

Transparency in Animal Research – an Editor's view

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Transparency

- Open Access
- Data Sharing
- Ensure Transparency







Open Access

- British Journal of Pharmacology
 - accepted Ms instant OA for a fee
 - all are open after 12 months
- British and American Pharmacology
 Societies jointly operate an OA journal with a lower quality threshold
 - Pharmacology Research & Perspectives
 - Specifically invites negative studies
 - Peer Review is an important issue





Data Sharing – a Journal's perspective

- How to facilitate Data Sharing including negative results?
 - Journals
 - can require full data rather than summary data
 - can invite publication of negative findings
 - can provide platforms for data
 - Funders
 - probably need to mandate this
 - Institutions/Companies
 - need to see some advantage in peer-reviewed international publishing rather than their own data store





Data Sharing – a Journal's perspective

- Funders can require that all data be published somewhere
 - Journals have little control here
 - Common approach needed
 - Needs a mandate from the funders or institutions/companies.
 - Two suggestions for Negative/null data
 - can be attached to a "positive" Ms. as a supplement BJP encourages this
 - can have its own life as a separate report journals such as PR&P







Ensuring Transparency

- Cultural shift
 - Scientist buy-in to transparency as useful rather than a nuisance
- Journals police transparency
 - Funders and journals must work to a common agenda
 - recent NIH initiative on Reporting Research
- How much information is needed?
 - Asking for every detail covered in ARRIVE may be counter-productive
 - Subject specific requirements help





International context

- 6% of BJP Ms submitted from UK (22% China)
- Small % of UK-funded work published in UK
- We insist on UK standards as minimum
 - If two legislations differ we go with the more rigorous.
- So expert peer review is required
 - referees are international!







Transparency requires information to be in manuscript

- providing assurance to reviewers is not enough
 - the reader of the published paper needs to see what was done
- instruction by trainers, funders and regulators is essential
 - but policing lies ultimately with journals
 - trainers, funders and journals must operate same guidelines
- journals must work together (internationally)
- In the end everyone needs to cooperate







End of Presentation



