

Editorial

Ethical authorship and publishing

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Abstract

Principles of Ethical Publishing in the International Journal of Cardiology:

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The International Journal of Cardiology is one of the oldest and proudest cardiovascular journals [1,2]. When the journal was first published as an independent cardiovascular journal (it had previously been part of the European Journal of Cardiology), the cardiovascular world was very different. The first mega-trial had not been designed, no treatment for heart failure had an effect on mortality and stents were something for urologists. In addition scientific misconduct in publishing, although well recognised, was not seen as such a prevalent problem as it now is becoming. Hardly a week now

goes by as editor of a major medical journal without I and my colleague associate editors being confronted with an allegation or evidence of plagiarism, duplicate publication, multiple submissions, authorship disputes, scientific fraud, article retraction or salami slicing of research findings into an excessive number of publications. We are taking a lead in identifying notifying, investigating and reporting all such occurrences which come to our attention, and we keep an increasingly close eye for the detection of such misconduct. From January 1, 2009 we will be requiring all papers published in the Journal to carry a statement that all authors adhere to our principles of ethical publishing and to cite and agree to the statement of ethical publishing listed below:

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