



## Responsibility in Writing Scientific Articles

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Increasingly, the ease with which everyone has access to information, causes myths and truths to mix and confuse laypeople and professionals, who seek updates. In this sense, scientific articles are highlighted by the dissemination of results from research that may have an impact on people's lives.

When we write a scientific article, whether it is the result of original research or a literature review, authors should keep in mind that other people may come to use the published data in determining conduct, either for themselves or for the guidance of others. And with that in mind, we must emphasize the responsibility that the authors have in each of their statements and denials.

At all stages of writing an article, authors must act impartially. The introduction must be constructed to direct readers to the line of reasoning that the authors made and that led them to the problem or guiding question of the research. The method section is the most important one of the studies and must be described with all the necessary detail so that other people can replicate it. A study that has been meticulously planned, will have no difficulties in having this step described in detail, but it is common to find this section confused and incomplete, in studies that have not gone through a rigorous planning process, causing many steps to have only been thought of when the need arose. On the other hand, when we come across articles that present the method section rich in details, we realize the zeal with which the authors did this writing and we have already anticipated that the same should be observed in the rest of the work.

**Received:** March 24, 2021

**Published:** June 01, 2021

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The results are the section with the greatest impact for the authors, as this is where they will be able to present the fruit of their research. It is common for researchers to encounter unexpected results and it is at that moment that the responsibility for their writing should prevail. It is important to emphasize here that if the results were already known, there would be no reason for the research to exist. Therefore, researchers have a moral obligation to report all the results obtained, even if they will refute their initial ideas, demonstrating that what was observed is different from what was expected. It is at that moment when the greatest impartiality of the authors is expected, since the same emphasis that is given to a positive result must be given to the negative result. In summary, the authors must present the results with the same fervor if they had obtained them in the opposite direction.

In the discussion section, authors should seek to make comparisons with studies that have methodological similarities, to avoid comparing incompatible situations or populations. In divergent results, the discussion should seek to present the possible factors that may have contributed to the divergences. Finally, in the conclusion, the authors should focus on the data obtained and not on the desired ones. They should also exercise great caution when making statements and extrapolations to populations that have not been included in the sample of their study. Again, impartiality can contribute to the drawing up of conclusions with greater reliability to the research carried out.

All researchers should keep in mind that their published studies, in the form of scientific articles, can be used as a basis for decision making in different situations, and the responsibility for the published content should be the main guide. We currently have some tools available that guide from research planning to the writing of scientific articles. Each researcher is expected to search in his specific area, find out about the most appropriate tool and apply them as an internal quality control method, thus increasing the reliability with which the results are obtained and interpreted.

**Volume 5 Issue 7 July 2021**

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