Scientific Red Cards

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for the “Scientific Red Cards” team

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From principles to practice: How European Research Organizations implement research integrity guidelines?

Scientific misconduct in the literature

- Papers resulting from misconduct not always retracted
- Retracted papers still cited after retraction

How can scientists deal with scientific misconduct in publications?

Objective: increase the visibility of scientific publications where misconduct has been assessed

A better visibility of assessed fraud in publications for promoting scientific integrity

- maintaining a reliable literature
- deterring from serious and “normal” misbehaviors and counterbalancing the pressure for publication
- building an environment where misconduct is openly debated
- promoting an active and responsible self-regulation of misconduct in the scientific community

Action: Building an inventory of publications for which misconduct has been assessed by institutions, in a collaborative effort
Available information in the database

- Reference of the publication
- Type of misconduct
- Link to assessment by a legitimate institution
- Description of the case
- Users' comments

Scientific Red Cards (beta version)

- Published content and related misconduct: falsification, fabrication, and plagiarism.
- Publication-related misconduct: non-compliance with editorial policies and standards.
- Research practice misconduct: unethical treatment of research subjects.

Project Implementation

- Content definition
  - Data-related misconduct: falsification, fabrication, and plagiarism.
  - Publication-related misconduct: non-compliance with editorial policies and standards.
  - Research practice misconduct: unethical treatment of research subjects.

- Content addition
  - Collaborative contribution from scientists
  - Moderation by the project team
  - Partnerships with institutions
Project implementation
Open questions

- What information should be revealed and how?
  - authors' identity
  - types of assessment of the misconduct
  - institutions who led the investigation
  - sanction imposed to the misbehaving scientist

Collaboration with institutions

- for this project:
  - source of information, better credibility, financial support
- for institutions:
  - visibility of the investigations and conclusions achieved
- for researchers:
  - platform for interactive information about misconduct

(what we expect... :-)

- Keep in mind the potential of interactive communication about scientific misconduct
- Catch the opportunity to start building a common database: contribute to the list
- Set up the basis for a long-term partnership: discuss what kind of chart would be suitable for each part

Thank you for your attention!

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Please visit us at www.scientificredcards.org