# Plagiarism in Medical and Health Sciences Research



Plagiarism, the **act of stealing someone else's work**, has its roots in the Latin word "plagiarius," meaning "kidnapper." This word, derived from the Latin "plaga" (a net), initially referred to stealing children but later expanded to include stealing intellectual property.

https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/plagiarism

#### What is Plagiarism in medical scientific research?

The World Association of Medical Editors defines plagiarism as "the use of others' published and unpublished ideas or words (or other intellectual property) without attribution or permission, and presenting them as new and original rather than derived from an existing source."

World Association of Medical Editors, author. Recommendations on publication ethics policies for medical journals [Internet] WAME; Englewood: C2016. [cited 2024 Sep 9]. Available from: <a href="https://wame.org/recommendations-on-publication-ethics-policies-for-medical-journals#Plagiarism">https://wame.org/recommendations-on-publication-ethics-policies-for-medical-journals#Plagiarism</a>.

### Why is Plagiarism a Problem?

Min, S. K. (2020). Plagiarism in medical scientific research: can continuing education and alarming prevent this misconduct?. Vascular Specialist International, 36(2), 53.



Ethical Violations: Plagiarism breaks ethical standards like honesty and respect for intellectual property in science.

Legal and Professional Consequences: It can lead to legal issues, retracted papers, and harm to professional reputations and careers





Undermines Trust in Research: Plagiarism damages the credibility of medical research and undermines confidence in scientific findings

Hinders Scientific Progress: it prevents students and researchers from developing their own critical thinking, research and communicative skills.



#### Types of plagiarism in Medical and Health Sciences research

Radikė, M., & Camm, C. F. (2022). Plagiarism in medical publishing: each of us can do something about it. European Heart Journal-Case Reports, 6(4), ytac137.

**Plagiarism of text** (direct plagiarism): "...copying a portion of text from another source without giving credit to its author and without enclosing the borrowed text in quotation marks."

Roig, M. (2015). Avoiding plagiarism, self-plagiarism, and other questionable writing practices: A guide to ethical writing. The Office of Research Integrity (ORI).



**Paraphrasing**: rewording someone else's ideas or work without proper citation, making it appear as if the ideas belong to the writter.

**Mosaic plagiarism:** borrowing phrases, ideas, or pieces of text from a source without proper citation, while mixing them with their own words.

**Insufficient acknowledgement:** citing a source incompletely, incorrectly, or in a way that doesn't make clear which parts of the work are borrowed, leading to a misleading impression of originality.

Besides text, plagiarism also includes:







Figures

Tables

Redundant or duplicate publication

Self-plagiarism

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## Would you like to better understand what plagiarism is and learn tips on how to avoid it?

We invite you to the workshop "Strategies for Plagiarism Prevention" on October 15, 2024, from 12:15 to 13:00 at University Building, HS 13. We look forward to seeing you!.

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