



# The impact of institutional repositories: A systematic review

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## OBJECTIVE

Institutional repositories (IR) are an ideal outlet to present and publicize output that might not be suitable for publication in a scholarly journal or to meet open data requirements. However, there are many challenges associated with their startup and upkeep. The objective of this study is to concretely define the various impacts that an institutional repository can provide for an academic institution, thusly justifying its implementation and/or maintenance.







## METHODS

A comprehensive literature search was performed in March 2018 in the following databases from inception: Ovid MEDLINE, Ovid EMBASE, The Cochrane Library (Wiley), ERIC (ProQuest), Web of Science (Core Collection), Scopus (Elsevier), and Library, Information Science & Technology Abstracts (EBSCO). A total of 6,544 citations were screened against predefined inclusion/exclusion criteria.

## RESULTS

- 7** studies focused on the increased exposure or discoverability from IRs
- 5** studies described the positive impact IRs had on citation count
- 1** study discusses pushing publication information from the IR into ORCID profiles

## SELECT KEY STUDIES

	Baessa 2015 IR populates ORCID, maintaining current author profiles		Stone 2014 ETDs are being cited in peer-reviewed journals
	VanWyk 2014 IRs are able to enhance access to global research		Smith 2011 ETDs in IRs are being used as evidence for Wikipedia entries
	Gargouri 2010 Open access from deposition in IR results in higher citation count		Linde 2012 25% of conference proceedings examined were only found in IR

## CONCLUSION

Based on the available literature, institutional repositories do appear to have a positive impact in the following areas: citation count, exposure/presence, and administrative burden. In order to make more concrete conclusions, additional, higher quality studies are needed.