

PUBLICATION ETHICS⁺

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ABSTRACT

At present, there are many journals for academic society. An important concern is on the publication ethics. Without ethical guideline, one might easily perform an unacceptable misconduct. In this specific short review, the author summarize on important aspect of publication ethics.

KEYWORDS: Ethics, Publication.

INTRODUCTION

At present, there are many journals for academic society. An important concern is on the publication ethics. Without ethical guideline, one might easily perform an unacceptable misconduct. The first important concepts are "TRUTH AND DECLARATION is very important" and "Good man follow a good ways and practices good things" The publication ethics is very important. The ethical violations are highly prevalent and the rates of detection are very low. No ethics mean no quality of control and promotion of the "guilty" which finally result in "conflict" In this specific short review, the author summarize on important aspect of publication ethics.

ETHICAL CHALLENGE IN PUBLISHING?

- **PUBLISHING INFORMATION OF PRIVACY DATA**

This is usually a big issue for biomedical journal. Many data are considered privacy, especially

those of clinical data of patients. As a general rule, Human/ animal subjects Statement is needed. This means there must be a "declaration that the study was reviewed by an Ethical Review Committee." For publication of confident data, O'Neill et al. concluded that "a process known as *"anonymization."* Posting health information that has been properly "de-identified" is assumed to pose no risks to patient privacy [1]."

- **EDITORS' DUTY [2]**

The editor has to strictly follow the ethical guideline. Justice is needed for any problematic case. The editor should have protection from any pressure for working on the editorial duty. As noted by Davis and Müllner [3], "Stronger safeguards are needed to give editors protection against pressure over editorial content, including written guarantees of editorial freedom and governance structures that support those guarantees [3]."

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- **CONFLICT OF INTEREST [4]**

Conflict of Interest Statement is a basic requirement in any publication. The declaration is a declaration of real and apparent conflicts and has to be approved and signed for confirmation by author. Having a conflict is not a problem but failure to declare is a problem. As already noted, the declaration of conflict of interest is required. This problem is often in medical publishing. The sponsorship by a private company might exist and this might relate to the bias of the report in the publication.

- **MISCONDUCT [4]**

Misconduct is a common unwanted ethical practice and is the violation of ethics. Any journal should have policies against any kind of misconduct

Here are the common misconduct see in publication:

CARELESSNESS

This might be by attempt or not. The common problem is the bias in citation. It is suggested for reading before you summarize and cite. The style of reference has to be checked.

REDUNDANT PUBLICATION

The redundant publication by fractionating or salami publication is totally unethical.

AUTHORSHIP PROBLEM [5]

In fact, Authorship statement, a declaration of substantive contribution signed by all authors is basically required by the journal. The common problem includes omitting of some authors, gift and ghost author. If the journal detect the problem, the declaration of the ethical problem finding is necessary (see example in [6].) It is very amazing that some articles have extremely many authors and it seems impossible. The good case study is on the "Higgs article" that has 1,280

authors. There are many simple problems regarding gift and ghost authors. These are common examples. "I won't allow you to perform the research or will not promote you if you do not let me to have the name in your research" and "Please get the percentage sharing in this article as my gift!" Strict following of the authorship guideline can be the way to solve the problem.

HUMAN/ANIMAL SUBJECTS VIOLATIONS

This is the basic problem and is usually relating to the poor research ethics rather than publication ethics.

PLAGIARISM

The plagiarism is very common problem. This also includes the self-plagiarism problem. In general, redundant Publication Statement and Duplicate submission Statement are needed to be provided from the authors to the journal. The plagiarism can be seen in many forms including to conceptual plagiarism, figure plagiarism and translational plagiarism [7]. A more complex situation is the "potluck paper" which is a decoupage art of using plagiarized materials from several sources to construct a new paper. The hidden plagiarism by hiring is also another unwanted but difficult to diagnosed type of plagiarism.

FRAUD, FABRICATION AND FALSIFICATION

These actions are totally unwanted but commonly seen. It can also be observed in publications from any countries by any institutes.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: None

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