RESEARCH MISCONDUCT: FALSIFICATION AND FABRICATION
Instructors/facilitators

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Session on research misconduct: Falsification and Fabrication

A session from a series of sessions delivered in an 18 hours workshop on research misconduct for postgraduate researchers.
TO UNDERSTAND FALSIFICATION AND FABRICATION, HOW TO AVOID
Differentiate between falsification and fabrication

Outline the motives for falsification and fabrication
3. Discuss the negative consequences of falsification and fabrication

4. Design a plan to avoid falsification and fabrication
Teaching methods

• Video discussion using clickers
• Group discussions
• Think, pair and share
Activity 1 (3 minutes)
Using your clicker, anticipate the type of research misconduct after watching the video
a) Fabrication
b) Falsification
c) Plagiarism
d) I don't know
 Definitions

• Fabrication
  The intentional act of making up data or results and reporting/recording them
• Falsification
  Manipulation of research materials, equipment or processes

Office of research education and training, University of Miami,
http://researched.med.Miami.edu/x19.xml
Activity 2

In one minute
Discuss with your group the possible motives that could make a researcher falsify or fabricate scientific data
Motives for falsification and fabrication

Abstracted from google images
So, what are the consequences of Fabrication/Falsification?
Consequences of Fabrication/Falsification

**Personal**
- Bad reputation
- Disciplinary action by institution

**Science-related**
- Paper/abstract retraction
- Withdrawal of existing funding
- Ineligibility to apply for further funding

**Society-related**
- Waste of economic resources
- Production of deficient products/inadequate instruments/erroneous procedures
- Lack of faith in science

Responsible conduct in the global research enterprise. A policy report. September 2012
How to avoid Fabrication and Falsification?
A checklist you might consider when advising practices to avoid fabrication and falsification:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Would you adopt this approach?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1- Establishment of ethical committees in research institutions</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>2- Adoption of standards and codes of conduct in research</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
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<td>3- Rewarding research quantity rather than quality in hiring and promotion</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>4- Promoting fairness in handling non ethical research misconduct</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5- Formulation of international harmonization of definitions, standards, and procedures facing fabrication and falsification</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
*Take home message*

Queen of Sweden

Porto Tora

Nobel Prize

The Easy Way

The Hard Way

Prisoner No. 12355
Acknowledgement

in everything
give thanks