



Biomedical Research Integrity in China

A Review of University Documents on
Research Integrity

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INDUSTRY NEWS

Springer announces mass authors

Sneha Kulkarni | Apr 26, 2017 | 4,585 views

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In one of the biggest Springer announce published in *Tum* cancer journal. Edi stated that, "After have strong reasor view process was compromised." He added the retracted as per the recommendations of the Ethics (COPE). Late last year, 25 papers from the part of a cleanup exercise undertaken by Springer based on allegations of peer review and authorship

Academic publishing relies heavily on peer review pressure to get published often resort to unscrupulous this process. Editors of some journals allow author



• Home / China / Health

Bio journal retracts 107 Chinese research papers

By Shan Juan | China Daily | Updated: 2017-04-24 07:42



Fake peer reviews cited; uproar reignites questions of credibility

An international medical journal's retraction of 107 research papers from China, many of them by clinical doctors, has reignited concerns over academic credibility in the country.

Tumor Biology, a journal published by Springer Nature, announced last week that it had retracted the papers after an investigation showed the peer review process had been compromised.

"The articles were submitted with reviewer suggestions, which had real researcher names but fabricated email addresses," Peter Butler, editorial director for cell biology and biochemistry at Springer Nature, told Shanghai-based news website The Paper.

"The editors thought the articles were being sent out to genuine reviewers in the discipline," he said. "Following our investigation and communication with the real reviewers, they confirmed they did not conduct the peer review."

- *Chinese universities*
 - >places where future researchers are trained
 - >places where lots of research is performed
- *Document review*
 - >guidelines+policies+recommendations
- *Medical domain*
 - >higher prevalence of research misconduct
 - >direct harms to human health

This work aims to investigate:

- *(1) how research integrity and research misconduct are defined in these university documents,*
- *(2) what measures are taken or to be taken in Chinese (medical) universities to safeguard research integrity,*
- *(3) how research misconduct and other irresponsible research practices are tackled with.*





Methods-university selection



Selection:

53 out of 200 (medical)
universities

Different levels, regions



Collection



Confirmation



Methods-document collection



Collection:
48 out of 53 universities
119 documents



Content analysis

- Get familiar with the documents.
- Inductive content analysis.

Four themes

- Definition: research integrity -> academic morality/norms
- Definition: research misconduct -> academic misconduct/
violations of academic morality
- Misconduct handling
- Safeguarding measures

How do these universities define academic norms/morality?

Integrity

Rigorousness

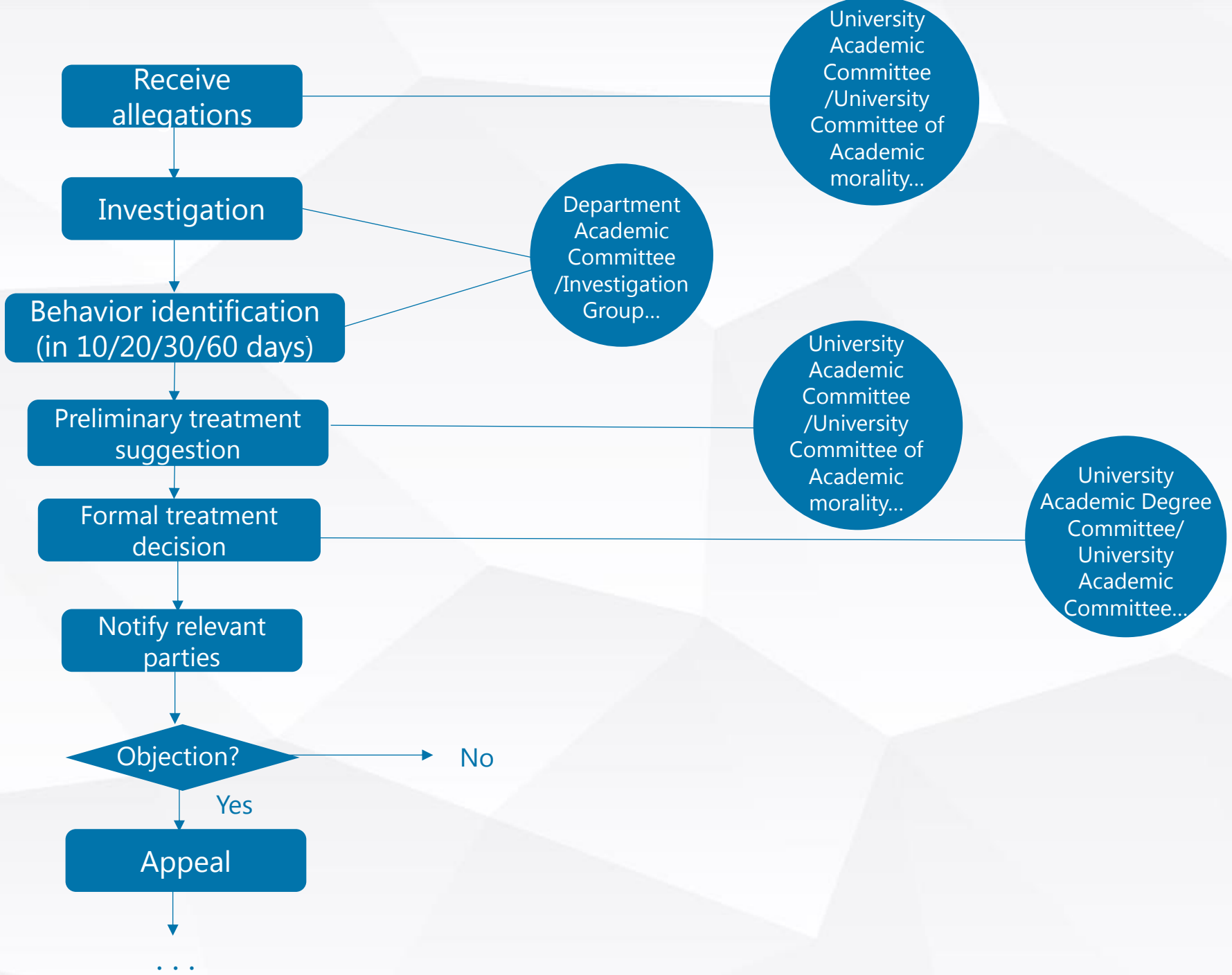
Objectiveness

Respect

How do these universities define academic misconduct?



How allegations of academic misconduct are responded to?



How do these universities tackle with academic misconduct?

- ***General principle***
 - > based on the plot, influences and attitude
- ***Punishment***
 - > administrative sanction
 - > academic sanction
 - > judicial sanction
- ***Joint liability***
 - > thesis supervisor
 - > the department

How do these universities safeguard academic morality?

- **Committee**
Committee of academic morality
- **Guidelines**
Regulations to be developed/updated regularly
- **Training**
Academic morality + scientific spirit + research methods
- **Evaluation**
Reforming of scientific evaluation system
- **Others...**

- *Importance of academic morality*
 - > has been emphasized in the process of promotion and other evaluation, etc.
- *Quality of research/publications*
- *Reforming scientific evaluation system*

- *Investigation by department
&
Joint liability of department*
- *Execution of Punishment*
- *Care for human and animal subject*
->special documents for biomedical research?

- ***Long-term project***

- > Many documents have mentioned that it is a long-term project, and that they would update the documents regularly.

- ***Influences on practice***

- > remain to be demonstrated in the long term.

Prof. Nicolas Standaert

Selected Chinese universities

China Scholarship Council

Thank you for your attention!