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Plagiarism

The term plagiarism originates from the Latin word *plagium*, meaning kidnapping. In writing world it is the appropriation of one person's language, thoughts, ideas, or expressions and presenting them as their own. Plagiarism dates back to the foundation of science communication as a discipline

According to the World Association of Medical Editors (WAME) strict definition, plagiarism is when six consecutive words are copied; 7 to 11 words are overlapping set of 30 letters.

Plagiarism can be categorized into two categories – plagiarism of ideas and plagiarism of text (verbatim). Without a doubt, plagiarism of ideas is an outright act of misconduct. Plagiarism of words can be in following forms:

- Turning in someone else's work as your own
- Copying words or ideas from someone else without giving credit
- Failing to put a quotation in quotation marks
- Giving incorrect information about the source of a quotation
- Changing words but copying the sentence structure of a source without giving credit
- Copying so many words or ideas from a source that it makes up the majority of your work, whether you give credit or not
- Reuse of one's own work without quotation

Most cases of plagiarism can be avoided, however, by citing sources. Simply acknowledging that certain material has been borrowed and providing your audience with the information necessary to find that source is usually enough to prevent plagiarism.

There are no universal regulations on plagiarism prevention suitable for all scientific and academic institutions. The International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) gave a detailed explanation of what is not a duplicate publication. Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) attempted to tackle the problem of plagiarism by recommending cooperation with research institutions and retraction of untrustworthy material.