

Survey - The Influence of retractions on the career of scientists in the biomedical sciences.

1. For this survey, participants must be at least 18 years old and have had at least one retracted paper between 2013 and 2015.

- If **Yes**, continue to Consent Form.
- If **No**, thank you for your interest.

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2. SURVEY INVITATION

You are being invited to participate in a research study titled "**The Influence of retractions on the career of scientists from the most productive countries in the biomedical sciences**". This research is being conducted by Professor Sonia Vasconcelos and PhD student Mariana Ribeiro from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ), Brazil. This invitation is justified by the fact that you are a corresponding author in at least one retracted publication between 2013-2015 and is affiliated with at least 1 of the first 20 countries in the most productive ranking in the biomedical fields according to Scimago Journal & Country Rank.

The purpose of this research study is to investigate how retractions influence - or may influence - the career of scientists. We aim to explore this problem in light of the reward systems of science. If you agree to take part in this study, you will be asked to complete an online survey/questionnaire that will take approximately 12-15 minutes to complete.

Please, click here to access the CONSENT FORM.

By clicking "Agree" below you are indicating that you are at least 18 years old, have read this consent form, and agree to participate in this research study. Please print a copy of this page for your records.

- Agree
- Do Not Agree

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Section I

In the first step of this survey (Section I), our goal is to collect information about your main field of research, career experience, and country of affiliation.

3. Considering the following categories of fields by Glänzel & Schubert (2003), what is your main research field? If this list does not include yours, please select the one that most represents your research area.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Agriculture & Environment | <input type="radio"/> Physics |
| <input type="radio"/> Biology (Organismic & Supraorganismic level) | <input type="radio"/> Geosciences & Space Sciences |
| <input type="radio"/> Biosciences (General, Cellular & Subcellular Biology; Genetics) | <input type="radio"/> Engineering |
| <input type="radio"/> Biomedical Research | <input type="radio"/> Mathematics |
| <input type="radio"/> Clinical and Experimental Medicine I (General & Internal Medicine) | <input type="radio"/> Social Sciences I (General, Regional & Community issues) |
| <input type="radio"/> Clinical and experimental medicine ii (Non-internal Medicine specialties) | <input type="radio"/> Social Sciences II (Economical & Political issues) |
| <input type="radio"/> Neuroscience & Behavior | <input type="radio"/> Arts & Humanities |
| <input type="radio"/> Chemistry | |

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4. Considering your career time since earning your PhD, you are:

- an early-career researcher/scholar (a PhD holder with up to 10 years past your first position in academia)
- a mid-career researcher/scholar (a PhD holder with more than 10 up to 15 years past your first position in academia)
- an experienced researcher/scholar (a PhD holder with more than 15 up to 20 years past your first position in academia)
- a senior researcher/scholar (a PhD holder with more than 20 years past your first position in academia)

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5. In which country you have developed most of your research experience as a **graduate student**?

6. In which country you have developed most of your research experience as a **researcher/scholar since earning your PhD up to now?**

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Section II

In this section, we would like you to rate how often a series of factors/indicators affect career advancement and cumulative advantage in your field.

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Considering your career experience in your field, **career advancement**

7. is mostly reliant on **publication in scientific journals.**

- Almost always Seldom
 Often Never
 Sometimes

Comments

8. is mostly reliant on **publication in high-impact-factor journals.**

- Almost always Seldom
 Often Never
 Sometimes

Comments

9. is mostly reliant on the **quality of the science**, no matter where it is published.

- Almost always Seldom
 Often Never
 Sometimes

Comments

10. has been influenced by contributions of researchers/scholars that **go beyond publication in scientific journals.**

- Almost always
- Often
- Sometimes
- Seldom
- Never

Could please offer at least one example?

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Considering your **career experience in your field**

11. **The total number of publications** is a factor that influences cumulative advantage for recognition and rewards.

- Almost always
- Often
- Sometimes
- Seldom
- Never

Comments

12. **Publications in high-impact-factor journals** is a factor that influences cumulative advantage for recognition and rewards.

- Almost always
- Often
- Sometimes
- Seldom
- Never

Comments

13. **The total number of citations** is a factor that influences cumulative advantage for recognition and rewards.

- Almost always
- Often
- Sometimes
- Seldom
- Never

Comments

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Considering the reward systems of science and your experience as a researcher, please, rate your agreement with the following statements:

14. A retraction is an important mechanism for the reliability of the scientific record.

- Strongly disagree Strongly agree
 Disagree I don't know
 Agree

Comments

15. How do you view the **impact of self-retraction(s) for honest error** on the career of the **first author**?

- Strong None
 Considerable I don't know
 Mild

Comments

16. How do you view the **impact of self-retraction(s) for honest error** on the career of the **corresponding author**?

- Strong None
 Considerable I don't know
 Mild

Comments

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The literature has shown that retractions for misconduct may have an impact on the career of researchers . Please, consider the following types of retractions and share your opinion on the influence - negative, positive, none - they should have in funding decisions.

17. Self-retractions for misconduct.

- Negative
- Positive
- None
- I don't know

Comments

18. Self-retractions for honest error.

- Negative
- Positive
- None
- I don't know

Comments

19. Retractions for misconduct (initiated by publishers or others).

- Negative
- Positive
- None
- I don't know

Comments

20. Retractions for honest error (initiated by publishers or others).

- Negative
- Positive
- None
- I don't know

Comments

21. Besançon et al (2022) have proposed that “...institutions and journals should promote corrections and retractions as much as they promote new research findings.” **Please, rate your agreement with this proposal.**

Strongly disagree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Comments

22. Please list the **top three words or phrases that you believe describe the role of retractions in science** today.

References:

Azoulay, P, Bonatti A, & Krieger, JL (2017) The career effects of scandal: Evidence from scientific retractions. *Research Policy* 46(9): 1552-1569.

Besançon L, Bik E, Heathers J, Meyerowitz-Katz G (2022) Correction of scientific literature: Too little, too late! *PLoS Biol* 20(3): e3001572. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.3001572>

Glänzel W, Schubert A (2003) A new classification scheme of science fields and subfields designed for scientometric evaluation purposes. *Scientometrics* 56: 357-367. <https://doi.org/10.1023/A:1022378804087>