## Why articles are retracted

استرداد مقالات علل، عواقب، پیشگیری



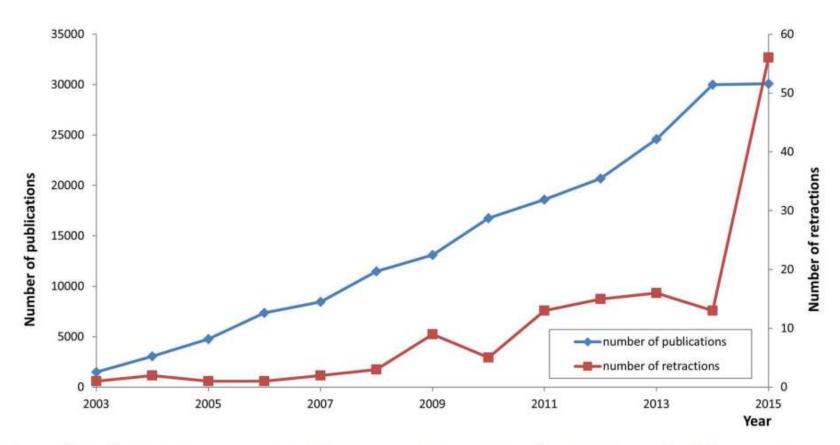


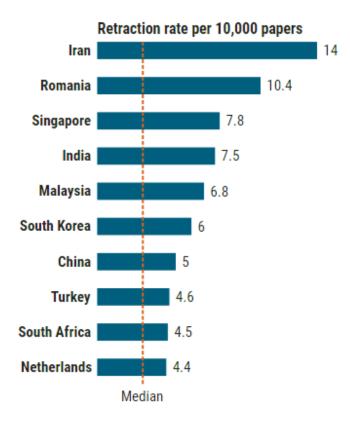
Figure 1 Growth in retractions compared with growth in total articles published (excluding supplements, corrections, retractions and commissioned content).

#### Top 10 retracted authors

Yoshitaka Fujii, Japan	169
Joachim Boldt, Germany	96
Diederik Stapel, Netherlands	58
Chen-yuan Peter Chen, Taiwan	43
Yoshihiro Sato, Japan	43
Hua Zhong, China	41
Shigeaki Kato, Japan	39
James Hunton, United States	36
Hyung-in Moon, South Korea	35
Jan Hendrik Schön, United States	32

 «گزارش خبری مجلهی معتبر ساینس از دادگان مقالات رترکت شده نشان می دهد که در بین کشورهایی که از سال ۲۰۰۳ تا ۲۰۱۶، حداقل ۱۰۰ هزار مقاله منتشر کردهاند، بیشترین نسبت مقالات ر ترکت شده متعلق به ایر ان است.

## Countries with the highest retraction rates



◄ طبق توضیحات مجله ساینس، رتبه ایران در این رنکینگ میتواند به خاطر چندین رسوایی

بزرگِ ناشی از داوریهای تقلبی باشد.

از طرفی ساینس اشاره میکند شاید اگر مقالات فارسی ایران نیز به مجموعه کل مقالاتش

اضافه شود، ایران وضعیت متفاوتی در رنکینگ پیدا کند.

# گایدلاین ابطال مقالات براساس نظر کمیته اخلاق نشر The Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE)

- Main findings are found to be
  - Unreliable
  - Redundant
  - Plagiarized
- The authors have reported unethical research or failed to disclose a major competing interest.

Plagiarism: duplication of text from previously published articles.

Compromised peer review: compromises in the independent

assessment of the manuscript by a peer.

- Data unreliable: data has errors
- Data falsification/fabrication: data has been manipulated or made up
- Published in error: article was accidently published twice as a result of publisher error

- Duplicate publication: article was published twice (usually as a result of author misconduct)
- Image duplication: duplication of images from previously published articles
- Authors unaware of manuscript submission: not all authors aware

- No ethical approval: the study had no ethical approval
- No consent: the study involved people who had not given consent
- No permission for data: authors did not have permission to use the data reported.

- Undeclared conflict of interest: authors or reviewers did not declare a conflict of interest.
- Breach of editorial policy: the manuscript breached an editorial policy

### Biggest Fabricator in Science

Yoshitaka Fujii falsified 183 papers before statistics exposed him



#### Retracted coronavirus (COVID-19) papers

- 1. "Uncanny similarity of unique inserts in the 2019-nCoV spike protein to HIV-1 gp120 and Gag," bioRxiv preprint published January 31, 2020 and withdrawn February 2, 2020. More context here.
- 2. "Epidemiological and clinical features of the 2019 novel coronavirus outbreak in China," medRxiv preprint published February 11, 2020 and withdrawn February 21, 2020. More context here.
- 3. "Chinese medical staff request international medical assistance in fighting against COVID-19," letter in The Lancet published February 24, 2020 and retracted February 26, 2020. More context here.
- 4. "Potential False-Positive Rate Among the 'Asymptomatic Infected Individuals' in Close Contacts of COVID-19 Patients," paper in the Chinese Journal of Epidemiology published March 5, 2020 and retracted a few days later. More context here.

### Retracted coronavirus (COVID-19) papers

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- 34. "Clinical Characteristics and Blood Test Results in COVID-19

  Patients," published in the May/June 2020 issue of Annals of Clinical
  & Laboratory Science and retracted in July/August 2020 issue.
- 35. "Liver impairment associated with disease progression in COVID-19 patients," published April 15, 2020 in *Liver International* and retracted in August/September 2020.
- 36. "Incidence and mortality of COVID-19 in Iranian multiple sclerosis patients treated with disease-modifying therapies," published September 15, 2020 in *Revue Neurologique* and retracted on October 8, 2020.
- 37. "Mental health burden for the public affected by the COVID-19 outbreak in China: Who will be the high-risk group?," published April 14, 2020 in *Psychology, Health & Medicine* and retracted on October 23, 2020. Our coverage here.

#### Original article

## Misconduct as the main cause for retraction. A descriptive study of retracted publications and their authors



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#### ABSTRACT

Objective: To analyze the causes of retracted publications and the main characteristics of their authors. Method: A descriptive cross-sectional study was designed including all retracted publications from January 1st, 2013-December 31st, 2016 indexed in PubMed. The causes of retraction were classified as: data management, authorship issues, plagiarism, unethical research, journal issues, review process, conflict of interest, other causes, and unknown reasons. Then, misbehaviour was classified as misconduct, suspicion of misconduct or no misconduct suspicion.

Results: 1,082 retracted publications were identified. The retraction rate for the period was 2.5 per 10,000 publications. The main cause of retraction was misconduct (65.3%), and the leading reasons were plagiarism, data management and compromise of the review process. The highest proportion of retracted publications corresponded to Iran (15.52 per 10,000), followed by Egypt and China (11.75 and 8.26 per 10,000).

## Reasons for retraction and proportion of misconduct by category

Reason of retraction	Articles, n (%)	Misconduct, n (%)		
Plagiarism	354 (32.7)	Yes	354 (100)	
		No	0	
		Uncertain	0	
Data	352 (32.5)	Yes	129 (36.6)	
		No	1 (0.3)	
		Uncertain	222 (63.1)	
Review process compromised	152 (14.1)	Yes	152 (100)	
		No	0	
		Uncertain	0	
Authors	64 (5.9)	Yes	42 (65.6)	
	20 00	No	0	
		Uncertain	22 (34.4)	
Journal	47 (4.3)	Yes	0	
	20.00	No	44 (93.6)	
		Uncertain	3 (6.4)	
Ethical	23 (2.1)	Yes	19 (82.6)	
	20 50	No	1 (4.4)	
		Uncertain	3 (13.0)	
Conflicts of interest	7 (0.7)	Yes	7 (100)	
	3.12	No	0	
		Uncertain	0	
Other	54 (5.0)	Yes	4 (7.4)	
		No	8 (14.8)	
		Uncertain	42 (77.8)	
Unknown	29 (2.7)	Yes	0	
		No	0	
		Uncertain	29 (100)	

Proportion of retractions per country of origin (2013–2016)

Country	Total publications	Retractions	Proportion/10,000	
Iran	55,407	86	15.52	
Egypt	9,358	11	11.75	
China	481,888	398	8.26	
India	143,884	96	6.67	
Malaysia	17,072	6	3,51	
Turkey	64,951	21	3.23	
Thailand	16,521	5	3.03	
Saudi Arabia	20,678	6	2.90	
Korea	124,763	33	2.65	
Italy	168,109	33	1.96	
Singapore	25,477	5	1.96	
U.S.A.	816,464	157	1.92	
Sweden	63,369	10	1.58	
Taiwan	51,895	8	1.54	
Spain	112,588	13	1.15	
Japan	200,623	23	1.15	
Denmark	46,865	5	1.07	
Brazil	88,915	9	1.01	
Switzerland	69,433	7	1.01	
Canada	156,555	14	0.89	
U.K.	240,414	21	0.87	
Australia	142,701	11	0.77	
France	157,316	12	0.76	
Germany	222,501	16	0.72	
Netherlands	105,487	6	0.57	

### Review process compromised by country of origin

Country	n (%)		
China	114 (75)		
Iran	27 (17.7)		
India	6(4)		
Malaysia	2 (1.3)		
U.S.A.	2 (1.3)		
Pakistan	1 (0.7)		



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Associations of IL-8 gene polymorphisms and IL-8 levels with predisposition to age-related macular degeneration: a meta-analysis	+Euphemisms for Plagiarism +Plagiarism of Article		32157592	10/27/2020 33108631 10.1007/s40520-020-01720-y	Meta-Analysis Retraction
Aplysin enhances temozolomide sensitivity in glioma cells by increasing miR-181 level	+Concerns/Issues About Data			10/26/2020 33104845	Research Article Retraction
(BLS) Biochemistry; (BLS) Biology - Cancer; (BLS) Biology - Cellular; (BLS) Genetics; (HSC) Medicine - Neurology; (HSC) Medicine - Oncology;  Cancer Chemotherapy and Pharmacology — Springer	+Unreliable Data	<u>Weicheng Yao</u> <u>Luxiang Lu</u> <u>Hui Liang</u>	10.1007/s00280-014-2534-5	10.1007/s00280-020-04166-1	
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