

<p>Journal declines to retract fish research paper despite fraud finding <i>Science</i>, February 2023</p>	<p>There's far more scientific fraud than anyone wants to admit <i>The Guardian</i> Aug 2023</p>	<p>Experts fight to expose science fraud in Australia <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i>, June 27, 2023</p>	<p><i>The Economist</i> Feb 22nd 2023</p>
<p>A journal refused to retract a paper although it was fabricated.</p> <p>An investigation group pointed to several inconsistencies, but the journal the correction issued solved the problem.</p> <p>→ whistleblowers are furious / while the authors don't acknowledge any dishonest behavior</p> <p>Problems in several papers :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "sloppiness" / lack of rigor - Copying and pasting ("inexplicable duplications") - Faulty registration of information - Errors - Impossibility of carrying out all these experiments in the specified timeframe <p>A correction was issued :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Whistleblowers are not satisfied, especially since it raises new issues. - But the journal considers these approximations do not alter the overall conclusion of the research. 	<p>Stanford / Harvard: scholars exposed for tampering with the results of their research.</p> <p>This doesn't happen in the most prestigious institutions.</p> <p>According to a watchdog</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5,500 paper retractions in 2022 - 40 in 2000 <p>Reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More papers published - More investigations by watchdogs and whistleblowers - The acknowledgement of the existence of "paper mills" <p>"Publish or perish" : researchers need to publish to get / keep a job or be promoted.</p> <p>The actual number of retractions should be at least 100,000 every year</p> <p>Not only due to misconduct : 20% due to honest mistakes</p> <p>But the scientists who are exposed fight back : those who speak out may be punished by their superiors or even sued.</p> <p>Journals/publishers come up short → reluctant / dragging their feet</p> <p>Reason for fraud : low funding rates</p> <p>There should be more funding to detect fraud. Research and publishing should no longer be linked to getting funding / getting a job.</p> <p>Otherwise things are unlikely to change.</p>	<p>Australia : new attempt to detect scientific fraud → online resource to track retracted papers.</p> <p>Misconduct and retractions have been on the rise.</p> <p>Example : unreliable research supported Ivermectin as a Covid-19 treatment</p> <p>1/50 papers have manipulated data</p> <p>Some even claim "most" papers have been falsified.</p> <p>That is why the new project was started → more transparency.</p> <p>Reason for fraud : "publish or perish" → researchers are under pressure and take liberties with scientific rigor.</p> <p>Hence the rise of "paper mills"</p> <p>Australia : institutions / universities do not do enough to fight against fraud and misconduct → keeping quiet about problems instead of dealing with them.</p>	<p>About biomedical research</p> <p>1. Pants on fire (= liars)</p> <p>Hardly any retractions from 1996 to 2000</p> <p>Since 2000, the rise has been continuous.</p> <p>Slight increase from 2000 to 2011</p> <p>Sharp increase from 2011 to 2023</p> <p>About 18,000 retractions in 4,244 journals in 28 years</p> <p>2. The truth will out. Sometimes</p> <p>Main reasons for retractions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Suspected & confirmed fraud (about 9,000 retractions) 2. Plagiarism / authorship / affiliation (about 4,000 retractions) 3. Errors = "only" 2,000 retractions

