

Path2Integrity questionnaire for students without an academic degree (undergraduates)

Instructions

During this evaluation, we kindly ask you to respond to the following 5 case scenarios about research practices. Each case scenario starts with a short description followed by 4 steps which build on one another. Only one option can be chosen for each question.

First decide which action is in line with good research practices and then use the slider to indicate how confident you feel about your answer.

Please choose a reason for your answer by choosing the option that best suits your opinion and then use the slider to indicate how confident you feel about your answer.

Please note that you cannot return to a previous page of the survey! But you may always skip a question, stop the survey, or withdraw from it completely.

Rory got research funds for his new project and had to decide how to use it. To get clear results, he needed 20 people to participate in the project. To ensure this, Rory used all of the money and paid for a nice dinner for all participants, after they have successfully finished the study. After checking, Rory found other studies that worked this way and that there are no contradictions with the guidelines of the funders.

Is Rory's decision in line with good research practices?

- a) Yes. b) No.

What reason would you provide for your answer?

- a) He has the money to pay for a nice dinner for the participants and it is allowed to do so.
- a) It is a proper and conscientious use of research funds to pay for a nice dinner for the participants in order to get the required number of persons.
- a) Providing people with nice incentives makes science interesting for social society.
- a) The participants are an important part of the project, so it is proper to use the money for them.
- b) Nice dinners are no adequate compensation for allowance.
- b) Paying for a nice dinner will falsify the results.
- b) It is not allowed to pay anything for or to the participants.
- b) It is not allowed to pay for a nice dinner with the obligation that they have to successfully finish the study.



Bill and Lorenzo are discussing a possible instance of scientific misconduct of research integrity by their professor Steven. “Since it concerns his part of the work, maintaining research integrity is his responsibility”, Bill stated. So they both went on doing their part of the research project.

Is their decision in line with good research practices?

- a) Yes
- b) No

What reason would you provide for your answer?

- a) In a collaborative working group everyone is only responsible for their own part.
- a) It is the responsibility of the ethics committee alone to keep an eye on research integrity.
- a) They are not allowed to get involved in the actions of their professor.
- a) Since Steven is their professor, research integrity is his responsibility.
- b) They should have elected a responsible person before starting the project.
- b) All members of a collaborative working group are responsible for research integrity.
- b) Everyone should always question the actions of others.
- b) If it turns out to be a misconduct, this will damage the reputation of their working group.

A research group of 6 persons is working together on a study. The group consists of teams with two people, each focussing on a different priority, because everyone is an expert in a different research field and they want to combine their competencies. Amar and Ivana made significant results in their part of the study, which they published in a magazine and notified the others about it after the paper got accepted.

Is their decision in line with good research practices?

- a) Yes
- b) No

What reason would you provide for your answer?

- a) It is good scientific practice to inform the others about your findings.
- a) It is their own work they are publishing, so they don't need to inform the others before publishing.
- a) It would disturb the others if they are constantly notifying them as to what they are doing, so it is better to tell them after the paper gets accepted.
- a) When notifying the others after the publication, everyone can read it instantly.
- b) As part of a research group they have to inform and consult the whole group before publishing something.
- b) As part of a research group, they cannot decide anything on their own regarding the project.
- b) They need the approval of all project partners to publish.
- b) Since they are a research group, everyone should be author of the paper and at least prove-read it, before it will be submitted

Hannah has made a long-term research over 10 years. After analysing all results, she found out that her hypothesis was wrong. She decided to publish the results the way she found them. Although her mentor, Lara, stated: "You should rewrite your hypothesis and publish positive results. Because confirming valid, positive results is the heart of science"

Is Hannah's decision in line with good research practices?

- a) Yes. b) No.

What reason would you provide for your answer?

- a) For good research it is important to publish.
- a) Every publication will increase her reputation as researcher.
- a) As long as her publication is citable, she should publish it.
- a) Her negative results are as valid as positive findings for publication.
- b) It is important to present positive results after such a long time of research.
- b) She has to consider that only positive results are valid for publication.
- b) Publishing positive results will increase her reputation.
- b) Only positive results in a publication are citable.