

Manipal Journal of Nursing and Health Sciences

Volume 2
Issue 2 *MJNHS*

Article 2

7-1-2016

Message

Anice George Dr
Manipal College of Nursing, anice.george@manipal.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://impressions.manipal.edu/mjnhs>



Part of the [Nursing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

George, Anice Dr (2016) "Message," *Manipal Journal of Nursing and Health Sciences*: Vol. 2: Iss. 2, .
Available at: <https://impressions.manipal.edu/mjnhs/vol2/iss2/2>

This Guest Editorial is brought to you for free and open access by the MAHE Journals at Impressions@MAHE. It has been accepted for inclusion in Manipal Journal of Nursing and Health Sciences by an authorized editor of Impressions@MAHE. For more information, please contact impressions@manipal.edu.

Message

Cover Page Footnote

NA

Publication Ethics: The ethical pathway to academic publishing



This editorial intends to sensitize the readers on importance of publication ethics and research integrity. Specific attention is given to six major areas of publication ethics viz., authorship, simultaneous submission, duplicate publications, plagiarism, salami slicing, research fraud, and conflict of interest.

Authorship is a major area of concern to scientific writers as well as publishers. According to the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) the authorship guidelines, to be an author an individual must satisfy the four basic criteria. *“1. Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work,; AND 2. Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content, AND 3. Final approval of the version to be published, AND 4. Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that the questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are*

appropriately investigated and resolved.” The order of authorship can be a joint decision of co-authors. In the case of multi centric trials with many authors, the authors’ lists are published alphabetically with a note stating that all authors have made equal contributions to the study. Those individuals who are involved in the study and do not qualify the criteria for the authorship (assistants, technical supporters, data analysts etc.) can be mentioned in the Acknowledgments’ section of the manuscript. Being an author is not just a credit, it comes with certain responsibilities too.

Another area of ongoing concern is having simultaneous submission and duplicate publications. Novice researchers unintentionally submit manuscripts to different journals at the same time. This practice results in more than one journal publishing the same manuscript. Redundant publication is a serious breach of publication ethics and results in retraction of the publications. Authors also must make sure that their two or more papers must not share essentially same objectives, hypothesis, data, or results. It is a best practice to disclose the details of related manuscripts (published or in-press), while submitting a manuscript for publication. At the time of submission, all the authors must sign and formally declare that the manuscript has not been published / is not under review / not simultaneously been submitted elsewhere for publication.

The most common type of publication misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism refers to the substantial unauthorized use of other person’s work without credit, permission, or acknowledgment. The continuum of plagiarism ranges from copying literally to paraphrasing. It is advised to do a plagiarism check before a manuscript is submitted for academic publishing.

A recent trend in academic publishing is having salami sliced publications. Salami slicing refers to the slicing of a one full length meaningful academic paper into multiple small papers. Unscrupulous authors tend to slice their paper to increase the number of publications. Authors must focus on ‘quality’ rather than ‘quantity’ of publications. It is always worth to have a meaningful publication rather than a number of sliced redundant publications.

The two main areas of research misconduct are data falsification and data fabrication. The data falsification refers to manipulating research methods or data in order to fit the desired results and making up data and conclusions is data fabrication. In addition, when an investigator/author has a financial or personal interest that could potentially affect his/her objectivity or may influence his / her actions, a potential conflict of interest exists. It is imperative for authors to disclose their conflicts of interest in the manuscripts submitted for publication to promote transparency.

Academic publishing depends, largely, on 3Ts, Transparency, Trust, and Truthfulness. Research ethics is a central area of our concern and through acceptance of internationally renowned standards, Manipal Journal of Nursing and Health Sciences (MJNHS) strives to uphold the highest ethical standards in academic publishing endeavours. This issue of MJNHS covers a range of articles from nursing and health sciences. I hope you will find reading MJNHS interesting and rewarding.

Dr Anice George

Professor & Dean
Manipal College of Nursing, Manipal
Executive Editor, MJNHS

References

Committee on Publication Ethics: COPE | Promoting integrity in research publication. (2016). [Publicationethics.org](http://publicationethics.org/). Retrieved 12 June 2016, from <http://publicationethics.org/>
The International Committee of Medical Journal Editors: ICMJE | Home. (2016). [Icmje.org](http://www.icmje.org/). Retrieved 12 June 2016, from <http://www.icmje.org/>