

Highlights

Toward an observatory of the evolution of clinical trials through phylomemy reconstruction: the COVID-19 vaccines example.

- Inadequate planning and lack of research coordination is an important source of research waste. We need new tools to improve research planning.
- Phylomemy reconstruction process – a new text mining method – allows exploring the temporal evolution of registered clinical trials.
- Phylomemy reconstruction synthesizes the complexity of the knowledge produced by the research community and provides deep understanding of research planning over time.