

50 años Revista de Metalurgia

Ética en las publicaciones científicas

Miguel García Guerrero
Comité de Ética del CSIC



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Integridad científica

Comportamiento ético que conlleva la observancia y promoción de principios morales y profesionales:

- Honestidad
- Responsabilidad
- Objetividad
- Imparcialidad
- Independencia
- Fiabilidad
- Diligencia
- Circunspección
- Respeto y reconocimiento de la labor de otros
-

RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT OF RESEARCH (RCR); RESPONSIBLE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION (RRI)

La Ciencia persigue encontrar la verdad ...y comunicarla

Su finalidad es conseguir el mejor conocimiento y
comprensión de la realidad

...y compartirlo

*"The only ethical principle which has made
science possible is that the truth shall be told
all the time..."*

*And of course a false statement of fact, made
deliberately, is the most serious crime a
scientist can commit."*



C. P. Snow (1905-1980)

The Search (1934)

Fraude

Cualquier tipo de acción contraria a la verdad o a la rectitud, cuyo objetivo sea el de conseguir un beneficio en perjuicio de otro (individuo, organización, comunidad...)

En Ciencia:

- ✓ Conducta contraria a la deontología científica (integridad científica/investigadora)
- ✓ Cualquier forma de mala praxis en investigación, con el interés primario de engañar

fraude = mala praxis

Mala Praxis/Research Misconduct

Department of Health and Human Services, USA

Working Definition based on the definitions from Office of Research
Integrity & National Science Foundation

La mala praxis* (fraude) implica fabricación, falsificación o plagio (FFP) en la propuesta, ejecución o revisión de investigación, o en la comunicación de los correspondientes resultados

- **Fabricación:** fabulación de datos o resultados y su registro o comunicación.
- **Falsificación:** manipulación de materiales, equipos o procesos, o cambio u omisión de datos o resultados, de modo que la investigación no quede representada con autenticidad en los registros.
- **Plagio:** apropiación de ideas, procesos, resultados o palabras de otra persona sin concederle el crédito apropiado.

* *sensu stricto*

Mala praxis, Research Misconduct

Otras definiciones:

Norwegian Committee on Scientific Dishonesty:

‘all serious deviation from accepted ethical research practice in proposing, performing, and reporting research’.

British consensus conference (Edinburgh, 2000):

‘Behaviour by a researcher, intentional or not, that falls short of good ethical and scientific standards’

Mala praxis, Research Misconduct

Otras definiciones:

The Research Integrity Office of the United Kingdom (UKRIO) defines **misconduct in research** as including, but not limited to:

- a) Fabrication;
- b) Falsification;
- c) Misrepresentation of data and/or interests and/or involvement;
- d) Plagiarism; and
- e) Failures to follow accepted procedures or to exercise due care in carrying out responsibilities for:
 - i) avoiding unreasonable risk or harm to:
 - humans;
 - animals used in research; and
 - the environment; and
 - ii) the proper handling of privileged or private information on individuals collected during the research.

The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity

Research misconduct can appear in many guises:

- *Fabrication* involves making up results and recording them as if they were real;
- *Falsification* involves manipulating research processes or changing or omitting data;
- *Plagiarism* is the appropriation of other people's material without giving proper credit;
- Other forms of misconduct include *failure to meet clear ethical and legal requirements* such as misrepresentation of interests, breach of confidentiality, lack of informed consent and abuse of research subjects or materials.
Misconduct also includes *improper dealing* with infringements, such as attempts to cover up misconduct and reprisals on whistleblowers;
- *Minor misdemeanours* may not lead to formal investigations, but are just as damaging given their probable frequency, and should be corrected by teachers and mentors.

La magnitud del problema

OPEN ACCESS Freely available online



How Many Scientists Fabricate and Falsify Research? A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Survey Data

Daniele Fanelli* 2009

INNOGEN and ISSTI-Institute for the Study of Science, Technology & Innovation, The University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom

Abstract

The frequency with which scientists fabricate and falsify data, or commit other forms of scientific misconduct is a matter of controversy. Many surveys have asked scientists directly whether they have committed or know of a colleague who committed research misconduct, but their results appeared difficult to compare and synthesize. This is the first meta-analysis of these surveys. To standardize outcomes, the number of respondents who recalled at least one incident of misconduct was calculated for each question, and the analysis was limited to behaviours that distort scientific knowledge: fabrication, falsification, "cooking" of data, etc... Survey questions on plagiarism and other forms of professional misconduct were excluded. The final sample consisted of 21 surveys that were included in the systematic review, and 18 in the meta-analysis. A pooled weighted average of 1.97% (N = 7, 95%CI: 0.86–4.45) of scientists admitted to have fabricated, falsified or modified data or results at least once – a serious form of misconduct by any standard – and up to 33.7% admitted other questionable research practices. In surveys asking about the behaviour of colleagues, admission rates were 14.12% (N = 12, 95% CI: 9.91–19.72) for falsification, and up to 72% for other questionable research practices. Meta-regression showed that self reports surveys, surveys using the words "falsification" or "fabrication", and mailed surveys yielded lower percentages of misconduct. When these factors were controlled for, misconduct was reported more frequently by medical/pharmacological researchers than others. Considering that these surveys ask sensitive questions and have other limitations, it appears likely that this is a conservative estimate of the true prevalence of scientific misconduct.

Citation: Fanelli D (2009) How Many Scientists Fabricate and Falsify Research? A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Survey Data. PLoS ONE 4(5): e5738. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0005738

- *21 estudios
- ***Científicos que admiten falsificación y/o fabricación (excluyendo plagio) : 1,97% (CI: 0.86–4.45)**
- ***Otros tipos de malas prácticas (praxis cuestionable, QRP): 33,7%**
- ***Científicos que han conocido falsificación y/o fabricación de otros: 14,1%**
- ***Que han conocido QRP de otros: 72%**

Algunas características de la mala praxis

- Se da en todas las latitudes, tanto en países con economía próspera como en los de economía modesta¹
- Ocurre en todas las escalas y niveles, desde el investigador en formación al científico senior²
- Entre los científicos que cometen mala praxis se registra una sobrerrepresentación masculina, siendo el sesgo de la razón entre géneros más pronunciado para el caso de los científicos senior²
- Se encuentra más extendida en la investigación clínica, farmacológica y médica que en otros campos³

¹Ana J, Koehlmoos T, Smith R, Yan LL (2013) Research Misconduct in Low- and Middle-Income Countries. PLoS Med 10(3): e1001315. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed.1001315

²Fang FC, Bennett JW, Casadevall A. (2013) Males are overrepresented among life science researchers committing scientific misconduct. mBio 4(1):e00640-12. doi:10.1128/mBio.00640-12

³Fanelli D (2009) How Many Scientists Fabricate and Falsify Research? a Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Survey Data. PLoS One 4 (5). doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0005738

Praxis cuestionable

Vol 435|9 June 2005

nature

COMMENTARY

Scientists behaving badly

“To protect the integrity of science, we must look beyond falsification, fabrication and plagiarism, to a wider range of questionable research practices”

Martinson BC, Anderson MS, de Vries R (2005) Scientists behaving badly. Nature 435: 737-738;
doi:10.1038/435737a

Praxis cuestionable

(Otras malas prácticas científicas, adicionales a FFP)

- ✓ Apropiación indebida de autoría o falsa información sobre la misma
- ✓ Omisión de declaración de conflictos de interés o fuentes de financiación
- ✓ Exclusión de datos “desviados” sin mencionarlo expresamente
- ✓ Omisión de información sobre condiciones críticas (M&M)
- ✓ Abuso del sistema de revisión por pares
- ✓ Excesos en la interpretación de los resultados
- ✓ Omisión intencionada de referencias
- ✓ Presentación pública de resultados sin sustanciar adecuadamente
- ✓ Obstrucción de la investigación realizada por otros
- ✓ Encubrimiento o facilitación de mala praxis por parte de otros
- ✓ Abuso de liderazgo. Negligencia en el ejercicio del liderazgo
- ✓ ...

¿Por qué ocurre?

- Presión por publicar y progresar
- Presión por obtener financiación
- Deseo de destacar sobre otros
- Incentivos económicos
- Exagerada autosuficiencia
- Problemas personales
- Problemas psicológicos
- ...

Fama, promoción, plantilla y financiación son incentivos tentadores

La naturaleza del sistema de “recompensas” también contribuye

Publicar o perecer



"It's publish or perish, and he hasn't published"

Richter (1966) "The New Yorker" Magazine, Inc

Learned Publishing, 24:95–97 (2011)
doi:10.1087/20110203

The outflow of academic papers from China: why is it happening and can it be stemmed?

SHAO Jufang and SHEN Huiyun

*Second Affiliated Hospital of Zhejiang University College of Medicine,
Hangzhou, People's Republic of China*

Table 1 Monetary reward system in Zhejiang University

Journal classification	Monetary award	
<i>Nature</i> or <i>Science</i>	200,000 RMB (first author); decreased by 50% according to the sequence of authors	\$ 32000
SCI journals (first author)		
IF < 1	2,000 RMB	\$ 320
$1 \leq \text{IF} < 3$	3,000 RMB	\$ 430
$3 \leq \text{IF} < 5$	4,000 RMB	\$ 640
$5 \leq \text{IF} < 10$	5,000 RMB	\$ 800
IF ≥ 10	14,000 RMB	\$ 2240
EI journals (first author)	1,800 RMB	\$ 288
ISTP (first author)	600 RMB	\$ 96



China's Publication Bazaar

A *Science* investigation has uncovered a smorgasbord of questionable practices including paying for author's slots on papers written by other scientists and buying papers from online brokers

www.sciencemag.org **SCIENCE** VOL 342 29 NOVEMBER 2013
Published by AAAS

A 5-month investigation by *Science* has uncovered a flourishing academic black market involving shady agencies, corrupt scientists, and compromised editors many of them operating in plain view. The commodity: papers in journals indexed by Thomson Reuters' Science Citation Index (SCI), Thomson Reuters' Social Sciences Citation Index, and Elsevier's Engineering Index.

First co-author of an article: 90.000 RMB (US\$ 14,400)



THE DARK SIDE OF PUBLISHING

The explosion in open-access publishing has fuelled the rise of questionable operators.

Spam e-mails changed the life of Jeffrey Beall. It was 2008, and Beall, an academic librarian and a researcher at the University of Colorado in Denver, started to notice an increasing flow of messages from new journals soliciting him to submit articles or join their editorial boards. "I immediately became fascinated because most of the e-mails contained numerous grammatical errors," Beall says. He started browsing the journals' websites, and was soon convinced that many of the journals and their publishers were not quite what they claimed. The names often sounded grand — adjectives such as 'world', 'global' and 'international' were common — but some sites looked amateurish or gave little information about the organization behind them.

Since then, Beall has become a relentless watchdog for what he describes as "potential, possible or probable predatory scholarly open-access publishers", listing and scrutinizing them on his blog, Scholarly Open Access. Open-access publishers often collect fees from authors to pay for peer review, editing and website maintenance. Beall asserts that the goal of predatory open-access publishers is to exploit this model by charging the fee

BY DECLAN BUTLER

without providing all the expected publishing services. These publishers, Beall says, typically display "an intention to deceive authors and readers, and a lack of transparency in their operations and processes".

Beall says that he regularly receives e-mails from researchers unhappy about their experiences with some open-access journals. Some say that they thought their papers had been poorly peer reviewed or not peer reviewed at all, or that they found themselves listed as members of editorial boards they had not agreed to serve on. Others feel they were not informed clearly, when submitting papers to publishers, that publication would entail a fee — only to face an invoice after the paper had been accepted. According to Beall, whose list now includes more than 300 publishers, collectively issuing thousands of journals, the problem is getting worse. "2012 was basically the year of the predatory publisher; that was when they really exploded," says Beall. He estimates that such outfits publish 5–10% of all open-access articles.

Beall's list and blog are widely read by librarians, researchers and open-access advocates, many of whom applaud his efforts to reveal shady publishing practices — ones that, they



BUYER BEWARE

A checklist to identify reputable publishers

How to perform due diligence before submitting to a journal or publisher.

- Check that the publisher provides full, verifiable contact information, including address, on the journal site. Be cautious of those that provide only web contact forms.
- Check that a journal's editorial board lists recognized experts with full affiliations. Contact some of them and ask about their experience with the journal or publisher.
- Check that the journal prominently displays its policy for author fees.
- Bewary of e-mail invitations to submit to journals or to become editorial board members.
- Read some of the journal's published articles and assess their quality. Contact past authors to ask about their experience.
- Check that a journal's peer-review process is clearly described and try to confirm that a claimed impact factor is correct.
- Find out whether the journal is a member of an industry association that vets its members, such as the Directory of Open Access Journals (www.doaj.org) or the Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association (www.oaspa.org).
- Use common sense, as you would when shopping online: if something looks fishy, proceed with caution. **DB.**

Jeffrey Beall's list of 'predatory' journals and publishers

<http://scholarlyoa.com/>

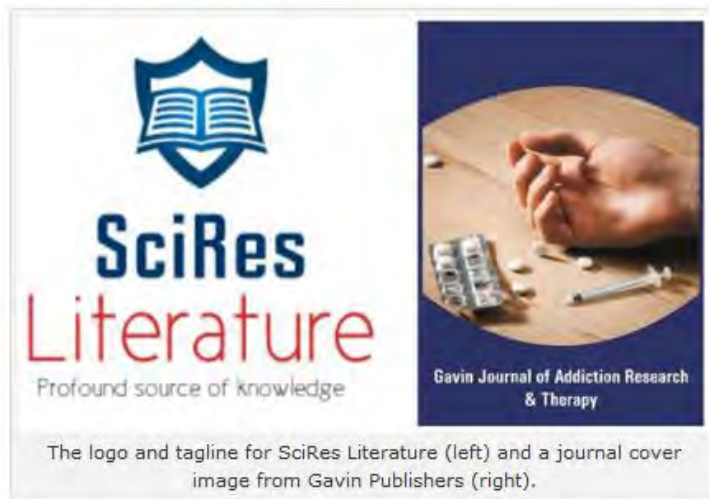
Scholarly Open Access

Critical analysis of scholarly open-access publishing

[Home](#) [About the Author](#) [Disclaimer](#) [LIST OF PUBLISHERS](#) [LIST OF STANDALONE JOURNALS](#)

[Other pages](#)

Two New Pay-to-Publish Startups: SciRes Literature and Gavin Publishers



The logo and tagline for SciRes Literature (left) and a journal cover image from Gavin Publishers (right).

The system of payments from authors is spurring the creation of many new companies seeking researchers' money, especially grant-funded researchers. Many of these new companies are pay-to-publish scholarly publishers, including these two, [SciRes Literature](#) and [Gavin Publishers](#).

SciRes Literature

Let's start with SciRes Literature, which — apparently — is short for Scientific Research Literature. Its tagline is "Profound source of

Search

RECENT POSTS

- o Concerns about Dirty Data in the ORCID Database
- o Strange Website Claims it is a Respected Citation Index
- o Two New Pay-to-Publish Startups: SciRes Literature and Gavin Publishers
- o BioMed Central Accepts and Quickly Publishes an Obvious Junk Paper
- o David Publishing Company, a Massive Spammer from China

ARCHIVES

Select Month

CATEGORIES

- o article processing charges
- o Australia
- o Mandates
- o Misleading metrics
- o Open-access policy
- o Open-access sanctions
- o Plagiarism

SOCIAL SELECTION

Popular topics
on social media

Backlash over journals blacklisting

Researchers on social media are split over the decision of academic librarian Jeffrey Beall to add the *Frontiers* journals to his 'blacklist' of "questionable publishers". Beall, at the University of Colorado Denver, announced the move in a tweet, saying that it followed "wide disapproval from scientists". His website Scholarly Open Access maintains a list of journals that may be "predatory publishers" — a term Beall coined for publications that charge scientists fees to publish research but that do not offer services such as peer review, or that make misleading claims on impact factors or indexing. Critics of Beall's blacklisting of *Frontiers* maintain that the open-access publisher is reputable and does offer proper peer review. Daniël Lakens, an experimental psychologist at the Eindhoven University of Technology in the Netherlands and an associate editor at *Frontiers in Psychology: Cognition*,

NATURE.COM
For more on
popular papers:
go.nature.com/ch66au

tweeted: "Frontiers being added to Beall's list reveals the big weakness of Beall's list: It's not based on solid data, but on Beall's intuition." Beall told *Nature* that he stands by his decision.

29 OCTOBER 2015 | VOL 526 | NATURE | 613

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access

'Predatory' open access: a longitudinal study of article volumes and market characteristics



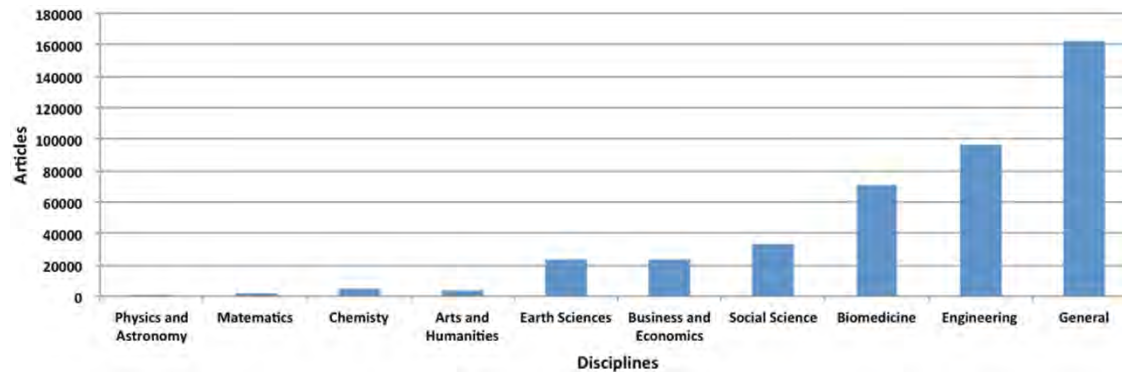
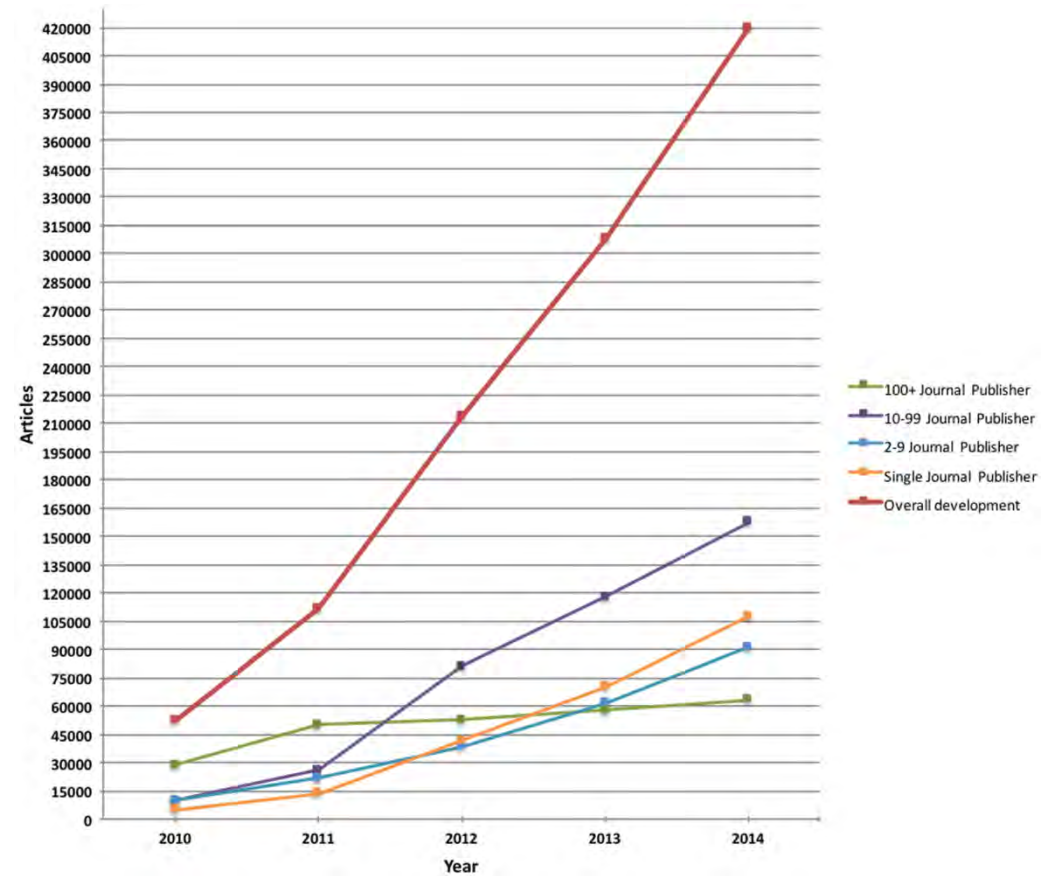
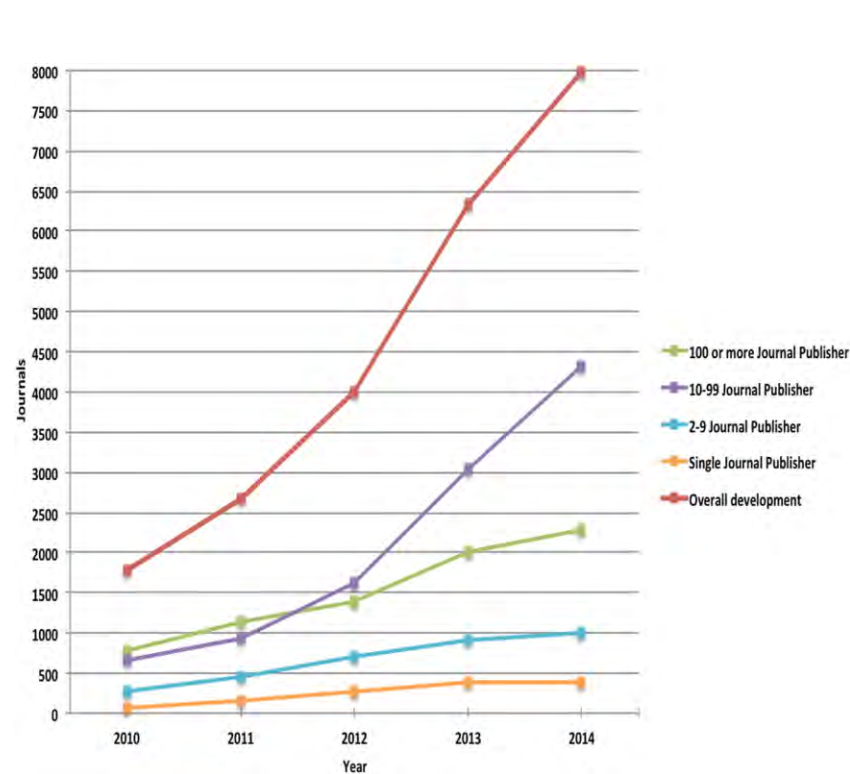
Cenyu Shen* and Bo-Christer Björk

Predatory journals:

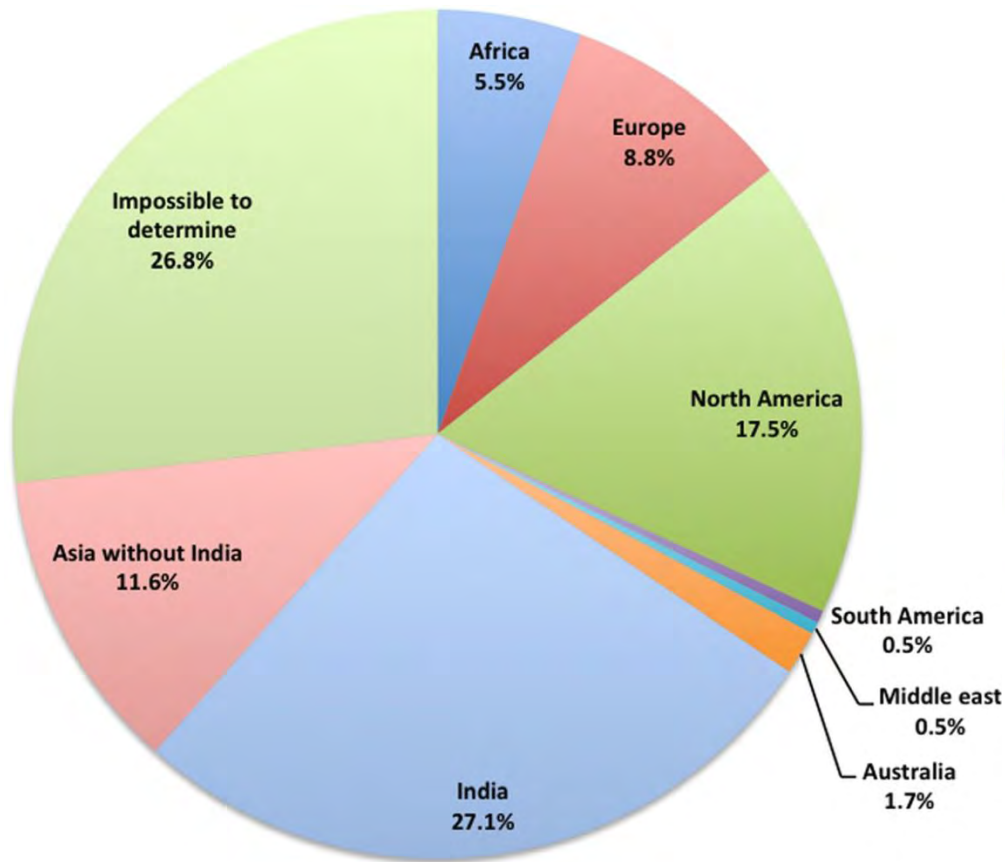
'open access journals with questionable marketing and peer review practices'

Results: Over the studied period, predatory journals have rapidly increased their publication volumes from 53,000 in 2010 to an estimated 420,000 articles in 2014, published by around 8,000 active journals. Early on, publishers with more than 100 journals dominated the market, but since 2012 publishers in the 10–99 journal size category have captured the largest market share. The regional distribution of both the publisher's country and authorship is highly skewed, in particular Asia and Africa contributed three quarters of authors. Authors paid an average article processing charge of 178 USD per article for articles typically published within 2 to 3 months of submission.

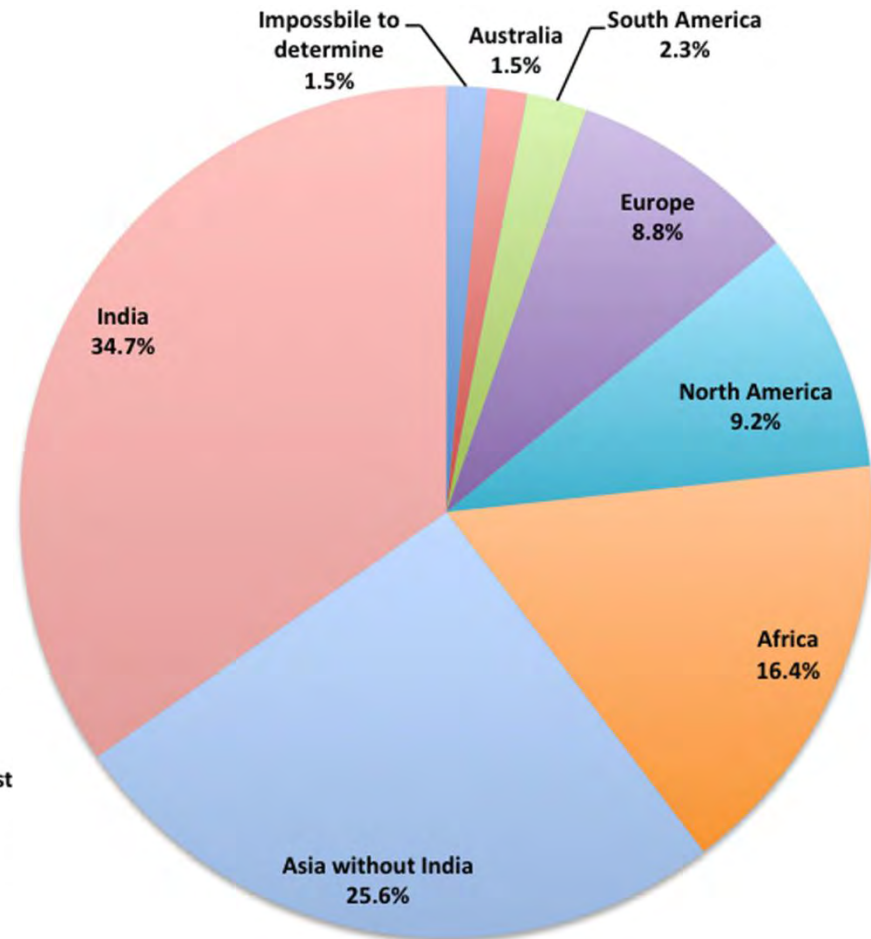
Conclusions: Despite a total number of journals and publishing volumes comparable to respectable (indexed by the Directory of Open Access Journals) open access journals, the problem of predatory open access seems highly contained to just a few countries, where the academic evaluation practices strongly favor international publication, but without further quality checks.



estimated market size: 74 million USD



Publishers



Corresponding authors

Publicar o perecer



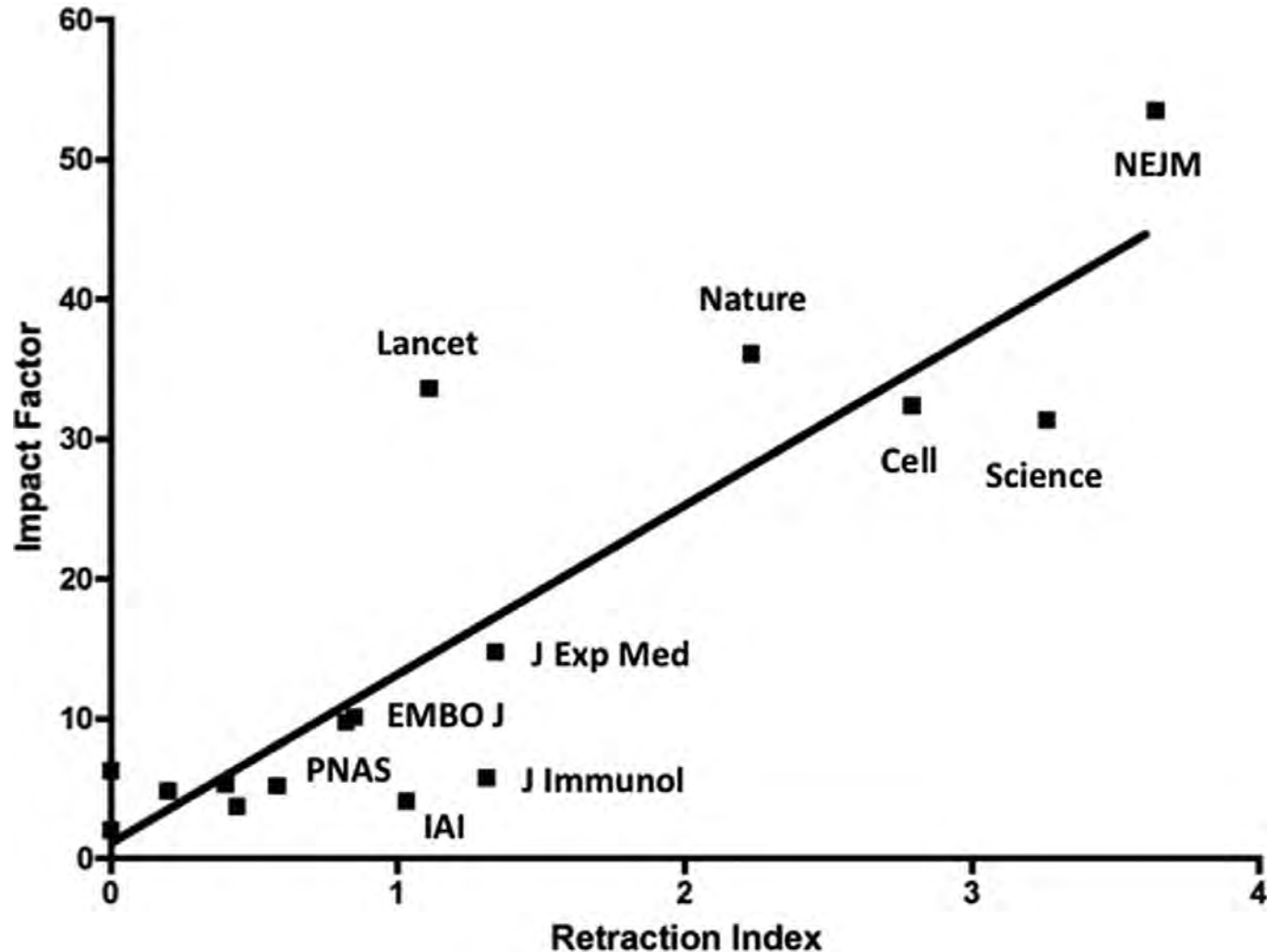
Richter (1966) "The New Yorker" Magazine, Inc

"It's publish or perish, and he hasn't published."

Publicar en revistas de alto impacto (the Impact Factor Mania)

Correlation between impact factor and retraction index*

Ferric C. Fang, and Arturo Casadevall. Retracted science and the retraction index.
Infect. Immun. 2011;79:3855-3859



*number of retractions in the time interval from 2001 to 2010, multiplied by 1,000,
and divided by the number of published articles with abstracts

Misconduct accounts for the majority of retracted scientific publications

Ferric C. Fang^{a,b,1}, R. Grant Steen^{c,1}, and Arturo Casadevall^{d,1,2}

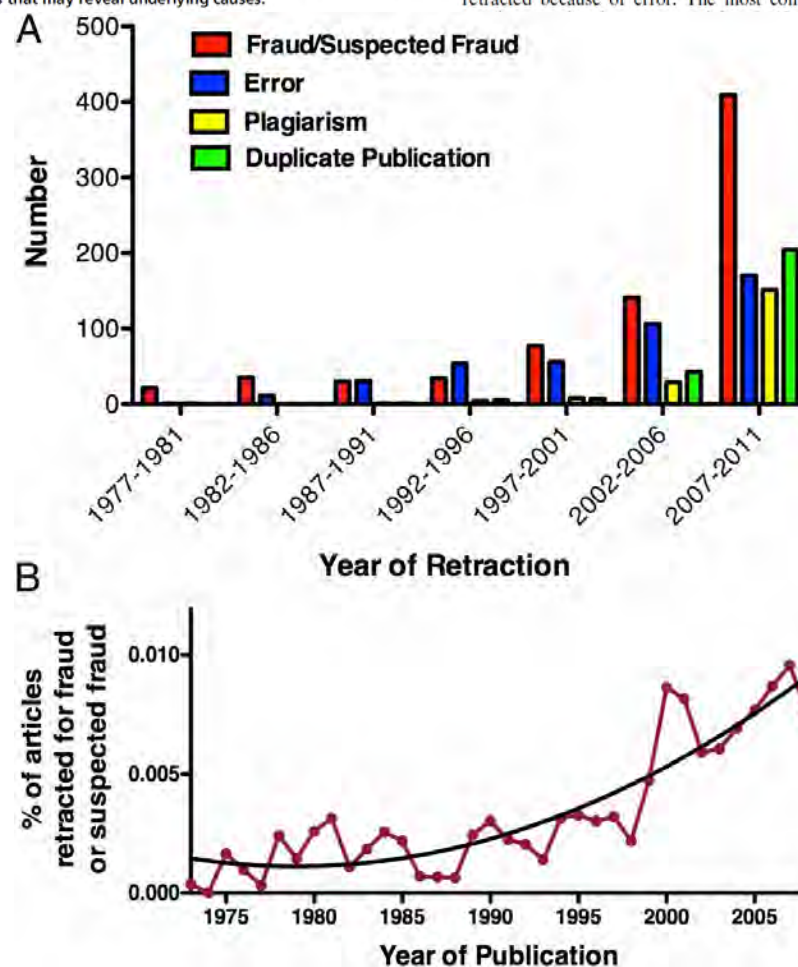
PNAS 109: 17028-17033 (2012)

Departments of ^aLaboratory Medicine and ^bMicrobiology, University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, WA 98195; ^cMediCCI Medical Communications Consultants, Chapel Hill, NC 27517; and ^dDepartment of Microbiology and Immunology, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, NY 10461

Edited by Thomas Shenk, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, and approved September 6, 2012 (received for review July 18, 2012)

A detailed review of all 2,047 biomedical and life-science research articles indexed by PubMed as retracted on May 3, 2012 revealed that only 21.3% of retractions were attributable to error. In contrast, 67.4% of retractions were attributable to misconduct, including fraud or suspected fraud (43.4%), duplicate publication (14.2%), and plagiarism (9.8%). Incomplete, uninformative or misleading retraction announcements have led to a previous underestimation of the role of fraud in the ongoing retraction epidemic. The percentage of scientific articles retracted because of fraud has increased ~10-fold since 1975. Retractions exhibit distinctive temporal and geographic patterns that may reveal underlying causes.

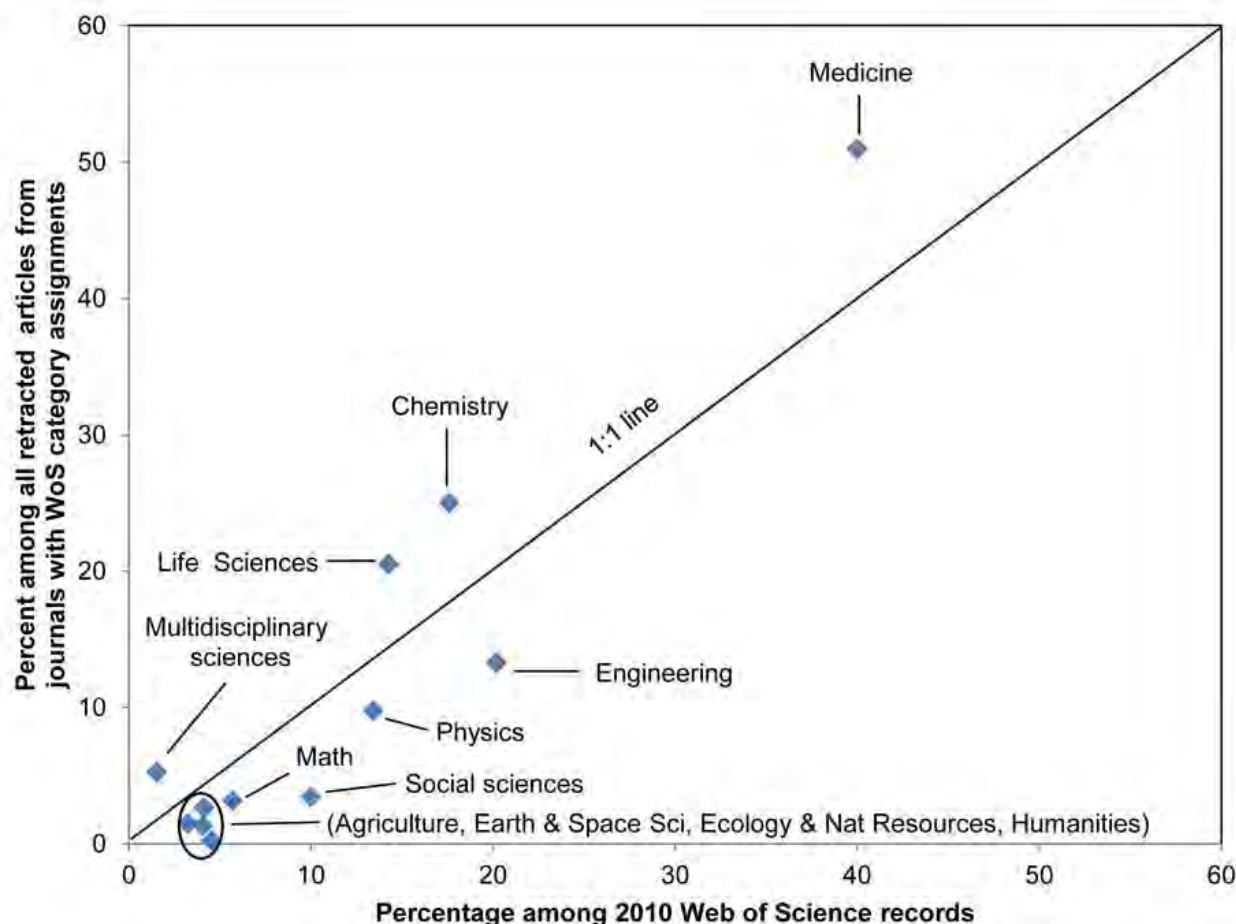
published by the authors of a manuscript in the *Journal of Cell Biology* stated that “In follow-up experiments . . . we have shown that the lack of FOXO1a expression reported in figure 1 is not correct” (11). A subsequent report from the Office of Research Integrity states that the first author committed “research misconduct by knowingly and intentionally falsely reporting . . . that FOXO1a was not expressed . . . by selecting a specific FOXO1a immunoblot to show the desired result” (12). In contrast to earlier studies, we found that the majority of retracted articles were retracted because of some form of misconduct, with only 21.3% retracted because of error. The most common reason for re-



A Comprehensive Survey of Retracted Articles from the Scholarly Literature

Michael L. Grieneisen^{1,2}, Minghua Zhang^{1,2*} October 2012 | Volume 7 | Issue 10 | e44118

¹ Wenzhou Medical College, Wenzhou, Zhejiang, China, ² Department of Land, Air and Water Resources, University of California Davis, Davis, California, United States of America



RESEARCH

Financial costs and personal consequences of research misconduct resulting in retracted publications

Abstract The number of retracted scientific articles has been increasing. Most retractions are associated with research misconduct, entailing financial costs to funding sources and damage to the careers of those committing misconduct. We sought to calculate the magnitude of these effects. Data relating to retracted manuscripts and authors found by the Office of Research Integrity (ORI) to have committed misconduct were reviewed from public databases. Attributable costs of retracted manuscripts, and publication output and funding of researchers found to have committed misconduct were determined. We found that papers retracted due to misconduct accounted for approximately \$58 million in direct funding by the NIH between 1992 and 2012, less than 1% of the NIH budget over this period. Each of these articles accounted for a mean of \$392,582 in direct costs (SD \$423,256). Researchers experienced a median 91.8% decrease in publication output and large declines in funding after censure by the ORI.

DOI: [10.7554/eLife.02956.001](https://doi.org/10.7554/eLife.02956.001)

Stern et al. eLife 2014;3:e02956. DOI: [10.7554/eLife.02956](https://doi.org/10.7554/eLife.02956)

ANDREW M STERN, ARTURO CASADEVALL, R GRANT STEEN AND
FERRIC C FANG*

	All Retracted Papers
Total	\$58,494,718.60
Median	\$239,381.06
Minimum	\$7,061.95
Maximum	\$3,608,713.94
Mean	\$392,582.00
Standard Deviation	\$423,256.39
N	149

Retractación por incumplimiento de bases bioéticas (consentimiento informado)

AJCN. First published ahead of print July 29, 2015 as doi: 10.3945/ajcn.114.093229.

Retractions

Retraction of Tang G, Hu Y, Yin S-a, Wang Y, Dallal GE, Grusak MA, and Russell RM. β -Carotene in Golden Rice is as good as β -carotene in oil at providing vitamin A to children. *Am J Clin Nutr* 2012;96:658–64.

The article cited above, which was originally published in the September 2012 issue and prepublished on 1 August 2012, has been retracted by the publisher for the following reasons:

1. The authors are unable to provide sufficient evidence that the study had been reviewed and approved by a local ethics committee in China in a manner fully consistent with NIH guidelines. Furthermore, the engaged institutions in China did not have US Federal Wide Assurances and had not registered their Institutional Review Board (or Ethics Review Committee).
2. The authors are unable to substantiate through documentary evidence that all parents or children involved in the study were provided with the full consent form for the study.
3. Specific eligibility issues were identified in regard to 2 subjects in the study.

This retraction was republished online on 29 July 2015.

doi: 10.3945/ajcn.114.093229.

The journal announced plans to retract the paper last year following allegations that the paper contained ethical mis-steps. Last July, first author G Tang filed a complaint and motion for preliminary injunction against the journal's publisher, the American Society for Nutrition, to stop the retraction.

A ruling by the Massachusetts Superior Court, Judge Salinger, on July 17, 2015 has cleared the way for the American Society for Nutrition (ASN) to retract the article " β -Carotene in Golden Rice is as good as β -carotene in oil at providing vitamin A to children" which was published in the September 2012 issue of *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* (*Am J Clin Nutr* 2012 96:658–66). The article was retracted by the American Society for Nutrition on July 29, 2015.

Retractaciones por manipulación del proceso de revisión

Retraction of articles from Springer journals



London | Heidelberg, 18 August 2015

Springer confirms that **64 articles are being retracted from 10 Springer subscription journals**, after editorial checks spotted fake email addresses, and subsequent internal investigations uncovered fabricated peer review reports. After a thorough investigation we have strong reason to believe that the peer review process on these 64 articles was compromised. We reported this to the Committee on Publishing Ethics (COPE) immediately. Attempts to manipulate peer review have affected journals across a number of publishers as detailed by COPE in their December 2014 statement. Springer has made COPE aware of the findings of its own internal investigations and has followed COPE's recommendations, as outlined in their statement, for dealing with this issue. Springer will continue to participate and do whatever we can to support COPE's efforts in this matter.

The peer-review process is one of the cornerstones of quality, integrity and reproducibility in research, and we take our responsibilities as its guardians seriously. We are now reviewing our editorial processes across Springer to guard against this kind of manipulation of the peer review process in future.

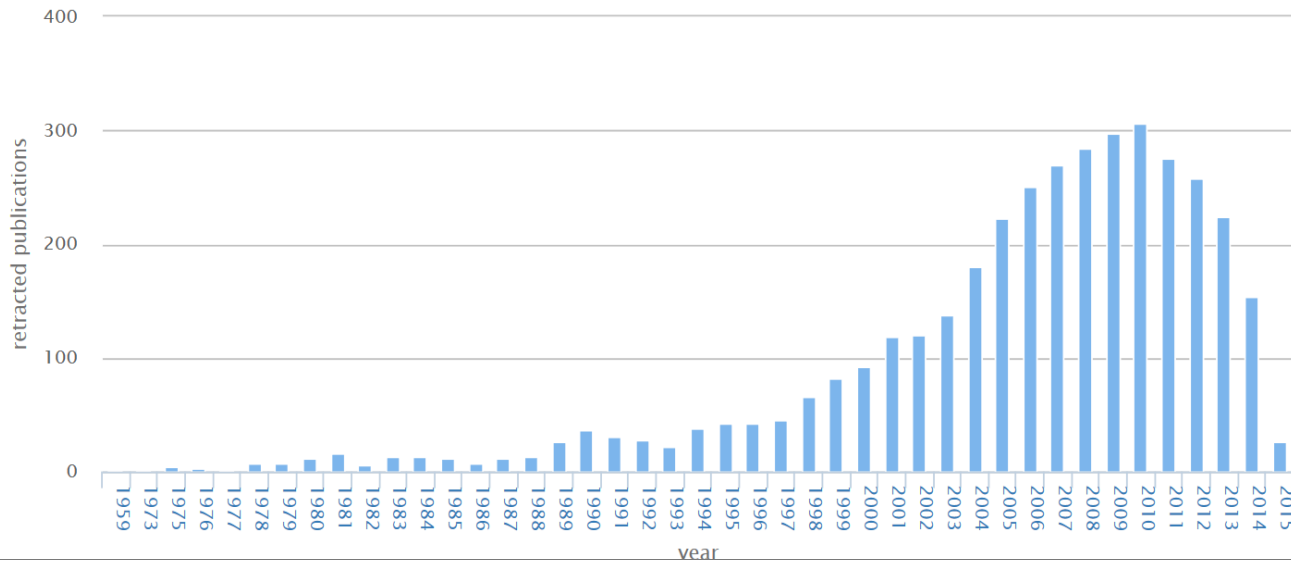
In all of this, our primary concern is for the research community. A research paper is the result of funding investment, institutional commitment and months of work by the authors, and publishing outputs affect careers, funding applications and institutional reputations.

We have been in contact with the corresponding authors and institutions concerned, and will continue to work with them.

PubMed Retraction Report. Neil Saunders

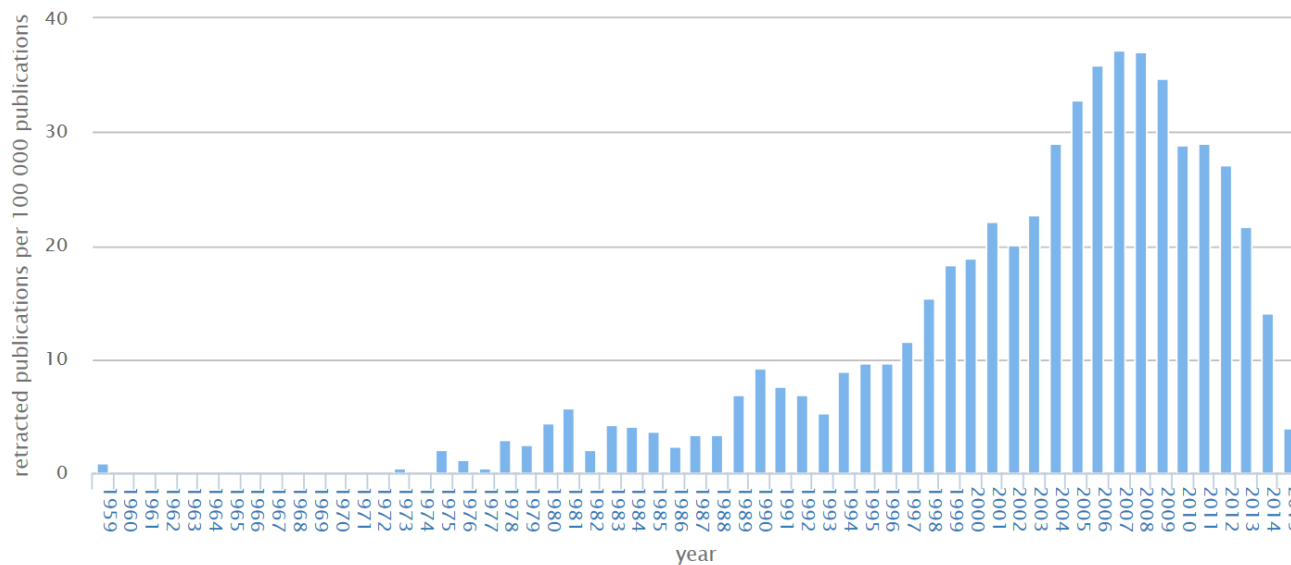
<https://rpubs.com/neilfws/65778>

Retracted publications by year of Entrez record creation



Info compiled 2015.08.06

Retracted publications per 100 000 publications by year of Entrez record creation



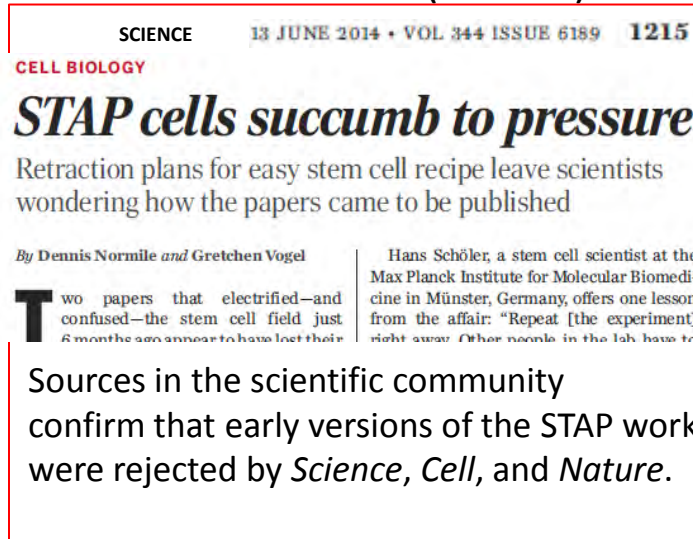
Consecuencias de la mala praxis (no solo afectan a quienes la practican)

Caso “STAP cells” (2014) Obokata et al. Descrédito de:

- Autores
- Comité de investigación
- Centro de investigación
- Institución (RIKEN)
- Revista científica (Nature)



	TERUHIKO WAKAYAMA University of Yamanashi in Kofu; well-known mouse cloning pioneer; formerly at RIKEN Called for retraction: 10 March
	HITOSHI NIWA Internationally respected stem cell researcher at RIKEN CDB Agreed to consider retraction: 14 March
	YOSHIKI SASAI Director of Neurogenesis and Organogenesis Group at RIKEN CDB Agreed to consider retraction: 14 March
	CHARLES VACANTI Tissue engineer at Brigham and Women's Hospital. Initial work by Obokata was done in Vacanti's lab, following up on controversial stem cell research by his team. Agreed to retraction: 30 May, reportedly, in a letter to <i>Nature</i> .



STEM CELL RESEARCH

RIKEN Panel Finds Misconduct in Controversial Paper

RIKEN to Review 20,000 Papers

In the wake of allegations of research misconduct, the president of the Japanese research institute asks that all labs review their publications for evidence of manipulated images or plagiarism.

By Jef Akst | May 5, 2014. The Scientist.

SCIENCE 1110 5 SEPTEMBER 2014 • VOL 345 ISSUE 6201

RIKEN shrinks troubled center

Japan's developmental biology powerhouse brought to knees by misconduct revelations

By Dennis Normile, in Tokyo

Two discredited papers have subjected a leading Japanese research center to an extraordinary form of collective punishment. On 27 August, chemist Ryoji Noyori, president of RIKEN, Japan's biggest research institution, announced that its Center for Developmental Biology (CDB) in Kobe will be stripped of half of its 500-plus staff, renamed, and put under new management.

Meanwhile, a RIKEN-appointed outside committee on 12 June recommended dismantling CDB in order to head off a recurrence of such misconduct. The committee laid most of the blame on Obokata's shoulders, but it also found that lax oversight and a push for breakthrough results by top management set the stage for disaster.

Norio Nakatsuji, a stem cell scientist at Kyoto University, blames CDB management for what he calls “hyper-promotion” of the STAP findings, which



One of the RIKEN scientists investigating allegations of misconduct tied to stimulus-triggered acquisition of pluripotency work has resigned from the committee because of anonymous questions raised about his own research.

By Tracy Vence | April 25, 2014. The Scientist

Vacuna triple vírica y autismo

EARLY REPORT

Early report

Ileal-lymphoid-nodular hyperplasia, non-specific colitis, and pervasive developmental disorder in children

A J Wakefield, S H Murch, A Anthony, J Linnell, D M Casson, M Malik, M Berelowitz, A P Dhillon, M A Thomson, P Harvey, A Valentine, S E Davies, J A Walker-Smith

Summary

Background We investigated a consecutive series of children with chronic enterocolitis and regressive developmental disorder.

Methods 12 children (mean age 6 years [range 3–10], 11 boys) were referred to a paediatric gastroenterology unit with a history of normal development followed by loss of acquired skills, including language, together with diarrhoea and abdominal pain. Children underwent gastroenterological, neurological, and developmental assessment and review of developmental records. Ileocolonoscopy and biopsy sampling, magnetic-resonance imaging (MRI), electroencephalography (EEG), and lumbar puncture were done under sedation. Barium follow-through radiography was done where possible. Biochemical, haematological, and immunological profiles were examined.

Findings Onset of behavioural symptoms was associated by the parents, with measles, mumps, and rubella vaccination in eight of the 12 children, with measles infection in one child, and otitis media in another. All 12 children had intestinal abnormalities (ranging from lymphoid nodular hyperplasia to atrophic ulceration). Histology showed patchy chronic inflammation in 11 children and reactive ileal lymphoid hyperplasia in seven, but no granulomas. Behavioural disorders included autism (nine), disintegrative psychosis (one), and a possible postviral or vaccinal encephalitis (two). There were no focal neurological abnormalities and MRI and EEG tests were normal. Abnormal laboratory results were significantly raised urinary methylmalonic acid compared with age-matched controls (p=0.03), low haemoglobin in four children, and low serum IgA in four children.

Interpretation We identified associated gastrointestinal disease and developmental regression in a group of previously normal children, which was generally associated in time with possible environmental triggers.

Lancet 1998; **351**: 637–41

See Commentary page

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Correspondence to: Dr A J Wakefield

Introduction

We saw several children who, after a period of apparent normality, lost acquired skills, including communication. They all had gastrointestinal symptoms, including abdominal pain, diarrhoea, and vomiting and, in some cases, food intolerance. We describe the clinical findings, and gastrointestinal features of these children.

Patients and methods

12 children, consecutively referred to the department of paediatric gastroenterology with a history of a pervasive developmental disorder with loss of acquired skills and intestinal symptoms (diarrhoea, abdominal pain, bloating and food intolerance), were investigated. All children were admitted to the ward for 1 week, accompanied by their parents.

Clinical investigations

We took histories, including details of immunisations and exposure to infectious diseases, and assessed the children. In 11 cases the history was obtained by the senior clinician (JW-S). Neurological and psychiatric assessments were done by consultant staff (PH, MB) with HMS-4 criteria.¹ Developmental histories included a review of prospective developmental records from parents, health visitors, and general practitioners. Four children did not undergo psychiatric assessment in hospital; all had been assessed professionally elsewhere, so these assessments were used as the basis for their behavioural diagnosis.

After bowel preparation, ileocolonoscopy was performed by SHM or MAT under sedation with midazolam and pethidine. Paired frozen and formalin-fixed mucosal biopsy samples were taken from the terminal ileum; ascending, transverse, descending, and sigmoid colons, and from the rectum. The procedure was recorded by video or still images, and were compared with images of the previous seven consecutive paediatric colonoscopies (four normal colonoscopies and three on children with ulcerative colitis), in which the physician reported normal appearances in the terminal ileum. Barium follow-through radiography was possible in some cases.

Also under sedation, cerebral magnetic-resonance imaging (MRI), electroencephalography (EEG) including visual, brain stem auditory, and sensory evoked potentials (where compliance made these possible), and lumbar puncture were done.

Laboratory investigations

Thyroid function, serum long-chain fatty acids, and cerebrospinal-fluid lactate were measured to exclude known causes of childhood neurodegenerative disease. Urinary methylmalonic acid was measured in random urine samples from eight of the 12 children and 14 age-matched and sex-matched normal controls, by a modification of a technique described previously.² Chromatograms were scanned digitally on computer, to analyse the methylmalonic-acid zones from cases and controls. Urinary methylmalonic-acid concentrations in patients and controls were compared by a two-sample *t* test. Urinary creatinine was estimated by routine spectrophotometric assay.

Children were screened for antientomysal antibodies and boys were screened for fragile-X if this had not been done

The Vaccine-Autism Connection: A Public Health Crisis Caused by Unethical Medical Practices and Fraudulent Science

Dennis K Flaherty

The Annals of Pharmacotherapy ■ 2011 October, Volume 45

The Wakefield autism paper gained scientific legitimacy when published in the prestigious and widely read medical journal *The Lancet* in 1998.¹ In 2000, Wakefield published another article claiming that the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine was introduced into mass vaccination programs without sufficient safety testing.² Both papers garnered little interest until a medical charity, which promotes gastrointestinal research, held a televised press conference during which Wakefield outlined his reservations about the safety of the MMR vaccine and the connection between this vaccine and autism-enterocolitis.

In 1998, Dr. Andrew Wakefield, a British gastroenterologist, described a new autism phenotype called the regressive autism-enterocolitis syndrome triggered by environmental factors such as measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccination. The speculative vaccination-autism connection decreased parental confidence in public health vaccination programs and created a public health crisis in England and questions about vaccine safety in North America. After 10 years of controversy and investigation, Dr. Wakefield was found guilty of ethical, medical, and scientific misconduct in the publication of the autism paper. Additional studies showed that the data presented were fraudulent. The alleged autism-vaccine connection is, perhaps, the most damaging medical hoax of the last 100 years.

KEY WORDS: MMR vaccine, regressive autism, Wakefield.

Ann Pharmacother 2011;45:1302-4.

Published Online, 13 Sept 2011, theannals.com, DOI 10.1345/aph.1Q318

Vacuna triple vírica y autismo

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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EUROPE NEWS

Fifteen Years After Autism Panic, a Plague of Measles Erupts

Legions spurned a long-proven vaccine, putting a generation at risk



Aleshia Jenkins receives a measles vaccine this year. *FERGUS THOMAS*

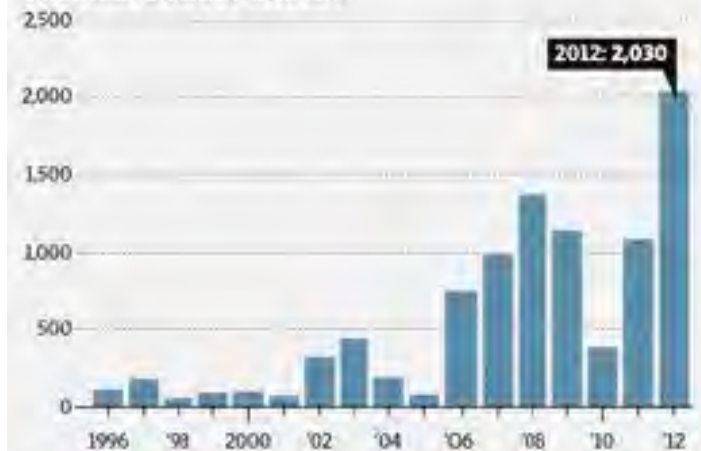
By **JEANNE WHALEN** and **BETSY MCKAY**

July 19, 2013 10:30 p.m. ET

Worrisome Comeback

Fears that a measles vaccine might cause autism helped lead to a temporary decrease in vaccinations in England and Wales, which resulted in an increase of measles cases there.

Confirmed cases of measles



Source: Public Health England

The Wall Street Journal

Incidencias sobre pacientes

Research ethics

Retractions in the medical literature: how many patients are put at risk by flawed research?

R Grant Steen

J Med Ethics 2011;**37**:688–692. doi:10.1136/jme.2011.043133

Table 1 Summary of the impact of 180 retracted clinical papers

	Number	Average per retracted paper
Citations of retracted papers		
Total citations	5503	30.6
Research-related citations	5143	28.6
Post-retraction citations	1973	11.0
Retraction-related citations	360	2.0
Review papers	1372	7.6
Patient studies	851	4.7
Subjects enrolled in retracted papers		
Total subjects	28 783	160.8
Patients at risk	17 783	99.3
Patients treated	9189	51.3
Subjects enrolled in secondary papers		
Total subjects	445 064	2472.6
Patients at risk	165 588	919.9
Patients treated	70 501	391.7

Mala praxis y sus efectos en el área de psicología social

Flawed science:

The fraudulent research practices of social psychologist Diederik Stapel

Levelt Committee (Tilburg University); Noort Committee (University of Groningen); Drenth Committee (University of Amsterdam)

28 november 2012. English translation of the Dutch report '*Falende wetenschap: De frauduleuze onderzoekspraktijken van social-psycholoog Diederik Stapel*'

- **Responsible for data fraud in 55 published papers and 10 PhD theses written by students under his supervision.** There were also **doubts about another 10 papers**, although fraud could not be proven beyond reasonable doubt.
- **From the bottom to the top there was a general neglect of fundamental scientific standards and methodological requirements**
- **Social psychology is a field with a culture of “sloppy” science in which researchers lack a basic understanding of statistics**

¿Qué hacer?

Prevenir

- Establecer cultura de honestidad en lugar de trabajo e institución
- Seguir de cerca el progreso de la investigación
- Informar y educar en integridad científica
- Seguir códigos de buenas prácticas

COMITÉ DE ÉTICA: Producción documental

- **Código de Buenas Prácticas Científicas**



<http://www.csic.es/web/guest/etica-en-la-investigacion>

- **La responsabilidad de los autores en publicaciones multidisciplinares**

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- **Manual de Conflictos de Intereses del CSIC**

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2013

Revistas CSIC

Guía de buenas prácticas para la publicación

La presente *Guía de buenas prácticas* pretende constituir un código de conducta dirigido a las partes implicadas en la gestión y publicación de los resultados científicos en las revistas del CSIC: equipos editoriales, autores y revisores de los trabajos.

MANUAL DE CONFLICTOS DE INTERESES DEL CSIC



2015

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RESEARCH ARTICLE

Rapid Characterization of Microalgae and Microalgae Mixtures Using Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption Ionization Time-Of-Flight Mass Spectrometry (MALDI-TOF MS)

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OPEN ACCESS

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Data Availability Statement: All relevant data are within the paper and its Supporting Information files.

Funding: This work was supported by the Arizona Center for Algae Technology and Innovation (<http://www.azcatl.com>), ASU New College of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences (<https://newcollege.asu.edu>), and ASU Lightworks (<http://asulightworks.com>). The funders had no role in study design, data collection and analysis, decision to publish, or preparation of the manuscript.

Abstract

Current molecular methods to characterize microalgae are time-intensive and expensive. Matrix Assisted Laser Desorption/Ionization Time-of-Flight Mass Spectrometry (MALDI-TOF MS) may represent a rapid and economical alternative approach. The objectives of this study were to determine whether MALDI-TOF MS can be used to: 1) differentiate microalgae at the species and strain levels and 2) characterize simple microalgal mixtures. A common protein extraction sample preparation method was used to facilitate rapid mass spectrometry-based analysis of 31 microalgae. Each yielded spectra containing between 6 and 56 peaks in the m/z 2,000 to 20,000 range. The taxonomic resolution of this approach appeared higher than that of 18S rDNA sequence analysis. For example, two strains of *Scenedesmus acutus* differed only by two 18S rDNA nucleotides, but yielded distinct MALDI-TOF mass spectra. Mixtures of two and three microalgae yielded relatively complex spectra that contained peaks associated with members of each mixture. Interestingly, though, mixture-specific peaks were observed at m/z 11,048 and 11,230. Our results suggest that MALDI-TOF MS affords rapid characterization of individual microalgae and simple microalgal mixtures.

Introduction

Microalgae have received considerable attention in science and industry as they can be cultivated and harvested for many products and co-products including biofuels and nutraceuticals [1]. Microalgae have different growth rates which are affected by a range of environmental factors such as nutrient availability and temperature. Those environmental factors need to be controlled in order to generate product, especially in large-scale biomass production [2]; however,

Funding: This work was supported by the Arizona Center for Algae Technology and Innovation (<http://www.azcatl.com>), ASU New College of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences (<https://newcollege.asu.edu>), and ASU Lightworks (<http://asulightworks.com>). The funders had no role in study design, data collection and analysis, decision to publish, or preparation of the manuscript.

Si la prevención no basta...

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- ✓ Investigar
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- ✓ Difundir actuación



Bosch X (2010) Safeguarding good scientific practice in Europe.
EMBO Rep 11: 252–57.

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— Lou Bloomfield, Professor of Physics, University of Virginia

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27	12445668 [Plummer, Martyn et al., 2002][Medline]	14746036 [Franceschi, Silvia et al., 2003][Medline]		eng eng	0.85	-	Y	EXAMINED	2007-02-14
		10587770 [.,1999][Medline]	13	eng eng	0.80	-	Y	EXAMINED	2007-02-14

Reutilización de textos

Patterns of text reuse in a scientific corpus

Daniel T. Citron^a and Paul Ginsparg^{a,b,1}

2014

Proc Natl Acad Sci USA 112: 25–30

Departments of ^aPhysics and ^bInformation Science, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853

Edited* by William H. Press, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX, and approved November 6, 2014 (received for review August 7, 2014)

We consider the incidence of text “reuse” by researchers via a systematic pairwise comparison of the text content of all articles deposited to arXiv.org from 1991 to 2012. We measure the global frequencies of three classes of text reuse and measure how chronic text reuse is distributed among authors in the dataset. We infer a baseline for accepted practice, perhaps surprisingly permissive compared with other societal contexts, and a clearly delineated set of aberrant authors. We find a negative correlation between the amount of reused text in an article and its influence, as measured by subsequent citations. Finally, we consider the distribution of countries of origin of articles containing large amounts of reused text.

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[e.g., refs. 8–10; for instance, all graduate students at Cornell University take online training through the Office of Research Integrity (www.oria.cornell.edu/rcr/)]. In *Supporting Information, section B* we provide a brief survey of representative policies. Journal publishers provide effective international guidelines, and the American Physical Society’s, for example, are unequivocal regarding text reuse (11): “Authors may not . . . incorporate without attribution text from another work (by themselves or others), even when summarizing past results or background material.” We will see that arXiv submissions do not always conform to these exacting standards and yet are published by journals, indicating that editors do not systematically use an automated screen.

To be clear, we are careful in what follows to restrict attention to simple text overlaps. We make no attempt to detect “plagiarism” in its most general form, which includes unattributed use

757,000 articles analyzed. 20 y frame

- ✓ there is a negative correlation between the amount of reused content from an article and the number of citations that the article received
- ✓ the practice of reusing text is uncommon and is restricted to a minority of serial offenders
- ✓ countries that consistently, regardless of metric, contain the highest percentages of flagged submissions are (listed alphabetically) Bangladesh, Belarus, Bulgaria, Colombia, Cyprus, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Micronesia, Moldova, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Uzbekistan.

Detección de la manipulación de datos e imágenes

The art of detecting data x

editorsupdate.elsevier.com/issue-41-november-2013/the-art-of-detecting-data-and-image-manipulation/

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4 Nov 2013 2 Comments
Anthony Newman

The art of detecting data and image manipulation
Special Part II

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"... a false statement of fact, made deliberately, is the most serious crime a scientist can commit."
English Chemist and novelist, Charles Percy Snow (1905-1980)

Over the years, numerous initiatives have been launched to educate authors about the dangers of manipulating data and images in their journal submissions — in fact, we discuss two of our own programs in The importance of author education in this Ethics Special.

While many of these have met with success, there is no doubt this kind of

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Detección de irregularidades post-publicación



The screenshot shows the PubPeer website in a web browser. The browser's address bar displays "PubPeer - Search publicatio...". The website has a dark blue header with "PubPeer" in large white letters and "The online journal club" below it. A search bar with a magnifying glass icon contains the text "Search by DOI, PMID, arXiv ID, keyword, author, etc.". Below the search bar, a line of text reads: "The PubPeer database contains all articles. Search results return articles with comments. To leave a new comment on a specific article, paste a unique identifier such as a DOI, PubMed ID, or arXiv ID into the search". An orange button labeled "Search Publications" is positioned below this text. At the bottom of the page, a white banner states: "PubPeer comments on PubMed and journal websites with our browser extension!".



The illustration depicts a man in a suit sitting at a desk with a laptop. The wall behind him is red and features several framed eyes, each with a line connecting it to the laptop, symbolizing constant surveillance or multiple perspectives. The word "NEWFOCUS" is written in the top left corner of the illustration.

The Web's Faceless Judges

PubPeer is the latest forum for free-ranging discussion of published papers. It can only succeed, say its anonymous founders, if participants are able to keep their identities hidden

I think it's going to be very hard to stay anonymous forever.

—PUBPEER FOUNDER

606 9 AUGUST 2013 VOL 341 SCIENCE www.sciencemag.org

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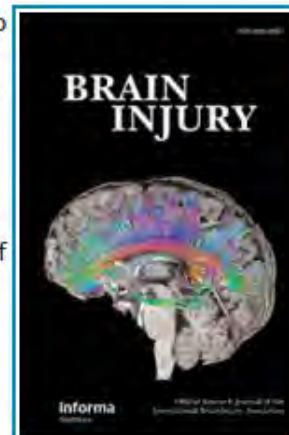
The brains in Spain fall mainly on...Iran?

without comments

We've come across some odd examples of plagiarism in this job, from the fellow who tried to [build a CV on the back of another researcher's work](#), to the [education researcher](#) who, from what we can tell, preferred lifting the work of others to writing her own papers. Here's another odd one for the pile.

A group of Iranian scholars has lost a paper in [Brain Injury](#) because they lifted it wholesale from a previously published article. What's harder to get one's mind around, however, is that the two papers were looking at culturally-specific aspects of brain injury. Except that one wasn't.

The retracted [paper](#), "Frontal acquired brain injury, substance abuse and their common psychological symptoms in the Iranian population," appeared in 2011. Here's the abstract, which is still available on the journal's website (we'll note that although the abstract is free for all, the retraction notice was behind a pay wall — an error, according to the publisher, which they remedied when we contacted them): [Read the rest of this entry »](#)



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Written by amarcus41
August 14th, 2013 at 11:34 am

Posted in [brain injury](#), [freely available](#), [informa healthcare](#), [iran](#), [retractions](#), [neurology retractions](#), [plagiarism](#), [psychiatry](#)

Authorship questions: Retracted infection paper from Spain broke all (well, most) of the rules

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Algunos casos llegan a la prensa y a los tribunales

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- **Stephen Breuning**. USA, 1988. Falsificación de datos en publicaciones y solicitudes de proyectos. Investigación en trastorno de déficit de atención e hiperactividad en niños. Ritalin.
- **Eric Poehlman**. USA, 2005. Fraude en solicitudes a NIH y en artículos. Terapia hormonal sustitutiva en la menopausia.
- **Dong-Pyou Han**. USA, 2015. Vacuna contra VIH: adición de anticuerpos humanos para aparentar mayor efectividad.



SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY

Self-correction in science at work

Improve incentives to support research integrity

By Bruce Alberts,¹ Ralph J. Cicerone,² Stephen E. Fienberg,³ Alexander Kamh,⁴ Marcia McNutt,^{5,6} Robert M. Nerem,⁴ Randy Schekman,⁷ Richard Shiffrin,⁸ Victoria Stodden,⁹ Subra Suresh,¹⁰ Maria T. Zuber,¹¹ Barbara Kline Pope,¹² Kathleen Hall Jamieson^{13,14}

WEEK after week, news outlets carry word of new scientific discoveries, but the media sometimes give suspect science equal play with substantive discoveries. Careful qualifications about what is known are lost in categorical headlines. Rare instances of misconduct or instances of irreproducibility are translated into concerns that science is broken. The Octo-

ber 2013 *Economist* headline proclaimed "Trouble at the lab: Scientists like to think of science as self-correcting. To an alarming degree, it is not" (1). Yet, that article is also rich with instances of science both policing itself, which is how the problems came to *The Economist's* attention in the first place, and addressing discovered lapses and irreproducibility concerns. In light of such issues and efforts, the U.S. National Academy of Sciences (NAS) and the Annenberg Retreat at Sunnylands convened our group to examine ways to remove some of the current disincentives to high standards of integrity in science.

Like all human endeavors, science is imperfect. However, as Robert Merton noted more than half a century ago "the

activities of scientists are subject to rigorous policing, to a degree perhaps unparalleled in any other field of activity" (2). As a result, as Popper argued, "science is one of the very few human activities—perhaps the only one—in which errors are systematically criticized and fairly often, in time, corrected"

POLICY (3). Instances in which scientists detect and address flaws in work constitute evidence of success, not failure, because they demonstrate the underlying protective mechanisms of science at work.

Still, as in any human venture, science writ large does not always live up to its ideals. Although attempts to replicate the 1998 Wakefield study alleging an association between autism and the MMR (measles,

ILLUSTRATION: DAVID BONANZ

COMMUNITY PAGE

Meta-research: Evaluation and Improvement of Research Methods and Practices

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Meta-research area	Specific interests (nonexhaustive list)
Methods: "performing research"—study design, methods, statistics, research synthesis, collaboration, and ethics	Biases and questionable practices in conducting research, methods to reduce such biases, meta-analysis, research synthesis, integration of evidence, crossdesign synthesis, collaborative team science and consortia, research integrity and ethics
Reporting: "communicating research"—reporting standards, study registration, disclosing conflicts of interest, information to patients, public, and policy-makers	Biases and questionable practices in reporting, explaining, disseminating and popularizing research, conflicts of interest disclosure and management, study registration and other bias-prevention measures, and methods to monitor and reduce such issues
Reproducibility: "verifying research"—sharing data and methods, repeatability, replicability, reproducibility, and self-correction	Obstacles to sharing data and methods, replication studies, replicability and reproducibility of published research, methods to improve them, effectiveness of correction and self-correction of the literature, and methods to improve them
Evaluation: "evaluating research"—prepublication peer review, postpublication peer review, research funding criteria, and other means of evaluating scientific quality	Effectiveness, costs, and benefits of old and new approaches to peer review and other science assessment methods, and methods to improve them
Incentives: "rewarding research": promotion criteria, rewards, and penalties in research evaluation for individuals, teams, and institutions	Accuracy, effectiveness, costs, and benefits of old and new approaches to ranking and evaluating the performance, quality, value of research, individuals, teams, and institutions

A modo de conclusión

- La integridad es componente nuclear de la investigación científica y de la propia ciencia. Se encuentra en la base del conocimiento científico y de la confianza de la sociedad
- Como cualquier otra actividad humana, junto a sus muchas luces, la investigación científica presenta también algunas sombras
- La mala praxis en investigación es una lamentable realidad. Puede arruinar carreras y dañar la reputación de grupos, centros, instituciones, revistas y campos, así como la confianza de la sociedad en la labor y aportaciones de los investigadores y en la propia ciencia
- Es esencial la formación en ética y buenas prácticas científicas de quienes se inician en investigación, junto a la exigencia de cumplimiento de códigos idóneos en las instituciones
- Además de aumentar el nivel de formación en integridad científica, deben existir órganos y sistemas (**nacionales**) para detectar, investigar, juzgar, sancionar y hacer públicos los casos de malas prácticas
- Los resultados de la mala praxis en investigación terminan trasladándose a las publicaciones en las que se comunican. Editores y revisores (pre- y post-) tienen un papel fundamental en la evitación de que tal ciencia fraudulenta contamine nuestro valioso acervo científico