

StapCells: Self-paced Qs

Number of participants: 15



1. 'integrity' as an ethical concept to this case?

14 respondents

Integrity is of great question here as the results produced by the researchers were not been able to be reproduced by any other researcher

It is difficult to comment on the data integrity as it is unclear where the issue lies. It could have been incorrect data but may have been other issues.

there shouldn't be any published research at all

The researcher appears from all the evidence not to have truthfully reported the research findings so missing the personal integrity

The researcher would have voluntarily admit her incompetence and inability and would have resigned.

if the study follows the concept of integrity, the results should be able to replicate

The research was not reproducible and not accurate, so there was no integrity from the researchers' perspective

The manuscript would not cross the submission phase ideally given the coauthors if that was the case. Else it would come back with allegations and revisions from reviewers and not later on.

Then in this case the researcher has not shown integrity by publishing results which they know are not accurate and therefore not replicable. This is extremely concerning for science as a whole as many resources were spent on trying to replicate this method only to fail (wasteful). This also has a negative on their reputation as well as their colleagues and labs reputation.

The researchers failed to show integrity by reporting incorrect research findings (most likely knowingly). The data does not have integrity as it was interpreted as something other than what it is.

Papers wouldnt have been published

Better note taking and transparency would have made the research have better integrity

No clue



This research would have integrity since it's not reproducible



2. Who is impacted by the research described in the case?

17 respondents

The laboratory and the university is impacted in this case. The laboratory is more impacted of the two

fellow stem cells researchers

Other labs that wasted time / money on replicating the results

Medical research

Stem Cell Research Investors - wasted money, more stringent monetary allocation procedures,

Medical sciences and Healthcare industry

Nature also takes reputation damage, and maybe science at large if this was widely reported in the news.

The scientist were impacted negatively who tried to replicate the research by following false findings

The specific individuals affected, the university and funding atmosphere for stem cell research, society at large wasting resources trying to reproduce this

Riken Research Unit Waseda University The PI who killed himself out of shame The coauthors if any Public Taxes

Potential Patients - Hopes raised and money extracted to fund research into an area that has no hope of actually treating them

Other researchers in the field who worked on related topics and may have therefore have a vested interest in replicating or modifying the reported method.

Possibly people with specific health concerns which could be relying on such scientific breakthroughs for new medicine.

The researchers and research institutes involved had their reputation damaged, in one case resulting in extremely severe consequences. In addition, money was wasted following useless research, which probably was from taxpayers. The wider scientific community was also misled and wasted resources trying to replicate.

The Supervisor - Committed suicide so serious physical harm

One - the researchers who tried to replicate the results because they wasted their time doing so when they could have been researching other things
Two - funding bodies of said researchers because funding was subsequently wasted
Three - the supervisor who took his own life
Fourth - the researcher themselves
Fifth - the university and department in collaboration because they didn't have better internal metrics

Nature - its reputation by publishing "fake" results

The author, director of riken center, head of riken center, riken center

