LETTER TO EDITOR

Scientific misconduct encountered by APAME journals: insight?

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Dear Editor,

The recent publication on “Scientific misconduct encountered by APAME journals: an online survey” is very interesting. As noted, ethical culture of researchers/authors and reviewers, anti-plagiarism software, and technical support to detect problem are raised as important insights. In fact, not only pathology but also other medical sciences presently encounter the problem of scientific misconduct. Adding to the described insights, there are also other issues to be mentioned. First, the use of tools for determination of plagiarism should be promoted. Sharing among APAME journals on experience of technical issues in detecting plagiarism can be helpful. Nevertheless, it should be noted that there is no perfect tool. Many complex problems (such as conceptual plagiarism, translation plagiarism, etc.) cannot still be detected. Second, ethical culture should be for all. Not only researchers/authors and reviewers but also editors, institutes and readers have to play their roles in combating scientific misconduct. Often, the problem is observed and reported by the reader. Also, the success of problem management needs collaboration. If the problem is detected and reported but the institute does nothing, it will be useless.

REFERENCES