PAPER REJECTION
&
PAPER RETRACTION

BY

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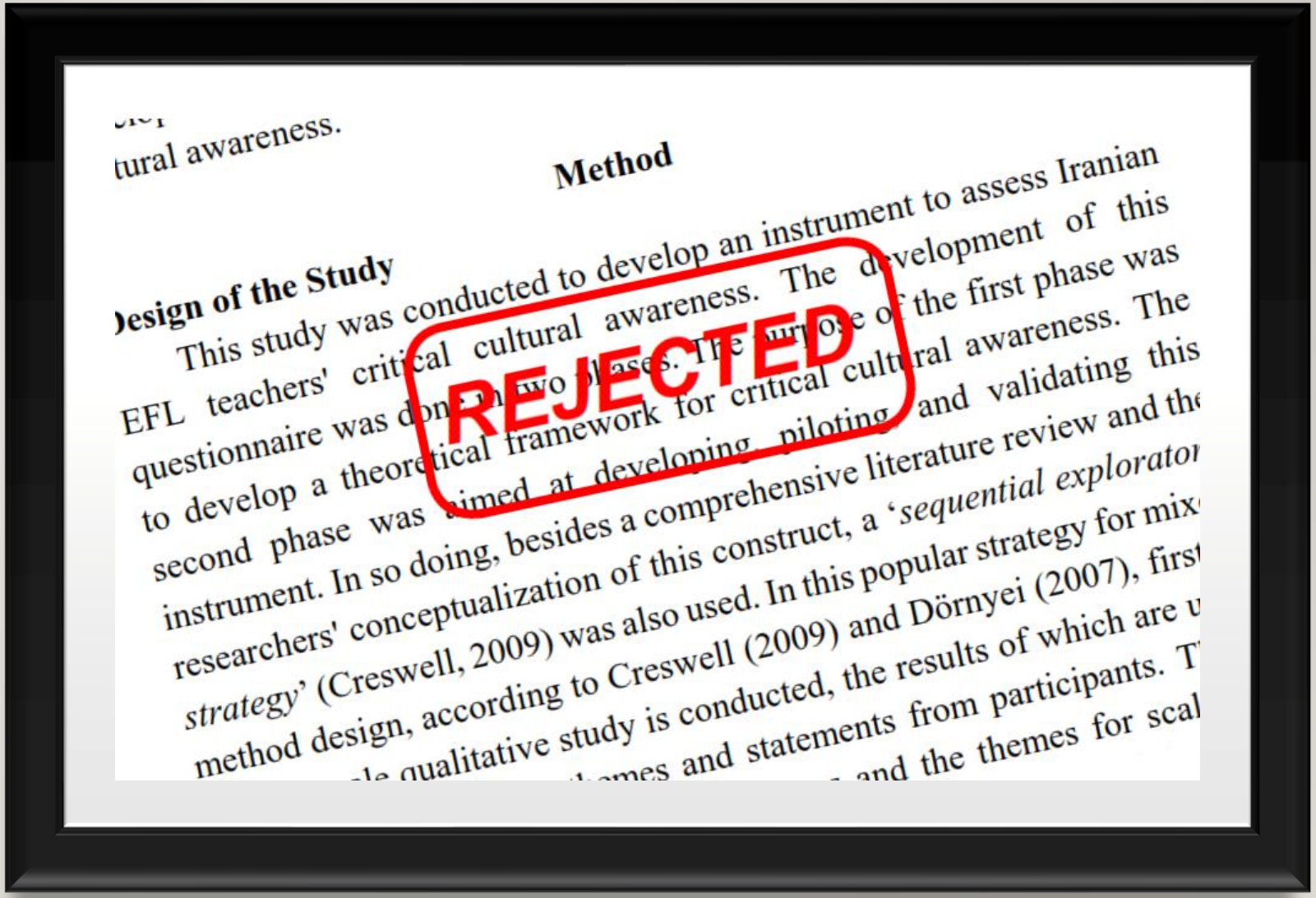
PAPER REJECTION

OCCURS WHEN A SUBMITTED MANUSCRIPT IS NOT ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION BY A JOURNAL.



Rejections can be disheartening; however, they are a common part of the academic publishing process.

Improving the manuscript based on feedback and resubmitting to another journal is often the next step

TYPES OF REJECTION

Desk Rejection:

This happens when the paper is rejected by the journal editor without being sent for peer review

Rejection After Peer Review:

This occurs when the paper is reviewed by experts in the field, but the feedback suggests that the paper is not suitable for publication due to issues like insufficient originality, methodological flaws, or significant errors

CAUSES OD DESK REJECTION

- Out of scope for the journal
- Not enough of an advance or of enough impact for the journal
- Research ethics ignored such as consent from patients or approval from an ethics committee for animal research
- Lack of proper structure or not following journal formatting requirements
- Lack of up-to-date references or references containing a high proportion of self-citations
- Has poor language quality such that it cannot be understood by readers
- Difficult to follow logic or poorly presented data.
- Violation of publication ethics

1- Lack of originality

2- Poor Writing Quality

Groundbreaking findings may lose their impact if the paper is hard to understand because of weak writing.

Work with a professional editor or proofreader to refine your language and ensure your paper is clear and impactful.

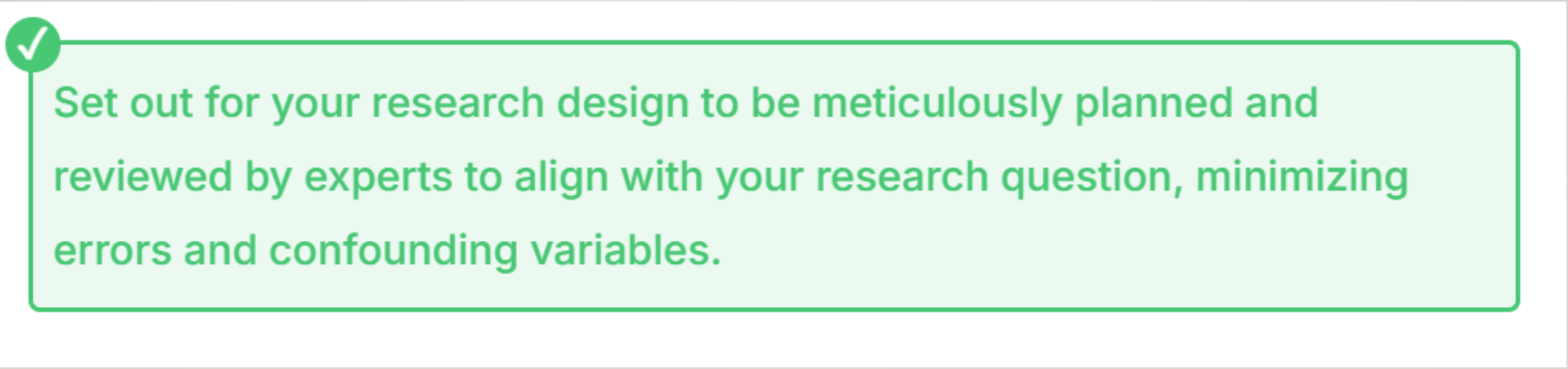
Methodological Flaws

Rejection might result from methodological issues in research design or analysis, such as small sample sizes, biased participant selection, or faulty statistical analyses

Collaborate with a statistician and/or rigorously follow research design best practices to ensure robust methodology and accurate analysis.

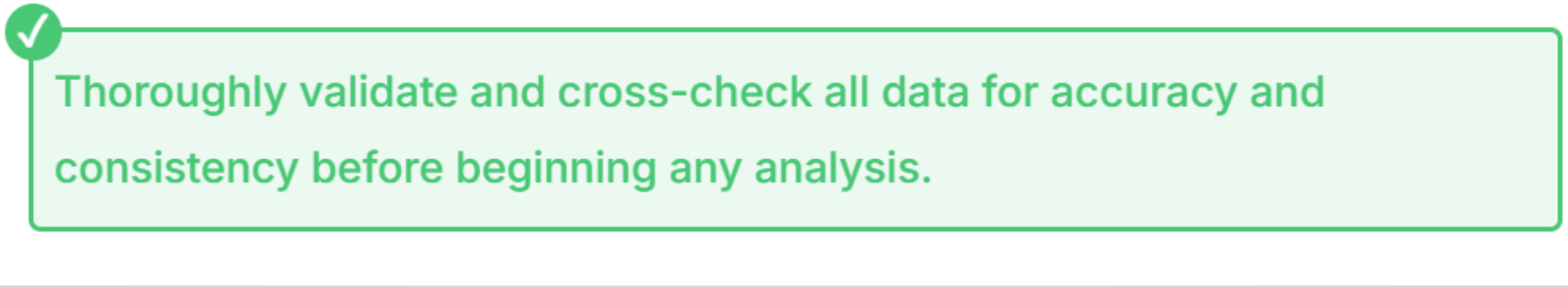
Inadequate Research Design

Flawed research design can cause your academic paper to be rejected. It may spawn confounding variables, skewed data collection, or incomplete analysis.



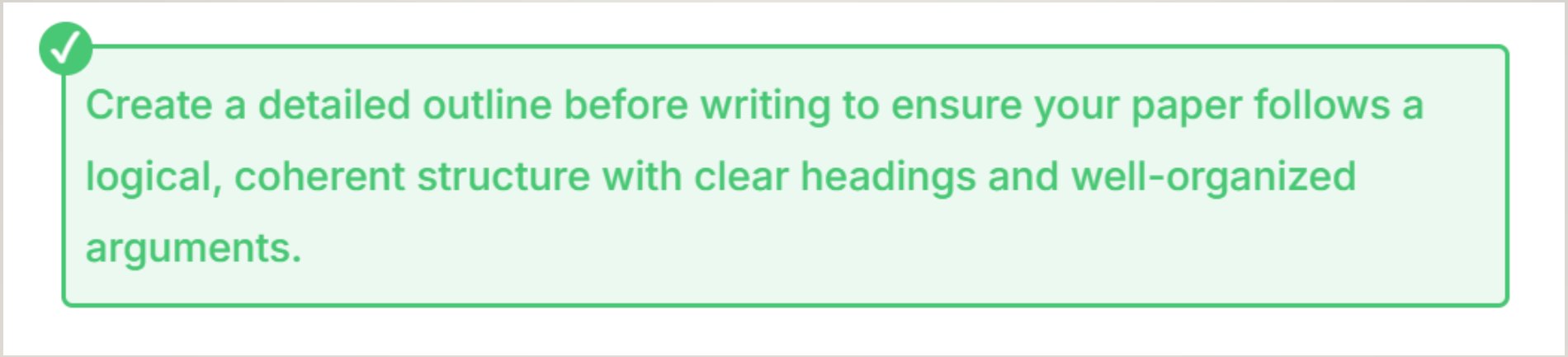
Inconsistent or Inaccurate Data

Inaccurate or inconsistent data may yield faulty conclusions



Poor organization

A well-written paper can still face rejection if its organization is subpar. Poor organization may manifest as unclear headings or a haphazard argument structure.



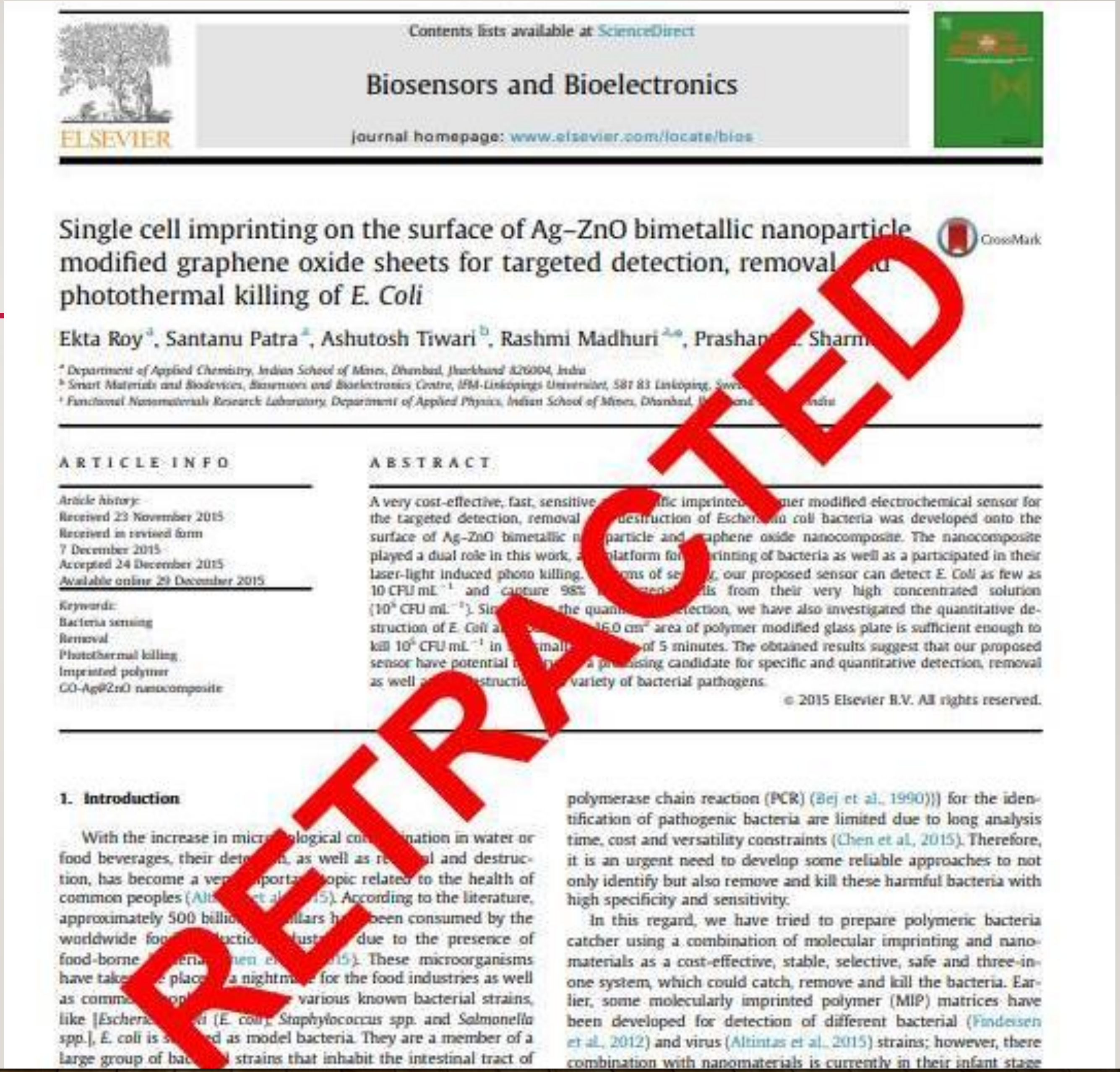
PAPER RETRACTION

a **retraction** is a mechanism by which a published paper in an academic journal is flagged for being seriously flawed to the extent that their results and conclusions can no longer be relied upon

Retracted articles are not removed from the published literature but marked as retracted.

In some cases, it may be necessary to remove an article from publication, such as when the article is clearly defamatory, violates personal privacy, is the subject of a court order, or might pose a serious health risk to the general public

Retractions are essential for maintaining the integrity of scientific literature. They help correct the record and ensure that only reliable and accurate information is disseminated.



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journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/bios

ELSEVIER

RETRACTED

Single cell imprinting on the surface of Ag–ZnO bimetallic nanoparticle modified graphene oxide sheets for targeted detection, removal [illegible] photothermal killing of *E. Coli*

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Photothermal killing
Imprinted polymer
GO-Ag@ZnO nanocomposite

ABSTRACT

A very cost-effective, fast, sensitive [illegible] fic imprinted [illegible] mer modified electrochemical sensor for the targeted detection, removal [illegible] destruction of Escher[illegible] coli bacteria was developed onto the surface of Ag-ZnO bimetallic n[illegible] particle and [illegible] aphene oxide nanocomposite. The nanocomposite played a dual role in this work, a[illegible] platform fo[illegible] rinting of bacteria as well as a participated in their laser-light induced photo killing. [illegible] ms of se[illegible], our proposed sensor can detect E. Coli as few as 10 CFU mL^{-1} and capture 98% [illegible] ls from their very high concentrated solution (10^8 CFU mL^{-1}). Si[illegible] the quan[illegible] ection, we have also investigated the quantitative destruction of E. Coli a[illegible] 16.0 cm^2 area of polymer modified glass plate is sufficient enough to kill 10^6 CFU mL^{-1} in [illegible] small [illegible] of 5 minutes. The obtained results suggest that our proposed sensor have potential [illegible] a pr[illegible] ising candidate for specific and quantitative detection, removal as well a[illegible] estructi[illegible] variety of bacterial pathogens.

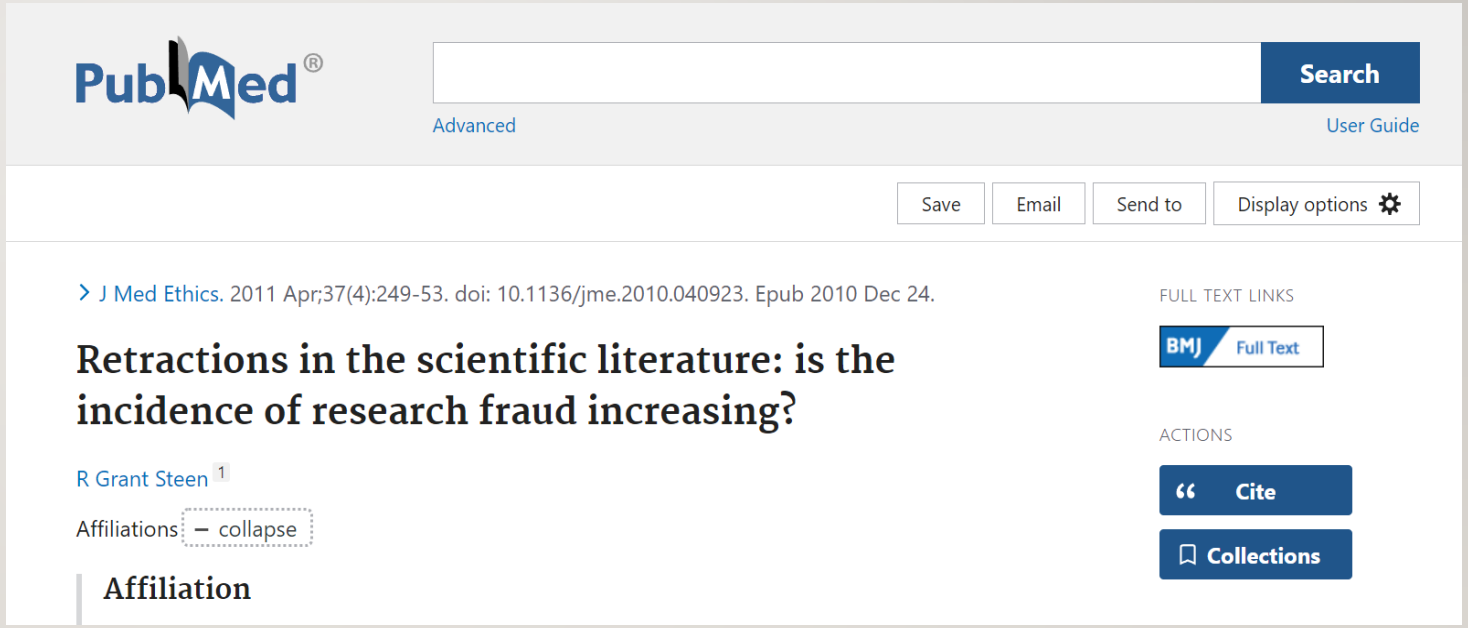
1. Introduction

With the increase in micr[illegible] logical co[illegible] ination in water or food beverages, their dete[illegible], as well as re[illegible] al and destruction, has become a ver[illegible] porta[illegible] opic related to the health of common peoples (Alt[illegible] et al. [illegible] 15). According to the literature, approximately 500 billio[illegible] llars h[illegible] been consumed by the worldwide fo[illegible] ctio[illegible] ustr[illegible] due to the presence of food-borne [illegible] eria [illegible] hen e[illegible] 15). These microorganisms have take[illegible] place [illegible] a nightm[illegible] for the food industries as well as comm[illegible] op[illegible] various known bacterial strains, like [Escheri[illegible] (E. coli), Staphylococcus spp. and Salmonella spp.], E. coli is s[illegible] ed as model bacteria. They are a member of a large group of bac[illegible] strains that inhabit the intestinal tract of

polymerase chain reaction (PCR) (Bej et al., 1990)) for the identification of pathogenic bacteria are limited due to long analysis time, cost and versatility constraints (Chen et al., 2015). Therefore, it is an urgent need to develop some reliable approaches to not only identify but also remove and kill these harmful bacteria with high specificity and sensitivity.

In this regard, we have tried to prepare polymeric bacteria catcher using a combination of molecular imprinting and nanomaterials as a cost-effective, stable, selective, safe and three-in-one system, which could catch, remove and kill the bacteria. Earlier, some molecularly imprinted polymer (MIP) matrices have been developed for detection of different bacterial (Findeisen et al., 2012) and virus (Altintas et al., 2015) strains; however, there combination with nanomaterials is currently in their infant stage

"It is particularly striking that the number of papers retracted for fraud increased more than sevenfold in the 6 years between 2004 and 2009. During the same period, the number of papers retracted for a scientific mistake did not even double...“

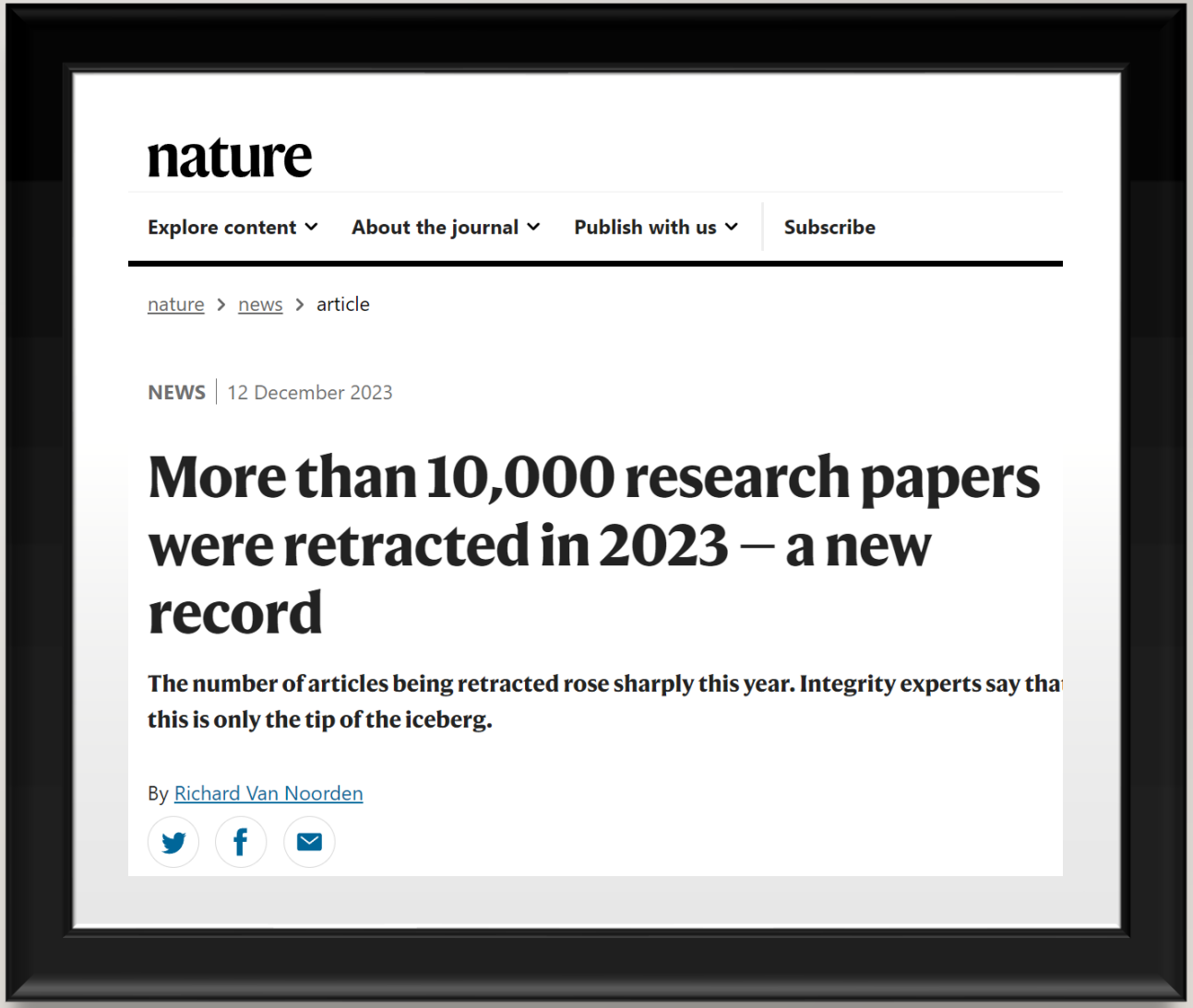


REASONS FOR PAPER RETRACTION

1. **Honest Errors**:
    1. **Experimental Errors**: Mistakes in the experimental setup or data analysis that significantly affect the results[1]
    2. **Miscalculations**: Errors in calculations or statistical analysis that led to incorrect conclusions
2. **Misconduct**:
    1. **Data Fabrication or Falsification**: Deliberate manipulation or invention of data
    2. **Plagiarism**: Using someone else's work or ideas without proper attribution
    3. **Duplicate Publication**: Publishing the same findings in multiple journals without proper cross-referencing
    4. **Image Manipulation**: Altering images in a way that misrepresents the data

Other reasons can include ethical issues, such as conducting research without proper approvals or consent, and disputes over authorship

The number of articles being retracted rose sharply this year. Integrity experts say that this is only the tip of the iceberg.



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NEWS | 12 December 2023

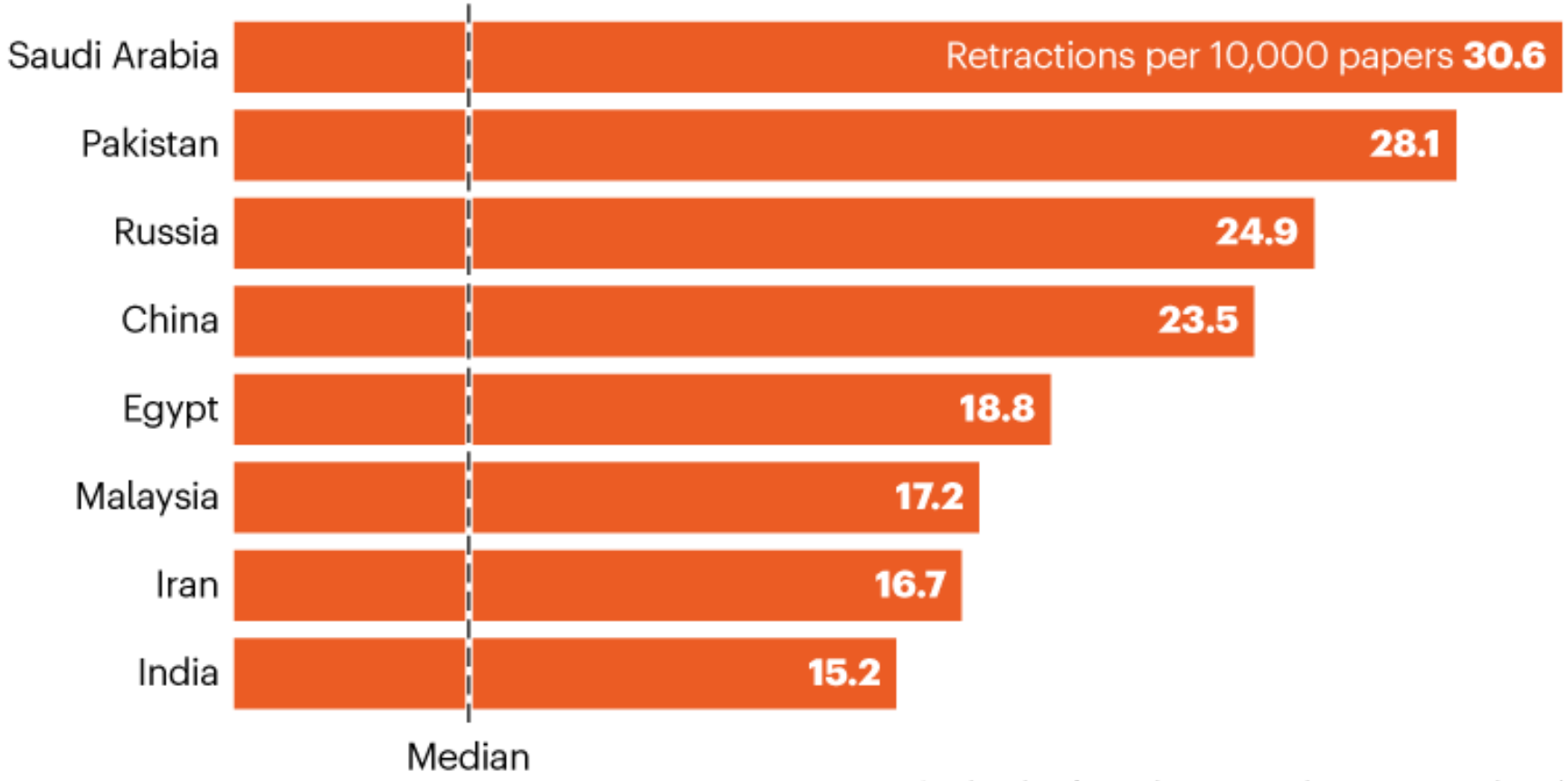
More than 10,000 research papers were retracted in 2023 – a new record

The number of articles being retracted rose sharply this year. Integrity experts say tha this is only the tip of the iceberg.

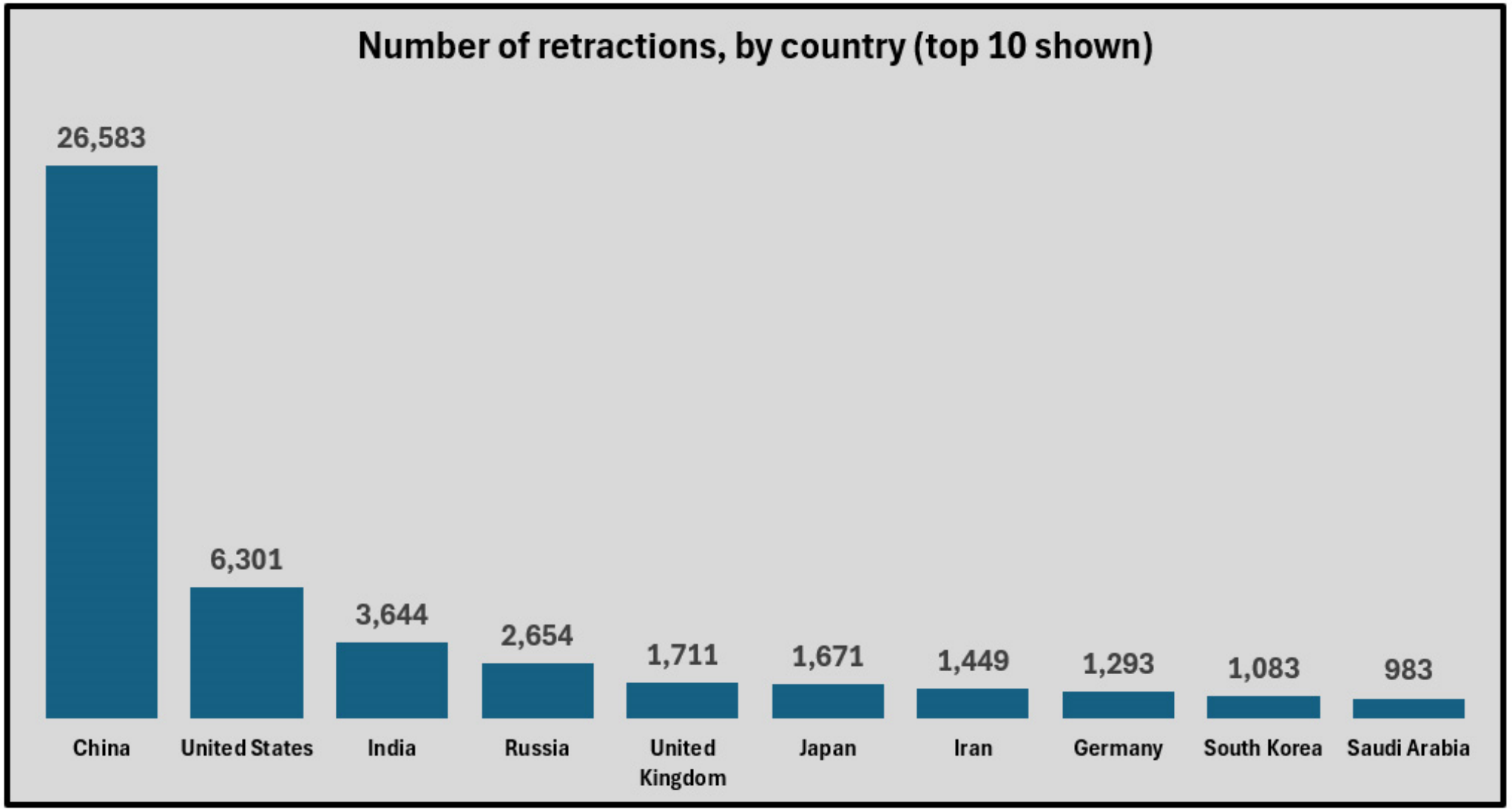
By Richard Van Noorden

COUNTRIES WITH HIGHEST RETRACTION RATES

Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Russia and China have the highest retraction rates among countries with >100,000 papers* published over the past two decades.



*Total number of research papers according to Scopus: articles and reviews. Analysis excludes conference papers (and their retractions)


Number of retractions, by country (top 10 shown)
26,583
6,301
3,644
2,654
1,711
1,671
1,449
1,293
1,083
983
China
United States
India
Russia
United Kingdom
Japan
Iran
Germany
South Korea
Saudi Arabia

RETRACTION FOR ERROR

2013 - Study on the Mediterranean diet published in *New England Journal of Medicine* and widely covered by media was retracted due to unreported non-random assignments. This was part of a larger effort verifying proper randomization in thousands of studies by anesthesiologist John Carlisle, who found problems in about 2% of those analyzed

RETRACTION FOR FRAUD OR MISCONDUCT

2014 An article by Haruko Obokata et al. on STAP cells, a method of inducing a cell to become a stem cell, was proven to be falsified. Originally published in *Nature*, it was retracted later that year. It generated much controversy, and after an institutional investigation, one of the authors committed suicide

2009 Numerous papers written by Scott Reuben from 1996 to 2009 were retracted after it was discovered he never actually conducted any of the trials he claimed to have run.

RETRACTION FOR ETHICAL VIOLATIONS

2017 The journal *Liver International* retracted a Chinese study of liver transplantation because 564 livers grafted in the course of the research over 4 years could not be traced. The experts pointed out that it was implausible a hospital could have so many freely donated livers for transplantation, given the small number of donors in China at the time.

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NEWS | 25 June 2019

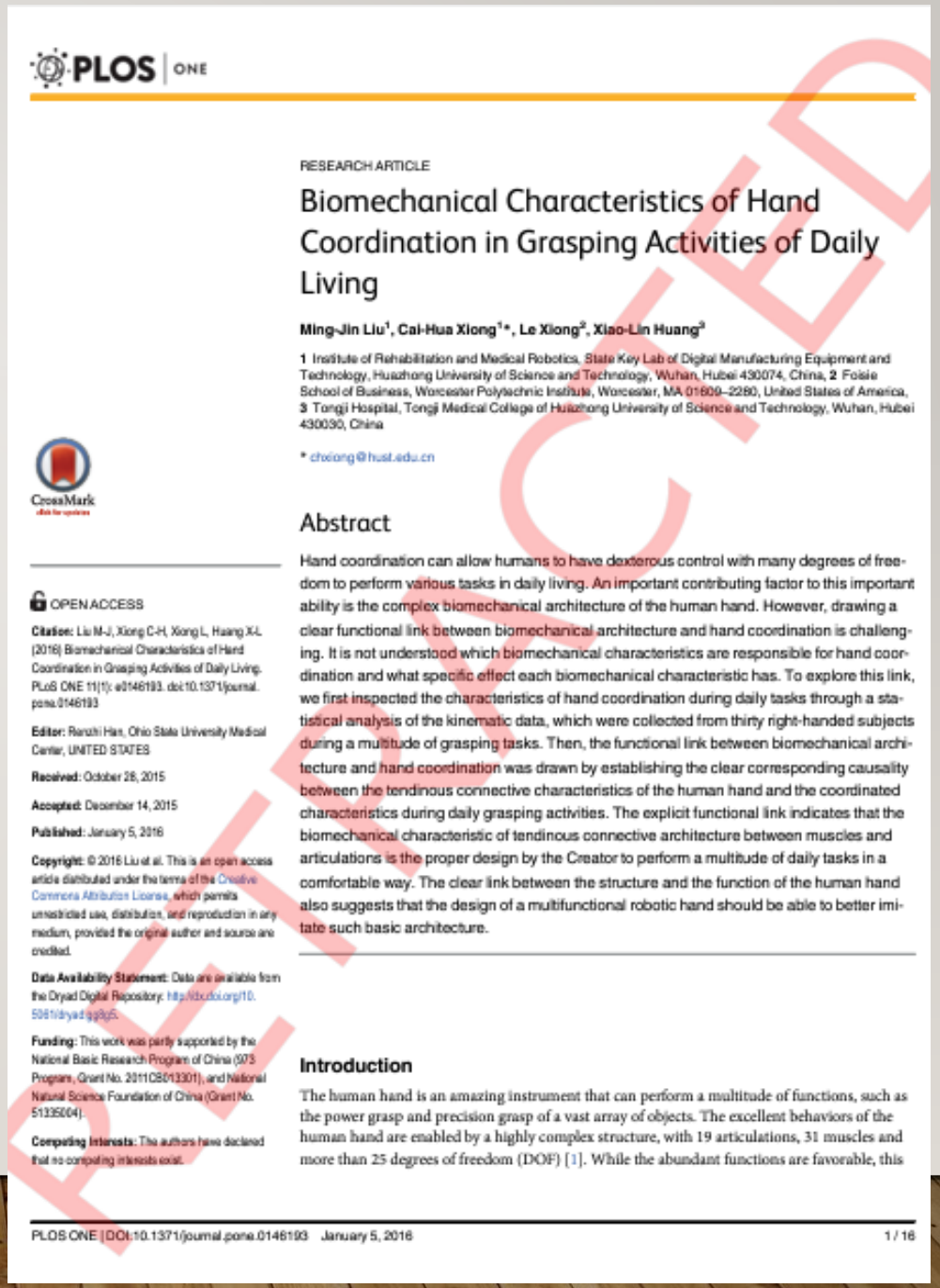
Startling China organ claims raise alarm about transplant research

Researchers hope the conclusions of a people's tribunal will pressure journals to reject papers that might include data from unethical transplants.

By David Cyranoski

RETRACTION OVER PUBLIC RELATIONS ISSUES

2016 On March 4, 2016, an article in *PLOS ONE* about the functioning of the human hand was retracted due to outrage on social media over a reference to "Creator" inside the paper



PLOS | ONE

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Biomechanical Characteristics of Hand Coordination in Grasping Activities of Daily Living

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Abstract

Hand coordination can allow humans to have dexterous control with many degrees of freedom to perform various tasks in daily living. An important contributing factor to this important ability is the complex biomechanical architecture of the human hand. However, drawing a clear functional link between biomechanical architecture and hand coordination is challenging. It is not understood which biomechanical characteristics are responsible for hand coordination and what specific effect each biomechanical characteristic has. To explore this link, we first inspected the characteristics of hand coordination during daily tasks through a statistical analysis of the kinematic data, which were collected from thirty right-handed subjects during a multitude of grasping tasks. Then, the functional link between biomechanical architecture and hand coordination was drawn by establishing the clear corresponding causality between the tendinous connective characteristics of the human hand and the coordinated characteristics during daily grasping activities. The explicit functional link indicates that the biomechanical characteristic of tendinous connective architecture between muscles and articulations is the proper design by the Creator to perform a multitude of daily tasks in a comfortable way. The clear link between the structure and the function of the human hand also suggests that the design of a multifunctional robotic hand should be able to better imitate such basic architecture.

OPEN ACCESS

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Competing Interests: The authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

Introduction

The human hand is an amazing instrument that can perform a multitude of functions, such as the power grasp and precision grasp of a vast array of objects. The excellent behaviors of the human hand are enabled by a highly complex structure, with 19 articulations, 31 muscles and more than 25 degrees of freedom (DOF) [1]. While the abundant functions are favorable, this