

How often are PhD thesis referenced in (epi)genetics?

Method: six papers representative for the field were selected by M. S., a PhD student. She was not aware of the purpose of this little research (5 papers), but when she learned about the purpose she sent another paper to prove that PhD references do exist.

year	author (1st)	title	references	phd-theses
2000	Maarel	De Novo Facioscapulohumeral ...	30	1
2006	Wagner	ZFP100, a Component ...	46	0
2008	Vaissière	Epigenetic interplay between ...	81	0
2010	Lemmers	Worldwide Population Analysis ...	35	0
2010	Balog	Epigenetic regulation ...	38	0
2011	Moseley	YY1 associates with ...	64	0

Comment: Maarel (2000) was #6 (selection bias) and is quite old.

recent := within a timespan of 10 years (now = 2012)

number of papers with a reference to a phd thesis

all	16,7%
recent	0,0%

percentage of references being a phd thesis

all	0,3%
recent	0,0%

Theses and papers:

Often, theses consist of (published) papers, and these papers are referenced. Still, this highlights the importance of papers published in journals and conference proceedings.

Shortcomings:

- The number of recent papers (n=5) is low.
- Only one researcher (M.S.) was asked to deliver papers.

Conclusion: PhD theses are not a significant part of references in (epi)genetics.

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