

Scientific Writing Course
October 31- November 4, 2022

Integrity and Ethics in Publsiing **(falsification, fabrication, plagiarism)**

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Pictures : Google images. (sept 2022)

Wednesday 2 November 2022



Outline

- **What is Integrity?**
- **What is Research Misconduct?**
- **What is Falsification?**
- **What is Fabrication?**
- **What is Plagiarism?**
- **Consent to publish**
- **Duplicate submission**
- **Image distortion**
- **Ensuring integrity**

What is integrity?

- Integrity means being honest, consistent and non-compromising on moral and ethical principles and values
- **Researchers should take responsibility for the trustworthiness of their research**

4 Principles for research integrity

Honesty; Accountability; Professionalism; Stewardship

Research misconduct

- Research misconduct means
- Falsification
- Fabrication, or
- Plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing , or in reporting research results

Research misconduct **DOES NOT** include
honest error or differences of opinion

Falsification

Falsification is manipulation of research materials, equipment, or processes or changing or omitting data or results such that the research is not accurately represented in the research record

Fabrication

Fabrication is making up data or results and recording or reporting them



"You are completely free to carry out whatever research you want, so long as you come to these conclusions."

Plagiarism

- Adoption of someone else's/groups ideas, processes, results, figures or words without properly acknowledging the source
- Materials from books, websites, journals
- Plagiarism detection software can detect text plagiarism
- Such allegations are thoroughly investigated and the authors requested for explanations

Self plagiarism

- Also known as text recycling
- It is excessive repeated use of own work (texts, figures, data, ideas)
- The publications become redundant
- Scholarly records of authors is distorted
- Allegations of such are investigated and authors asked to explain



WHO WROTE THIS ESSAY PERKINS?
YOU OR GOOGLE?

What does it look like ?

- Copying someone else's work
- Not citing a source properly
- Creating a false source
- Claiming someones work as yours
- Using your previous work and as a new piece



Avoiding plagiarism

- Cite the original source
- Use your own words
- Summarize what you have read
- Paraphrase
- Quote – and use “quotatoin” marks if verbatim

Example

Views of the taught and the teachers on medical ethics teaching in two universities in Kenya

[Elizabeth Anne Bukusi¹](#) PMID: 35699284 DOI: [10.20529/IJME.2022.017](#)

Medical or clinical ethics provides guidance for health practitioners and has, hopefully, been taught to medical students during training. The teaching of clinical/medical ethics is more important in the current times because of advances in medical science and the different cultural and socioeconomic circumstances in which medicine is practised.

This study sought to determine if and how clinical/medical ethics was taught at two Kenyan medical schools by conducting focus group discussions with undergraduate students and key informant interviews with lecturers teaching ethics and academic administrators.

While medical/clinical ethics is a part of the medical curriculum approved by the Kenya Medical and Dental Practitioners Council (Board) and is taught during the training, we identified a gap between the theory and application of ethics education.

Undergraduates, medical school administrators and lecturers from both institutions acknowledged a lack of role models and mentors, and a need for further training in communication skills since medical ethics has not been made an examinable subject and there has been no formal requirement for training of lecturers teaching ethics.

For the short-term, these gaps can be addressed by training lecturers in medical/clinical ethics, and identifying and utilising suitable reference materials, while long-term measures include developing context-appropriate materials for teaching, in addition to nurturing mentorship skills among lecturers for ethical role modeling.

Example

- Task 1- summarize abstract- 3 sentences max
- Task 2- give quote
- Task 3- use for citation

> [Indian J Med Ethics](#). 2022 Feb 26;--(-):1-7. doi: 10.20529/IJME.2022.017. Online ahead of print.

Views of the taught and the teachers on medical ethics teaching in two universities in Kenya

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Affiliations + expand

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Free article

Abstract

Consequences of plagiarism

- [What are the Consequences for Plagiarism? | Students and Academia | Plagiarism Checker X - Bing video](#)
- Demonstrate plagiarism check using Turnitin

Consent to publish

- Consent has to be sought for publishing:
- Identifiable participant information e.g. age, gender, diagnosis, treatment, occupation
- Participant images e.g. photos, videos
- A statement confirming that consent has been obtained to publish such information must be included in the manuscript

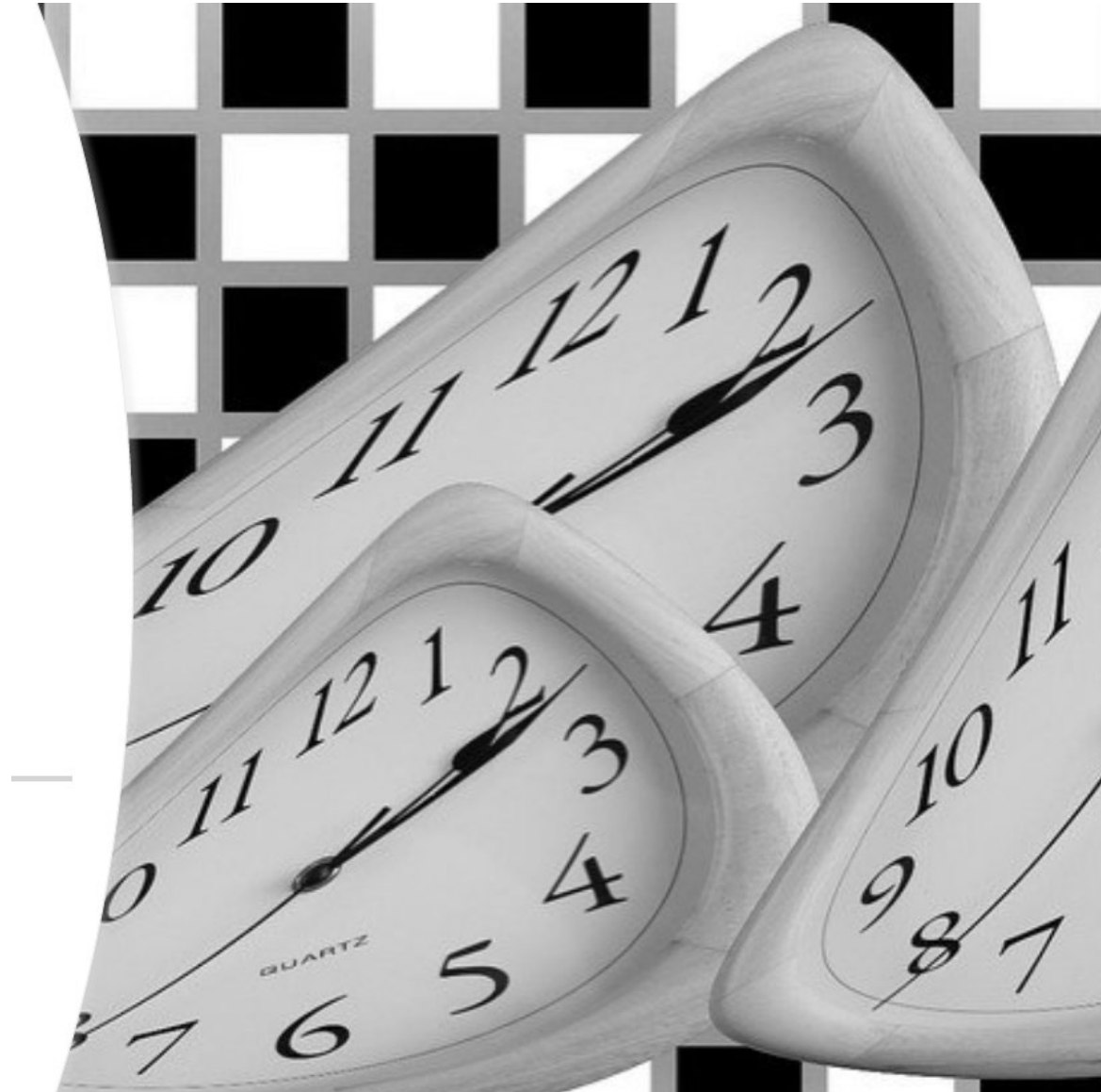
Acknowledgments

- Permission must be sought and obtained from anyone named in the acknowledgements
- They should have an option of not being named, if they so wish- some journals do not allow acknowledgment of anonymous persons
- At submission the authors should declare that they have obtained such permission from the persons being named

Duplicate submissions and publications

- Authors cannot submit to more than one journal concurrently
- At submission declare that the manuscript has not been submitted elsewhere
- Sign legally binding publishing agreement
- Corresponding author may sign on behalf of all co-authors

Image distortion



Adapted from Genevieve Nesom, Ethics & Integrity in Scholarly Publishing, EURAXESS 2021

Ensuring integrity in scientific publishing

- Done through post-publication notices
- Are permanent notices attached to the original article
- Aim is to correct scientific records and ensure integrity
- These include:
 - Correction
 - Expression of concern
 - Retraction

Correction

- Authors have not committed any serious breach of publication or research ethics
- Used to correct minor errors that will not change the conclusions arrived at

Expression of Concern

- The investigations have not been concluded or taking long
- In that case it is important to put a public expression of concern
- Publishers carefully consider when such actions are appropriate
- The authors are usually informed

Retraction

- This action is taken when serious breach of publication/research ethics has occurred
- For example: duplicate publication, plagiarism, unethical research, findings that cannot be verified due to misconduct
- Action is taken even if authors or institutions are non-responsive
- Original article remains online with “Retracted” watermark across it

Whose responsibility is publication ethics



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Authors



Institutions



Reviewers



Editors



Publishers

- All stakeholders must work together to ensure that the content published is accurate and reliable
- Integrity Issues arising before or after publication must be vigorously investigated and appropriate corrective measures taken

Acknowledgments

- **Prof Walter Jaoko**
- **Dr. Elizabeth A. Bukusi**
- **Genevieve Nesom**, Ethics & Integrity in Scholarly Publishing,
EURAXESS 2021