

Plagiarism sensitized



The manuscripts are the documental evidences of research. Although it advanced the research, there were also serious reparations on the scientific misconduct. Plagiarism is one of the serious malpractices that have been reported by various agencies. Plagiarism is a form of copying or adapting the text, thoughts, or ideas without proper acknowledgment of the source. In many situations, it is interrelated with conflicts of interest and ethical concerns.^[1,2]

The plagiarism is of many types. More commonly observed types are texts, images, and idea plagiarisms. Mosaic plagiarism, source plagiarism, and self-plagiarism are the next commonly observed in the literature.^[3] The text plagiarism is more of copy of words or sentences or complete transfer of text from original source or manuscripts. In recent years, image plagiarism is observed. It can be either copying of image without acknowledging the source, modifying the images with colors, dimensions, or infringement of copyrighted materials.^[4] Adapting the ideas of others without due acknowledgment and utilizing the author's own text and improper referencing of the original sources account for other types plagiarism.

Traditionally, plagiarism is considered as the exact replicate of content in the form of many sentences and paragraphs. However, it can vary with few words and sentences. Modification of few words of sentences cannot avoid plagiarism. It is the amount of text that is copied or simulated denotes the plagiarism.^[5] Technically, the plagiarism is identified by manual identification or by electronical search through search engines and online tools. The online tools easily provide various percentage of similarity.^[6]

It is always mandatory to be original with the text and the contents of the manuscripts. In situations of using the contents of others, it is better to acknowledge the sources. The texts in manuscripts of using the original text should have the author's names cited and the text should be in bold or within quotation.^[3] If the idea of the author is

used and the text is modified or written in authors original words, it is essential to cite the article and the same to be mentioned in the bibliography. Definitive original data of images should be used and it should be available with the authors in all situations and should be provided on demand to support the claims.^[4]

In the digital world, it is easy to identify the plagiarism through the various tools. There is software available to check on the plagiarism. Ithentitace, CrossCheck, Turnitin, and e-TBlast are the commonly used software by various agencies to check on the same.^[6-8] The free online software can assist but many times may not be very effective. The software aids in systemic detection and identification. In many situations, plagiarism remains undefined, mere similarity reports of software cannot be considered. There can be language or common usage word similarity. This makes it essential to manually reevaluate the simulation report before the final decision.

The reasons of plagiarism can be due to unawareness on the ethics, integrity policies, cultural values, and poor language proficiency.^[3] Ignorance to plagiarism cannot be provided as an excuse. In the preprocessing stages before publishing, the authors may be given a chance to correct the manuscript, to rewrite or restructure it but on advance situations, it can lead to retraction of manuscripts or a charge of serious levels of offences that can include life ban for publication. Plagiarism in any form is unacceptable, and responsibility is with the authors. It is essential that the highest moral code is maintained.^[9]

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