Publishing Ethics and Copyright

Presenter: Wendy Hurp
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Agenda

- Types of ethics complaints
- What are the rules?
- Committee on Publishing Ethics
- CrossCheck – how it works
- Resources for authors on ethics issues
- Copyright policies
- What authors can do without permission
- Any questions?
Types of ethics complaints

- What types of ethics complaints have you heard of?
- Does anyone have direct experience with ethics complaints?
- What do you think is the most common offence?
- What do you consider the most serious offence?
Types of ethics complaints

- Fabrication of data or cases
- Wilful falsification of data
- Plagiarism
- No ethics approval
- Not admitting missing data
- Incomplete referencing
- No data on side effects
- Gift authorship
- Redundant publication
- Duplicate submission

QRP = Questionable Research Practice; FFP = Falsification, Fabrication, Plagiarism
What are the rules?

- No single universal international set of rules
  - Universities have rules re plagiarism
  - Funding agencies have rules for conflicts of interest
  - COPE and ICMJE closest
  - Elsevier has overall policies & some journals/ societies have their own rules

- How do authors learn the rules?
  - Ethics in publishing not generally core curricula at university
  - Publishers present workshops to advise authors
What rules are clearer than others?

- The clear rules, widely accepted
  - Don’t copy
  - Don’t pass off the work of others as your own
  - Do genuine research! (not fraud)

- The grayer areas of rules:
  - The various degrees of authorship
  - What level of interests must be disclosed with respect to conflicts, and how are they disclosed?
  - Self-plagiarism
Plagiarism

- **Definition:** to pass off another’s ideas and/or words as one’s own, without acknowledging the source.
- Can be blatant word-for-word copying or paraphrasing
- If Elsevier publishes plagiarised material, we are violating the rights of the copyright owner

- Ignorance is not an excuse but may be a factor in determining the severity of sanction
- Re-hashing (parts of) your own published articles is known as self-plagiarism
What is an author?

- Can anyone provide a definition for ‘author’?
- Who should be listed as an author and who just mentioned in ‘Acknowledgements’?
- What does the order of authors usually mean?
Authorship disputes

- Author: someone who has made substantive intellectual contributions to a published study
- Authors should...
  - make substantial contributions to conception and design, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data AND
  - draft the article or revise it critically for intellectual content AND
  - have final approval of the version to be published
- Definition can vary per discipline and even per university
- All authors must agree to have their name included on the paper

Definitions from: http://www.icmje.org
Undisclosed conflict of interest

- **Definition:** when an author, reviewer, or editor has financial or personal relationships that inappropriately influence (bias) his or her actions

- Example: Of 106 review articles on passive smoking, 39 articles concluded that it was not harmful to health....

  29/39 articles had authors affiliated with the tobacco industry


- Sometimes we can’t gather all relevant facts about the authors: Editors may need to make a judgement call based on the information available
Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE)

- Independent body that provides Codes of Conduct & training
- Most Elsevier journals members of COPE (since 2008)
- COPE arbitrates where a complainant is still unsatisfied after contacting Editor & publishing company
Summary

- The research being reported should have been conducted in an *ethical and responsible manner* and should comply with all relevant legislation.

- Researchers should present their results *clearly, honestly, and without fabrication, falsification or inappropriate data manipulation*.

- Researchers should strive to describe their methods *clearly and unambiguously* so that their findings can be confirmed by others.

- Researchers should adhere to publication requirements that submitted work is *original, is not plagiarised, and has not been published elsewhere*.

- Authors should take **collective responsibility** for submitted and published work.

- The authorship of research publications should *accurately reflect individuals’ contributions* to the work and its reporting.

- Funding sources and relevant conflicts of interest should be disclosed.

CrossCheck

- Consists of database of published content and plagiarism-detecting software from IParadigms
- Huge database: 31 million+ articles from 175,000+ journals and books from 240 publishers PLUS web content (such as Wikipedia)
- Software shows any similarities between the article and previously published articles, incl. a “similarity rating”
- 700 Elsevier journals have CrossCheck accounts: some Editors check all submissions, some check all accepted papers, some check only suspicious papers
Chemical Stabilization

of Oils Rich in Long-Chain Polyunsaturated Fatty Acids During Storage

During the microencapsulation process, the fish oil undergoes multiple changes in its physical properties, such as bulkiness and dispersability.

In aqueous phase and dry matrix. Autoxidation already occurred in the first stages of the microencapsulation process itself during emulsification and spray drying. An efficient stabilization was achieved using a ternary combination of lipophilic antioxidants, synergistic compounds and a trace metal chelator, e.g. a combination of tocopherols, rich in the α-derivative and low in the δ-derivative, with ascorbyl palmitate and lecithin. Trace metal chelation by, e.g. Citreom or lecithin in combination with ascorbyl palmitate proved to be of particular importance in the emulsion, but not during the storage of the microencapsulated oil. In the microencapsulated oil, the addition of rosemary extract rich in carnosic acid to ternary blends of tocopherols, ascorbyl palmitate and lecithin or Citreom significantly retarded autoxidation. Key Words: autoxidation, fish oil, antioxidants, encapsulation, storage. INTRODUCTION Among the different techniques available for the encapsulation of bioactive food ingredients, spray-drying is the most important technique (Desai and Park, 2005). The process involves four stages: preparation of a dispersion or emulsion; homogenization of the dispersion; atomization of the feed emulsion; and de-atomization of the atomized particles (Shahidi and Han, 1993). Encapsulation in an amorphous glassy matrix thereby offers protection against light and oxygen (Ubbink and Krieger, 2005). In the amorphous glassy state mobility of molecules as well as oxygen permeation is greatly reduced; it is a key process in diffusion-controlled reactions like Maillard reaction and lipid oxidation is reduced, but nevertheless, oxygen permeation through glassy carbo-hydrate matrices still occurs (Andersen et al., 2000; Orlien et al., 2000). Although encapsulation itself prevents lipid oxidation, additional stabilization with antioxidants is required to ensure maximum protection during processing and subsequent storage of microencapsulated bioactive ingredients. As reviewed by Chalyas et al. (2007), research over the past few decades has shown that...
How iThenticate finds text similarity. This is a quick demonstration of how the iThenticate plagiarism detection software works. I have prepared this brief document with some examples of texts taken from published papers so you can see what the editor will see if he runs your submitted manuscript through the software. So far, everything I have written is totally my own work, and I have not copied anything from everywhere. So this will not come up as a similarity when the report is run. The problem starts if you copy and paste text directly from already published work into your paper, like this:

This research has shown that all vegetable juices may be a significant source of antioxidants, regardless of price, storage or processing conditions. However, there is a wide variation in TAC between different types of juice. Beetroot juice displayed by far the highest antioxidant capacity across all of the assays conducted, and has an antioxidant capacity similar to, or greater than that of pomegranate or cranberry juice. Additionally, this research has provided the first measurement concerning the stability of commercial vegetable juice antioxidants following in vitro digestion.

- All of the juices were either stable or enhanced in terms of TAC following in vitro digestion.

Although there was a large variation in the responses of individual juices to this procedure. This research highlights the need for further investigation in several areas. Firstly, it is important to consider the contribution of structurally transformed molecules and other antioxidant metabolites to total antioxidant capacity. It is likely that a number of methods underestimate antioxidant capacity due to a failure to measure these. Further to this, it is important that research aims to provide biologically relevant information on antioxidants by providing data concerning the bioaccessibility and bioavailability of antioxidants in a human system. Finally this study highlights the importance of using multiple methods of analysis in the absence of any single accepted assay for the measurement of TAC.

If you are going to use text from a previously published work, it is best to paraphrase – change the wording to your own – while not forgetting to reference the original source. Wootton-Beard et al., (2011) concluded that juices from vegetables may provide high amounts of antioxidants, although antioxidant capacity varied between different types of juice. They also highlighted the importance of further investigations into structurally transformed molecules, bioaccessibility and bioavailability of antioxidants in humans, and the need to use more than one method of analysis.
Elsevier has advice for authors on ethics issues

As researchers, you can make valuable and lasting contributions to the health and future of society.

Understanding the ethical boundaries in scientific research and publishing is a key step in making sure your work gets off to the best start. From there, anything's possible.

The Ethics in Research & Publication program is the collaboration of an independent panel of experts in research and publishing ethics and Elsevier. The materials on this website have been developed to provide resources and tools so you can proceed confidently.

Scientific truth is the foundation of scientific advancement. Present your work with the intellectual integrity that the scientific community expects.

Make your research count, publish ethically.

www.ethics.elsevier.com
We have an Ethics Toolkit

**Ethics Tools**

**What constitutes scientific misconduct and breach of publishing ethics?**

Scientific misconduct and breach of publishing ethics can take different shapes and forms, and can be committed knowingly or unknowingly.

**Examples of scientific misconduct**

- **Research fraud**: which includes fabrication (making up research data) and falsification (manipulation of existing research data, tables, or images).
- **Improper use of humans or animals in research**: which includes absent or inadequate informed consent of human subjects, or mistreatment of laboratory animals.

**Examples of breach of publications ethics**

- **Plagiarism**: passing off another’s work or ideas as your own.
- **Duplicate submission**: submitting a paper simultaneously to more than one publication at a time.
- **Conflict of interest**: not disclosing to the publication that you have a direct or indirect conflict that prevents you from being unbiased in your paper, such as being employed by those commissioning the research work.

**Ethics Toolkit**

The following materials include tools to help avoid misconduct and background materials about research and publication ethics. If in doubt, nothing can replace a candid conversation with your advisor or someone in a position of authority who can guide you to the right course of action.

- [Duplicate Submission Fact Sheet](#)
- [Research Fraud Fact Sheet](#)
- [Plagiarism Fact Sheet](#)
- [Top 5 Reasons to Publish Ethically Poster](#)

**Toolkit Videos**

- [Research, Ethics, Ethics in Practice](#)

**References**

Here is an example of what’s included

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>What it is</th>
<th>Is it unethical?</th>
<th>What should you do</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Literal Copying</td>
<td>Reproducing a work word for word, in whole or in part, without permission and acknowledgment of the original source.</td>
<td>Yes.</td>
<td>- Keep track of sources you use while researching and where you used it in your paper&lt;br&gt;- Make sure to fully acknowledge and properly cite the original source in your paper&lt;br&gt;- Even when you properly reference, avoid using others’ work word for word unless you put it in quotation marks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substantial Copying</td>
<td>This can include research materials, processes, tables, or equipment.</td>
<td>Yes. “Substantial” can be defined as both quantity and quality of what was copied. If your work captures the essence of another’s work, it should be cited.</td>
<td>- Ask yourself if your work has benefited from the skill and judgment of the original author?&lt;br&gt;- The degree to which you answer “yes” will indicate whether substantial copying has taken place&lt;br&gt;- If so, be sure to cite the original source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paraphrasing</td>
<td>Reproducing someone else’s ideas while not copying word for word, without permission and acknowledgment of the original source.</td>
<td>Yes. Paraphrasing is only acceptable if you properly reference the source and make sure that you do not change the meaning of what the source intended.</td>
<td>- Make sure that you understand what the original author means&lt;br&gt;- Never copy and paste words that you do not fully understand&lt;br&gt;- Think about how the essential ideas of the source relate to your own work, until you can deliver the information to others without referring to the source&lt;br&gt;- Compare your paraphrasing with the source, to make sure you retain the intended meaning, even if you changed the words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Text-recycling</td>
<td>Reproducing portions of an author’s own work in a paper, and resubmitting it for publication as an entirely new paper.</td>
<td>Yes.</td>
<td>- Put anything in quotes that is taken directly from a previously published paper, even if you are reusing something in your own words&lt;br&gt;- Make sure to reference the source accordingly</td>
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</table>

*When in doubt, always consult with your professor, advisor, or someone in a position of authority who can guide you to the right course of action.*
Why Elsevier needs copyright

- In order to proceed with publication, Elsevier must have the right to:
  - Publish the article in all media
  - Sell, distribute and display the article
  - Reproduce the article (reprints)
  - Make derivative works
  - Re-use parts of the article
  - Grant permissions and sell subsidiary rights
  - Protect authors from plagiarism and unethical practices
Quick guide to handling Copyright queries

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Without asking permission, authors can...

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- **BUT:** postings must include a link to the published article on ScienceDirect and complete citation for the article
- Postings must not be for commercial purposes
Summary

- Many kinds of ethical violations exist
- No single internationally recognized set of rules
- Plagiarism and authorship disputes are most common ethical complaints
- There are resources and guidance available to authors
- Copyright is vital to maintain the scientific record and protect the author
- Authors retain many rights to reproduce their article