



RETRACTIONS, REPUTATIONS, AND RESPONSIBILITY

Safeguarding Integrity in
Academic Health Research

Matthew Folse
Scholarly Communications
Librarian

Dr. Julie Schiavo
Assistant Director, Dental
Library

WHAT IS SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY?

Scientific integrity is the adherence to professional practices, ethical behavior, and the principles of honesty and objectivity when conducting, managing, using the results of, and communicating about science and scientific activities. Transparency and protection from inappropriate influence are hallmarks of scientific integrity.

WHAT IS RESEARCH INTEGRITY?

Refers to the use of honest and verifiable methods in proposing, performing, and evaluating research; reporting research results with particular attention to adherence to rules, regulations, and guidelines; and following commonly accepted professional codes or norms.

WHAT IS RESEARCH MISCONDUCT?

Refers to fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results. Research misconduct does not include honest error or differences of opinion.





TYPES OF RESEARCH MISCONDUCT

- FFP: Falsification, Fabrication, and Plagiarism
- QRP: Questionable Research Practices
 - Copycat Studies
 - Least Publishable Units (a.k.a.: LPUs or “Salami Slicing”)
 - Duplicate Submission / Duplicate Publication

AUTHORSHIP QUESTIONS

The International Committee of Medical Journal Editors provide 4 essential criteria to define what an Author is:

- Substantial Contributions to concept, design, or data
- Critical Input for drafting or reviewing the work
- Approval of final manuscript
- Accountable for accuracy and results of the work

WHAT ARE PAPERMILLS?

“Paper mills are organizations or individuals that aim to profit from the creation, sale, peer review and/or citation of manuscripts at scale which contain low value or fraudulent content and/or authorship, with the aim of publication in scholarly journals.”

Commonly work with predatory publishers.

A GLOBAL ISSUE

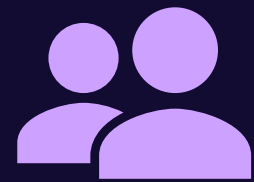
Anywhere research is conducted, so does research misconduct. This makes it a global issue, as much as an institutional, commercial or individual issue.

“... Scientists admitted to have fabricated, falsified or modified data or results at least once... and up to 33.7% admitted other questionable research practices. In surveys asking about the behaviour of colleagues, admission rates were 14.12%... for falsification, and up to 72% for other questionable research practices.”

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?



Institutions



Supervisors
& Mentors



Authors &
Colleagues



Journals &
Publishers

CONSEQUENCES OF ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Examples of consequences:

- Losing position or funding
- Damaging future research potential
- Damaging institutional and professional reputation
- Negatively affecting public policy and decision making

WHAT ARE RETRACTIONS?

Retractions are when a peer-reviewed, published article are pulled from circulation by the publisher. Retracting an article is not inherently punitive. Retractions are essential to upholding the integrity of the literature.

The trustworthiness of Science should be the paramount concern.

REASONS FOR RETRCTIONS

- Evidence of errors
- Irregularities in data, figures or images
- Misrepresenting findings
- Republication
- Evidence of unethical practices
- Compromised peer-review
- Undisclosed conflicts of interest

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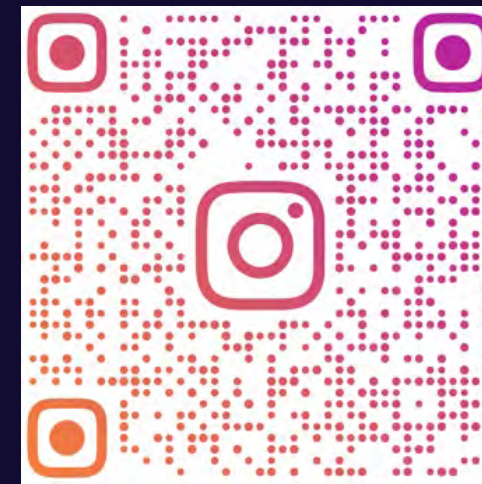
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Dr. Julie Schiavo
Assistant Director,
Dental Library

jschia@lsuhsc.edu

mfols3@lsuhsc.edu

Matthew Fols
Scholarly
Communications
Librarian

reference@lsuhsc.edu

DentLib@lsuhsc.edu