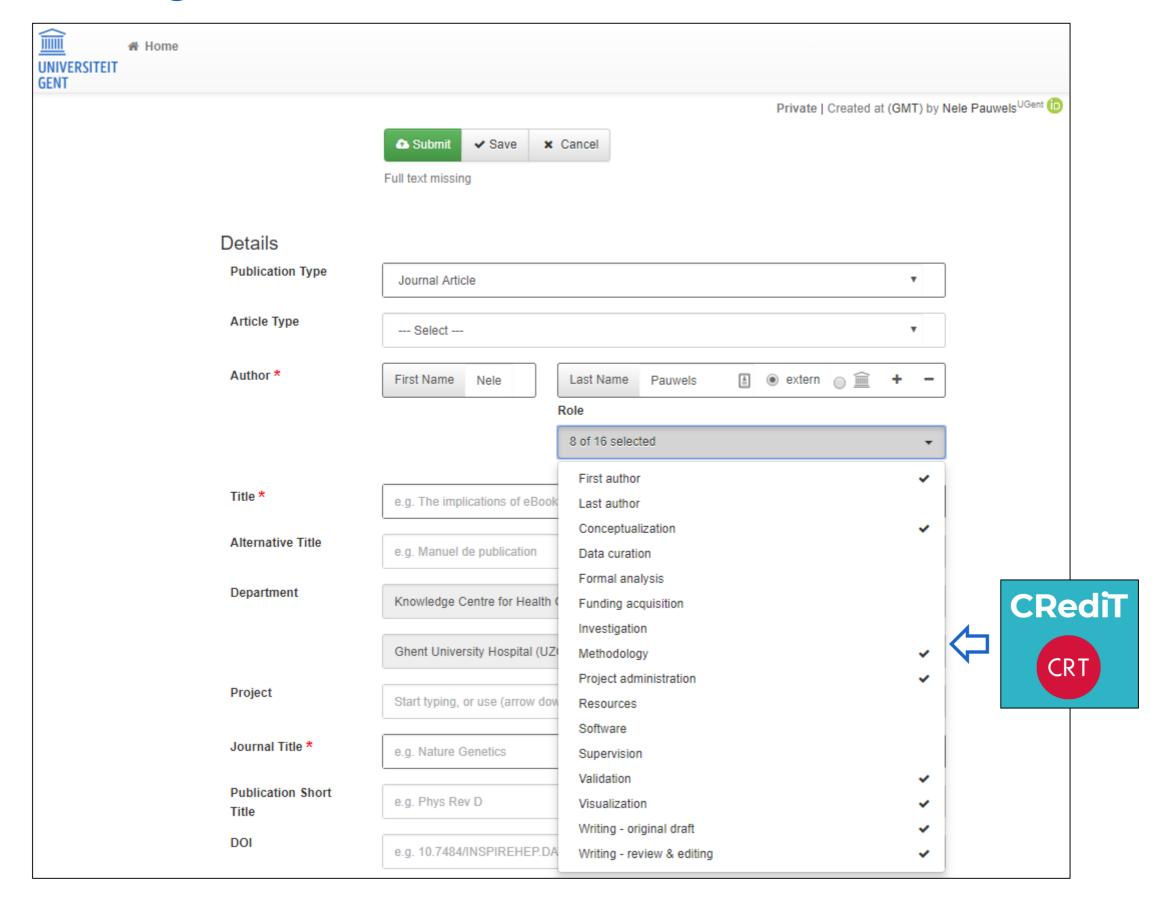
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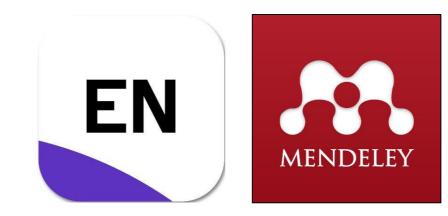
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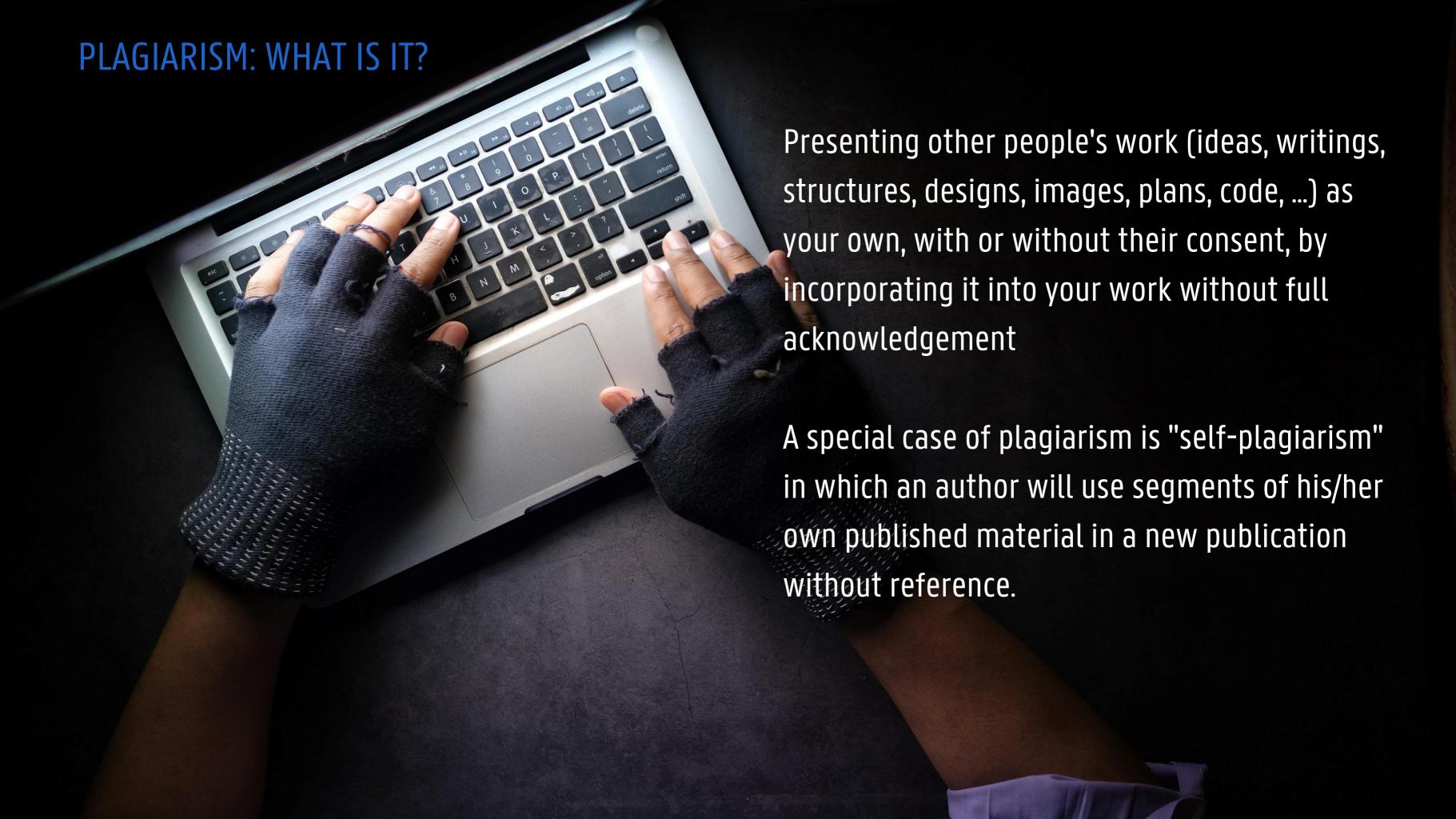
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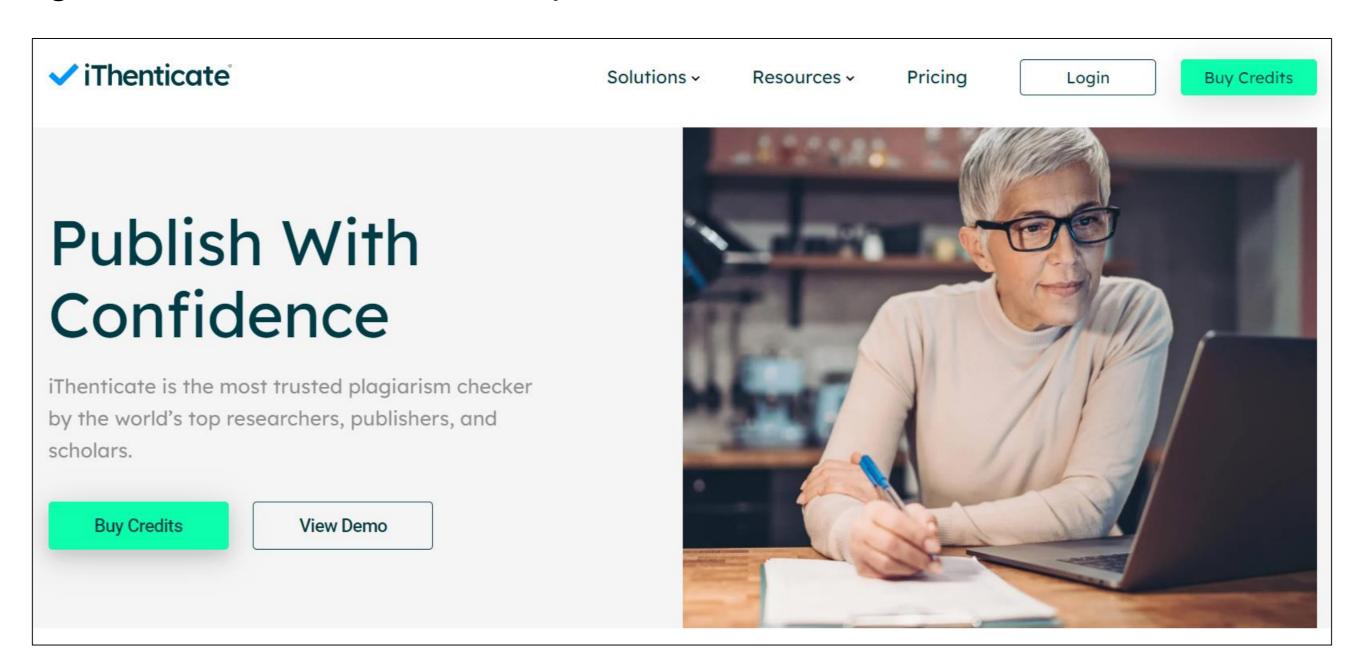
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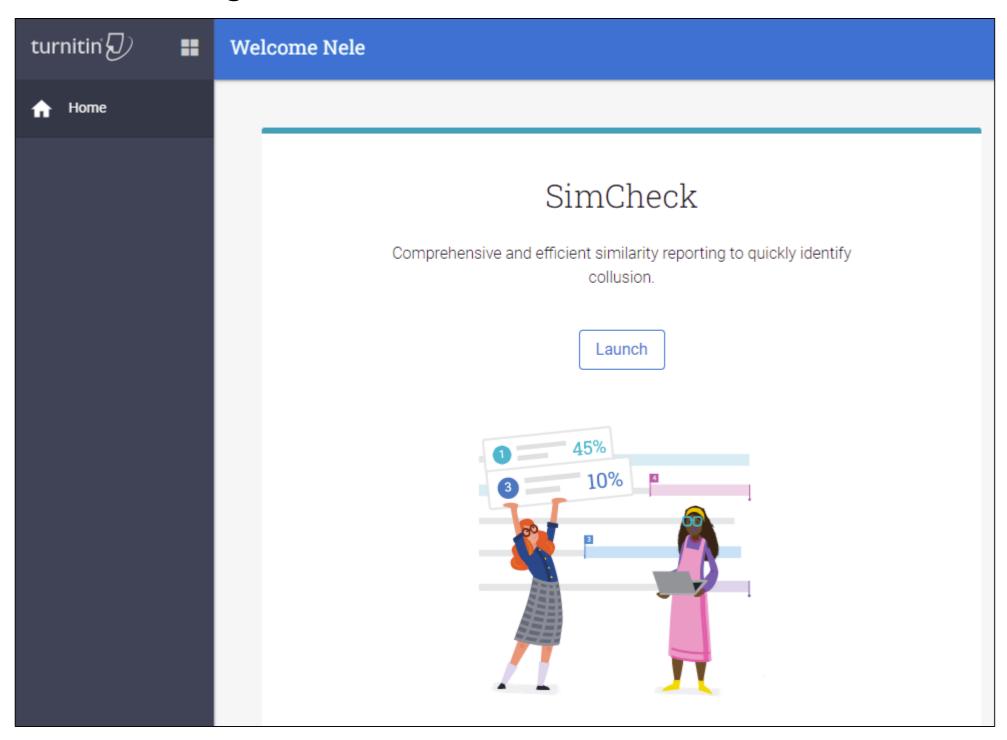
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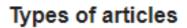
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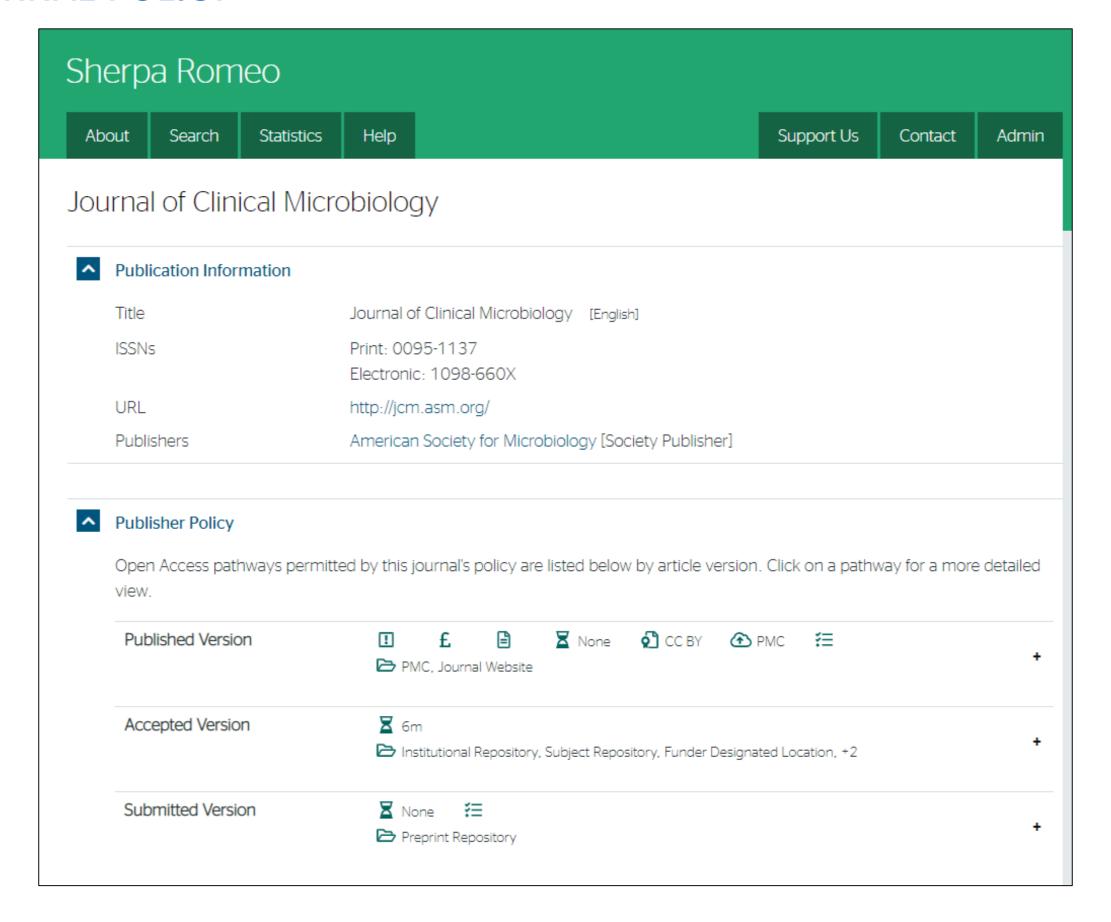
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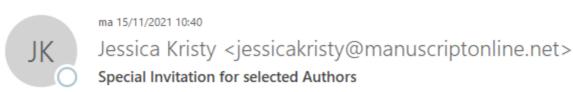


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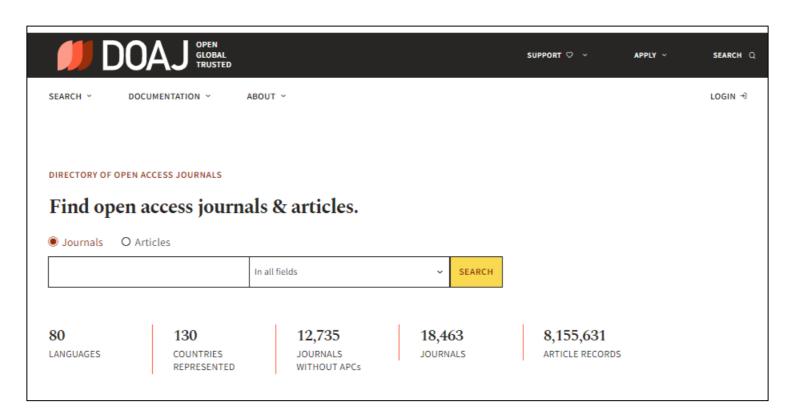
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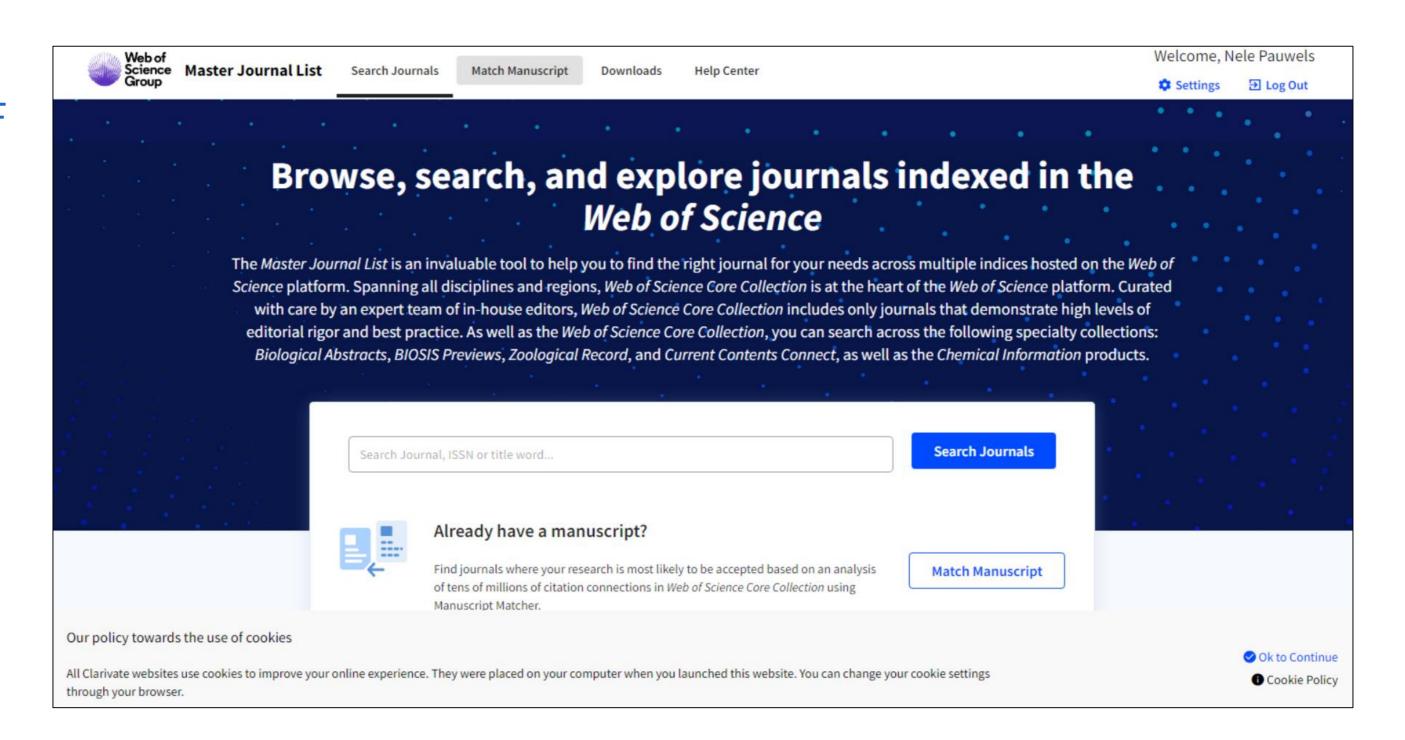
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Abstract

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is a progressive lung disease that is primarily caused by cigarette smoke (CS)-induced chronic inflammation. In this study, we investigated the function and mechanism of action of the long non-coding RNA (lncRNA) taurine-up-regulated gene 1 (TUG1) in CS-induced COPD. We found that the expression of TUG1 was significantly higher in the sputum cells and lung tissues of patients with COPD as compared to that in non-smokers, and negatively correlated with the percentage of predicted forced expiratory volume in 1 second. In addition, up-regulation of TUG1 was observed in CS-exposed mice, and knockdown of TUG1 attenuated inflammation and airway remodelling in a mouse model. Moreover, TUG1 expression was higher in CS extract (CSE)-treated human bronchial epithelial cells and lung fibroblasts, whereas inhibition of TUG1 reversed CSE-induced inflammation and collagen deposition in vitro. Mechanistically, TUG1 promoted the expression of dualspecificity phosphatase 6 (DUSP6) by sponging miR-145-5p. DUSP6 overexpression reversed TUG1 knockdown-mediated inhibition of inflammation and airway remodelling. These findings suggested an important role of TUG1 in the pathological alterations associated with CS-mediated airway remodelling in COPD. Thus, TUG1 may be a promising therapeutic target in CS-induced airway inflammation and fibroblast activation.

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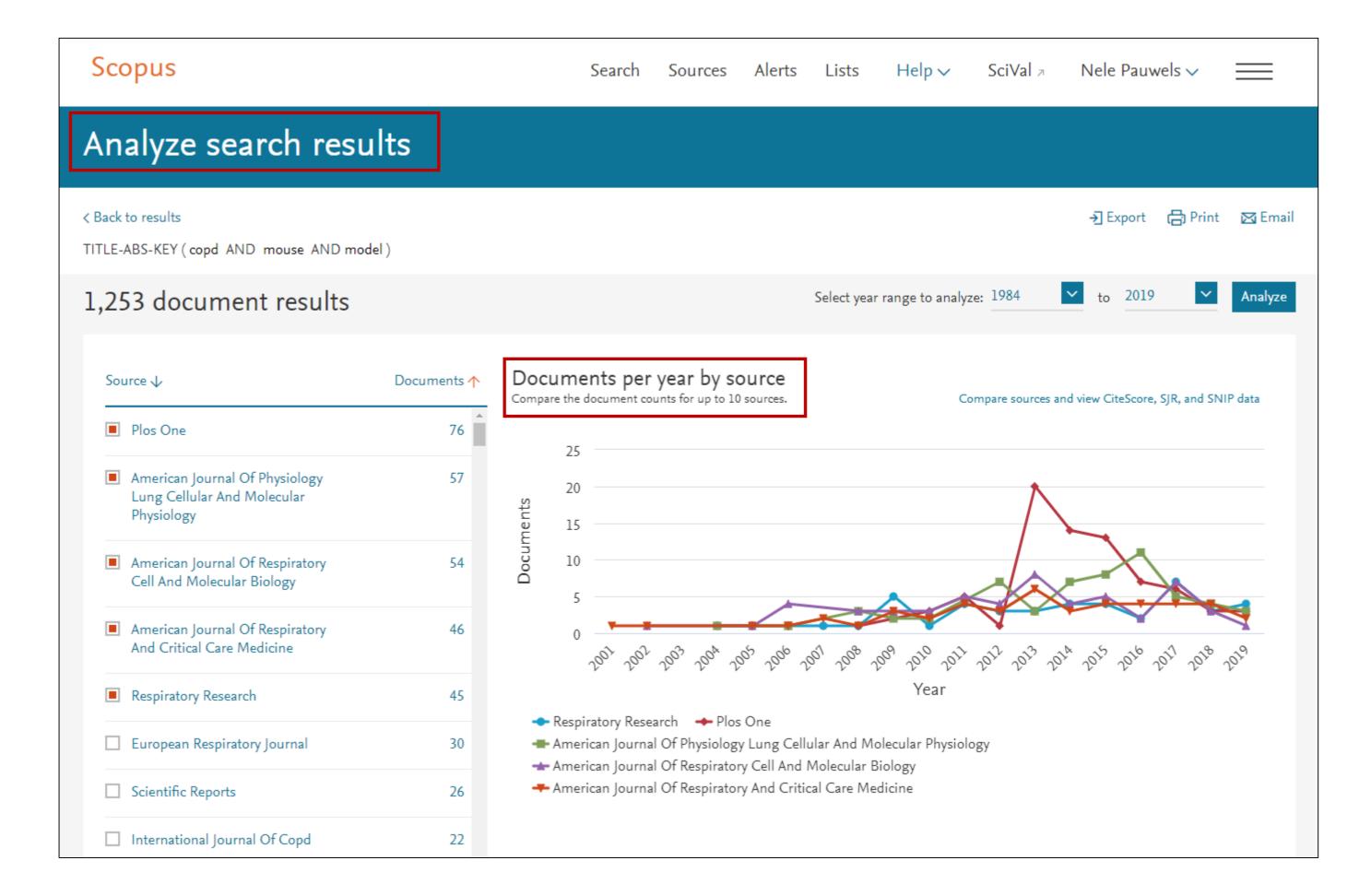
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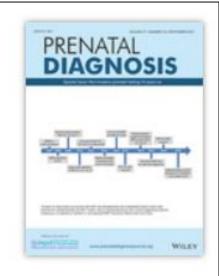
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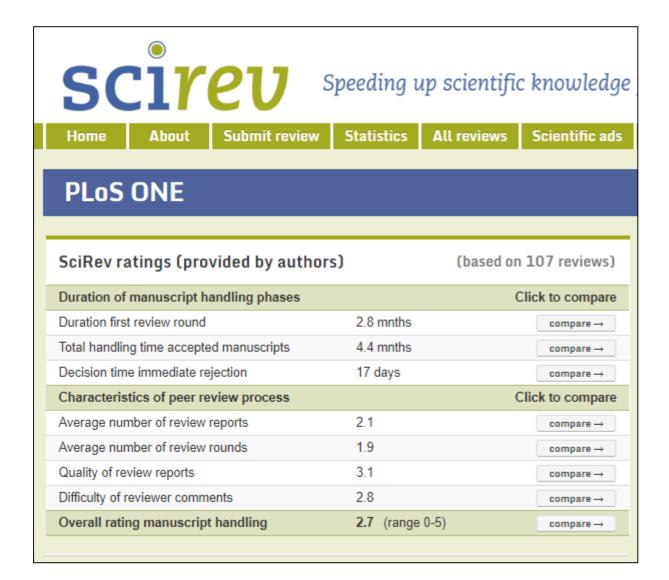
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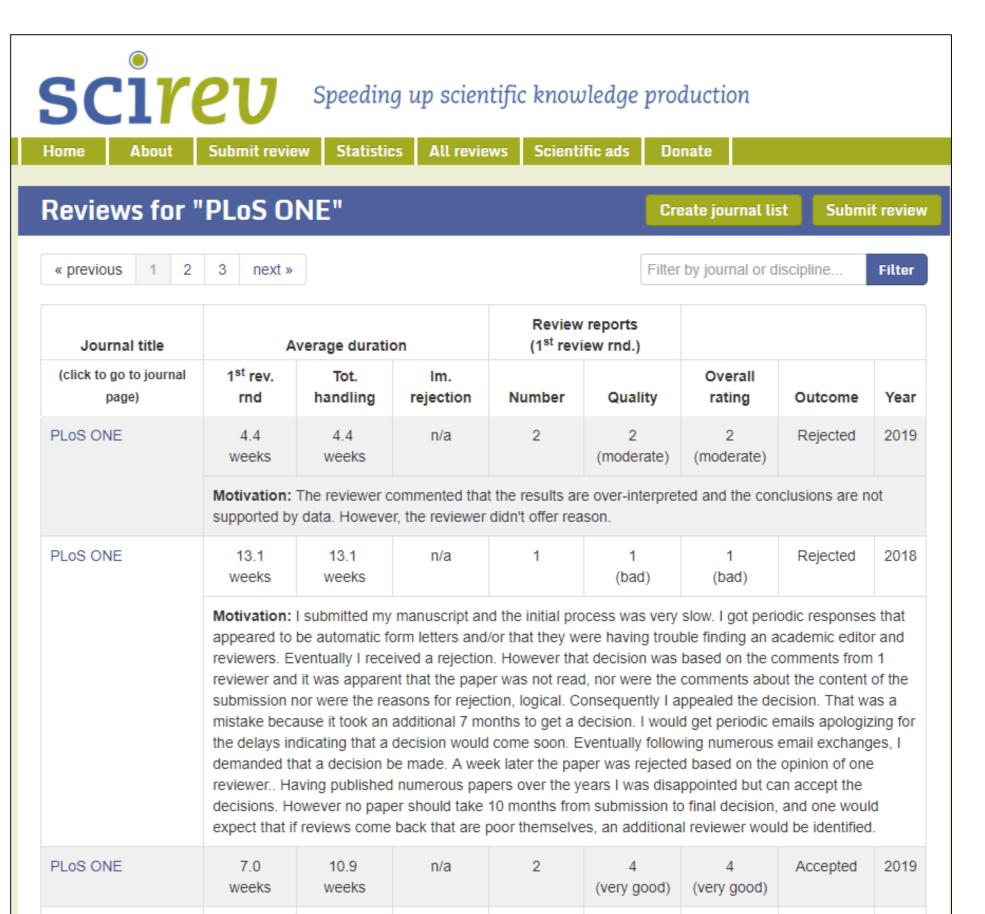
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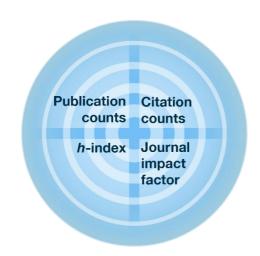


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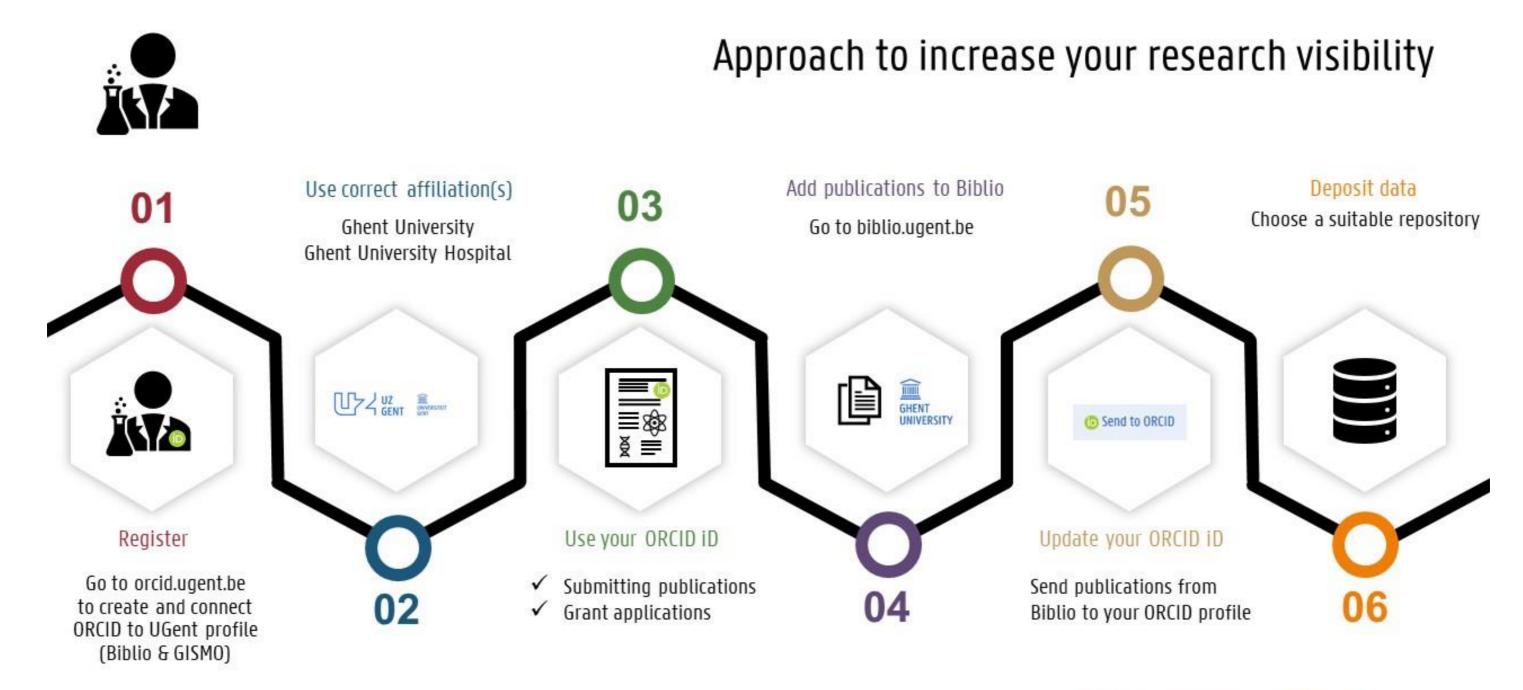
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