



Scientific Electronic Library Online

## **SciELO Program**

### **Guide for the registry and publication of errata, retractions and expressions of concern**

May 2015 version

#### **1. Introduction**

This document describes the procedures for the registry and publication of erratum, retraction and expression of concern of articles indexed and published by SciELO journals.

As SciELO performs both the function of indexing and publishing of articles, the procedures apply separately to each of these functions.

The procedures followed by SciELO for the registry and publication of errata, retractions and expressions of concern are based on standards recommended by the following ethics, indexing and scientific publication committees:

#### **COPE - Committee on Publication Ethics**

Code of Conduct

[http://publicationethics.org/files/u2/New\\_Code.pdf](http://publicationethics.org/files/u2/New_Code.pdf)

Retraction Guidelines

<http://www.publicationethics.org/files/retraction%20guidelines.pdf>

#### **ICMJE - International Committee of Medical Journal Editors**

Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals:  
Publishing and Editorial Issues Related to Publication in Biomedical Journals  
Publishing & Editorial Issues

<http://goo.gl/879CKr>

Corrections and Version Control

<http://goo.gl/zfD6zl>

#### **NLM/PUBMED - MEDLINE - National Library of Medicine**

Errata, Retractions, Partial Retractions, Corrected and Republished Articles, Duplicate Publications, Comments (including Author Replies), Updates, Patient Summaries, and Republished (Reprinted) Articles Policy for MEDLINE. Fact

Sheet

<http://goo.gl/sgDCkT>

## 2. Retraction of published articles

Retraction is a public instrument to register and/or correct problems of a published article or report its cancellation. It is an integral part of the scholarly communication system.

The retraction registry procedure of an article indexed and published by SciELO starts after receiving a formal written communication from the Editor-in-Chief of the journal that published the article. The communication must be accompanied by the retraction text of the article.

The retraction text should explain why the article is being retracted and should include a full citation of the article. Paging should be maintained and include in its heading the original title of the retracted article. Ideally, the first author should be the same in the retraction as in the original article, although under certain circumstances the editor might accept retractions by the other authors.

The retracted article is not removed from the vehicle where it was originally published. In the HTML/XML version, only the message with the justification forwarded by the editor will remain published. The original PDF is maintained, aggregated with the retraction text before the original full text, with watermark stripes that prevents its use by making difficult to read it.

Even in the retracted condition, citations, both granted and received by the article, are recorded in different metrics of bibliographic indexes.

Example of an editor's message regarding the retraction of an article:

The Editorial Board of Revista Científica decided, after analysis, to formally withdraw the following article:

SANTOS, M. e SILVA, J. Wenferm inscits carscirfo antesiof seinfof. Revista Científica, 2009, vol. 32, No. 5, p. 16-24. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1590/>

Since this is a copy (except some short parts) from another previously published:

SANTOS, M. e SILVA, J.V. Wenferm inscits carscirfo antesiof seinfof. Revista Científica, 2008, vol. 31, No. 4, p. 25-31. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1590/>

Sincerely,

Prof. Dr. Mfksfls Alflçskfs

Editor-in-Chief

Example of presentation of a retracted article on the online summary:

[ARTIGO RETRATADO] Wenferm inscits carscirfo antesiof seinfof SANTOS, M. e SILVA, J. Revista Científica, Vol 3, No 1 (2008)

[RETRACTED ARTICLE] Wenferm inscits carscirfo antesiof seinfof SANTOS, M. e SILVA, J.

Example of presentation on the page where the article has been published:  
Rev. cient. vol. 32 n° 5 São Paulo 2009  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1590/S1111-1111...>  
[RETRACTED ARTICLE] Wenferm inscits carscirfo antcsiof seinfof Santos,  
M.<sup>I</sup>; Silva, J.<sup>II</sup>  
<sup>I</sup>Universidade NBDSKJA,  
<sup>II</sup>Departamento de JKFNLSI, Universidade IPWEOIT

The Editorial Board of Revista Científica decided, after analysis, to formally withdraw the following article:

SANTOS, M. e SILVA, J. Wenferm inscits carscirfo antcsiof seinfof. Revista Científica, 2009, vol. 32, No. 5, p. 16-24. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1590/>  
Since this is a copy (except some short parts) from another previously published:  
SANTOS, M. e SILVA, J. V. Wenferm inscits carscirfo antcsiof seinfof. Revista Científica, 2008, ol. 31, No. 4, p. 25-31. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1590/>

Example of presentation of the PDF of the retracted article:

## Lorem ipsum

"Neque porro quisquam est qui dolorem ipsum quia dolor sit amet, consectetur, adipisci velit..."

Silva, M.

### 1. Lorem ipsum

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Etiam nunc urna, convallis fermentum consectetur in, volutpat vitae massa. Suspendisse potenti. Nullam facilisis, dolor vel ultrices suscipit, enim nulla lobortis punus, suctor placerat libero massa ut mi. Donec at ultrices neque. Etiam in velit vitae urna gravida blandit eget sit amet dolor. Suspendisse non metus vel quam rhoncus pretium a a ligula. Morbi eget euismod diam. Ut sed odio urna. Quisque vitae tempus turpis. Aenean nulla mi, sagittis id dictum ut, lobortis non risus. Aenean et neque turpis.

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## 2.1 Registry of retraction on the bibliographic reference of the article

Retraction is registered on the article's reference when retrieved from the database and the full text. Example:

SANTOS, M. e SILVA, J. [RETRACTED ARTICLE]Wenferm inscits carscirfo

antcsiof seinfo. Revista Científica, 2009, vol. 32, No. 5, p. 16-24, from:  
<http://www.scielo.br...> doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1590/>

## **2.2 Registry of the retraction on the next issue to be published**

The retraction text should be published in the next issue of the journal editorial flow as a separately paginated file. The material will then be forwarded to the databases where the journal is indexed for future indexing.

## **3. Expression of Concern regarding a published article**

Expression of concern is a resource that can be used by the editor to register doubts about an article published in a journal, but there is not yet enough conclusive evidence for a retraction or other measures to be taken. Expressions of concern should be used whenever there are doubtful aspects regarding the conduct or integrity of the paper.

The expression of concern, as well as retraction, should be published in the journal summary and include the original title and authorship.

The publication of expression of concern must be requested by the editor on behalf of the editorial board through a communication explaining the reason or reasons for concern.

If after analysis and verification of the material integrity is proven, a note should be published stating the reliability of the material. If the misconduct or plagiarism is proven, the expression of concern should be replaced by a retraction.

### **3.1 Model to communicate Expression of Concern**

The expression of concern should be published in the summary of the next issue of the article published and provide a link to the article text. The expression should also be made available at the end of the version of the article under analysis both in HTML and PDF formats.

If the analyzes and conclusions of the original article are confirmed, the expression of concern will be replaced by a retraction.

In the summary, the expression of concern should be as follows:

[Manifestação de Preocupação] Wenferm inscits carscirfo antcsiof seinfo  
SANTOS, M. e SILVA, J.  
[Expression of Concern] Wenferm inscits carscirfo antcsiof seinfo SANTOS,  
M. e SILVA, J.

In the HTML and PDF files, the expression of concern should be presented as follows:

Expression of Concern:  
This article received the following questioning: <describe what has been questioned>.  
This question is under investigation and Journal XXX is publishing this

expression of concern to alert readers to the issues raised about the above mentioned article.

#### 4. Publication of errata

Errata are corrections of errors identified in an article or other types of document already published. The publication of an erratum is needed when the author/authors of the article identify one or more errors in the already published article.

In the case of SciELO, the procedure for publication of erratum is initiated by a communication from the Editor-in-Chief to SciELO reporting on the error found in an already published article.

The procedure for the registry and publication of a correction is as follows:

- a. e-mail from the editor to SciELO informing the correction, according the following models:
  - i. for journals with volume and page number identification: In the article **<article title>** published in the journal **<journal title>**, **<vol>**(**<num>**):**< initial page-final page>**, on page **<error page>** where it reads:  
“<text to be modified>”
  - ii. for journals without volume and page number identification:  
In the article **<article title>** published in the journal **<journal title>**,**< include some article identification>** where it reads:  
“<text to be modified >”  
it should read:  
“<corrected text>”
- b. The actual errata are immediately published by SciELO in the Ahead of Print (AOP) mode in XML and PDF formats with link to the version of the document containing the error. At the end of the online document that has been altered, there will be a link indicating that the mentioned article has an erratum, directing to the text of errata.
- c. The errata should also be published at the end of their respective articles.
- d. Upon publication of the next issue of the journal the erratum or errata are migrated from the Ahead of Print as a document from the new issue and presented in the summary, maintaining the same DOI. In this case, the link at the end of the document published online will be directed to the errata published in the new issue.

The procedure for publication of errata follows the guidance of international databases and aims to preserve the record of the original manuscript, however informing on eventual corrections.

Figure 1 presents an example of indication of existence of errata at the end of the document that has been altered.



Finally, it is important to notice that corrections to the data that makes up the bibliographic records such as titles, authors, keywords, etc., affect the records in bibliographic indexes and in DOI, with reflection in searches and eventually in bibliometric indicators.

In case of correction in authorship and document title, the correction alters the original record affecting information retrieval and bibliometric data.

For questions on the procedures for the correction of published registry, please contact the SciELO production team by e-mail [producao@scielo.org](mailto:producao@scielo.org).