

AVOIDING ETHICAL VIOLATIONS:

a primer for authors

	Issue	How to avoid
Plagiarism	Using another person's text, figures, graphs, or data without attribution	Be sure to cite work from other sources.
Self-plagiarism	Re-using data or text from your own previously published paper without attribution	Ensure that all data and text are new and original for each paper, including control experiments.
Falsification of data	Manipulating data so that the published figure does not accurately represent the original	Ensure that no specific feature is enhanced, obscured, moved, removed, or introduced. Groupings of images must be disclosed. Images must be uniformly adjusted and must not obscure, eliminate, or misrepresent any information present in the original image. Keep all original data.
Fabrication of data	Making up data to improve the experimental results	Make sure that the results are reported accurately.
Conflicts of interest	Not disclosing any actual or perceived conflict that could affect scientific judgment	Make certain that any affiliations, financial relationships, personal relationships, or funding sources that could be perceived as influencing an author's objectivity are disclosed.
Improper reporting of animal studies	Not conducting/reporting research on animals appropriately or transparently	All research involving animal subjects must be reviewed and approved by an appropriate committee, and these approvals included in the manuscript. Consult the ARRIVE guidelines for reporting animal research.
Authorship issues	Author list does not match contributions made	Authorship is based on substantial contributions. Agree on authorship before writing the manuscript, and make sure all authors approve any changes in authorship.
Duplicate submission	Submitting a manuscript or substantial parts of a manuscript to more than one journal	Do not submit a manuscript to more than one journal concurrently. If you plan to use parts of a published article for a review article, be sure to check the licensing information from the publisher.

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