



UPPSALA  
UNIVERSITET

# Publications -Ethical Issues

Group 3

# Who should be included in a publication?

Start a discussion about publications and authorship already when a project starts

The Vancouver rules: (Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals)

Authorship credit should be based on:

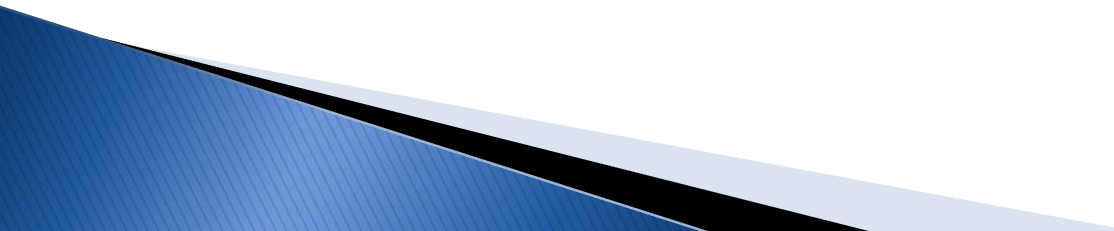
- 1) substantial contributions to conception and design, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data
- 2) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content
- 3) final approval of the version to be published.

*Authors should meet conditions 1, 2, and 3*

Shared authorship is addressed by:

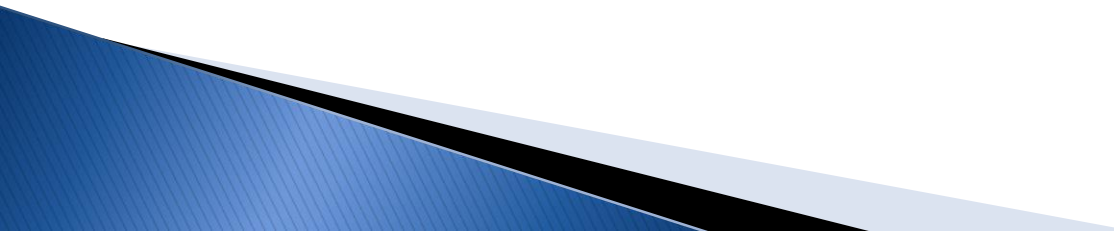
- Council of Science Editors (Recommendations for Group–Author Articles in Scientific Journals and Bibliometric Databases)
- Guidelines by the British Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE).

# Who is responsible?

- All authors are together responsible for the content, but a supervisor is the main responsible
  - The responsible publisher – ethics and law
  - The editor – scientific quality
  - The reviewer – be objective
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# Research Misconduct

The violation of the standard codes of scholarly conduct and ethical behaviour in professional scientific research

- ▶ 1.Fabrication: Making up data or results and recording or reporting them
  - ▶ 2.Falsification: Manipulating research materials, changing or omitting data or results
  - ▶ 3a. Plagiarism: The appropriation of another person's ideas, processes, results, and words without giving appropriate credit
  - ▶ 3b. Self-Plagiarism: The verbatim copying or reuse of one's own research
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# Prevention of Research Misconduct

Creation of a good research environment , characterized by a culture that does not tolerate research misconduct.

Participation of individual researcher, faculty head and the department.

Responsibility of the a University's vice-chancellor to ensure that the ethical awareness among research are kept at a high level and to investigate suspicions misconducts.

People in charge of a research conducted outside university (industry, independent research institute, county council)

Going public with established case of misconduct is a crucial discouraging factor.

Established misconduct be followed by sanctions to mark that a violation for research ethics is a serious matter.



# Ethics and reviewing

The Ideal situation

Disinterested

Expert in the field

Has time to carefully examine the paper

Spots errors or even cheating

Gives constructive criticism

Does the actual reviewing

Works fast

vs.

Worst Case Scenario

Friend or "foe"

Not expert

Spends short time

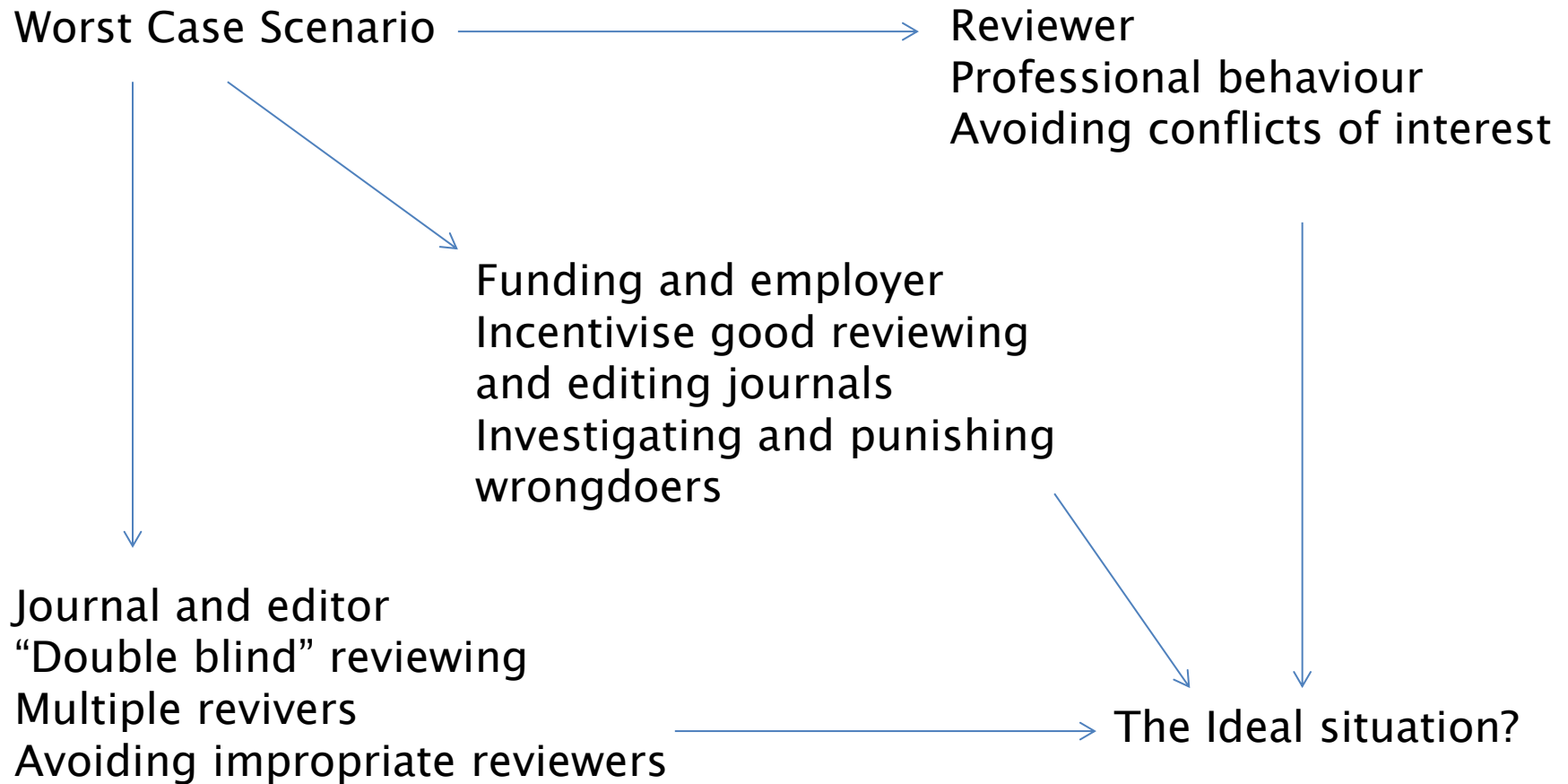
Misses errors

Stealing Results

Farming out review (without notifying)

Slow

# Possible solutions to problems



# «Luxury» journals

nature

PNAS

Cell

Science

- High quality (?)
- Peer reviewed
- High chances to get funding
- Expensive
- Often deny to publish outstanding research
- Eye-catching
- Impact factor



# Open access journals

- Free for readers
- Low cost
- Peer reviewed (?)
- Quality (?)
- Murky



**PLOS**

**BioMed** Central

# Self-citation

I ♥  
Myself

- Coercive citation

“...an editor of a scientific or academic journal forces an author to add spurious citations to an article before the journal will agree to publish it. This is done to inflate the journal's impact factor, thus artificially boosting the journal's scientific reputation.”

from Wikipedia:

*Journals banned from Thomson Reuters' Impact Factor list for self-citation:*

- Self-referencing by authors ▪ self-promotion
- `Cartel-style' citation ▪ mutual citation benefits

