

Plagiarism: Who is responsible author or the journal editors?

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Letter to the Editor

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Dear Sir,

Plagiarism is a stealing of other's words, language or ideas and then calls the work his own. It is reflected as an unethical practice which has always remains alarming in medical literature¹⁻³.

I am writing in context to an article recently been published in the Journal of Drug Delivery and Therapeutics, Volume 3, Issue 4, July-August 2013 entitled "Medications For Anxiety: A Drug Utilization Study In Psychiatry Outpatients From A

Tertiary Care Centre Of Eastern India"⁴.

<http://jddtonline.info/index.php/jddt/article/view/574>

I was very shocked to see that the above article is plagiarized from one of my paper which is the most popular article 53475 views till 21st July 2013 in NJE, "Medications for Anxiety: A Drug Utilization Study In Psychiatry Inpatients From A Tertiary Care Centre of Western Nepal"⁵ published in Nepal Journal of Epidemiology on September 2011.

<http://nepjol.info/index.php/NJE/article/view/5753>

Critical Appraisal of the Plagiarized article:

Abstract: Copied 100% from my paper, most interestingly the authors even forgot to modify place of the study. The authors have even copied Manipal Teaching Hospital in the place of study instead of Burdwan Medical College, West Bengal. Manipal Teaching Hospital is situated in Nepal and not in West Bengal, India.

In the abstract in the background section of the study it is mentioned that the study was undertaken in inpatients but the title it is mentioned as A Drug Utilization study in Psychiatry **Outpatients** from a tertiary care centre of

Eastern India.

Introduction: Copied from my paper

Discussion: Subheadings are copied

- a. Psychiatric Diseases: Paragraph is copied
- b. Socio- Demographic Details and Anxiety: Paragraph is copied
- c. Pharmacotherapy of Anxiety: Copied

Conclusion: Copied 100% except one word (Full paragraph has been copied word to word). Only the drug name Alprazolam was replaced by Clonazepam.

References: The references are also copied from my paper. In one of the references even the date of accessing one of the article is similar to my paper. It was mentioned as (article accessed on 1st August 2011). According to the authors they have performed the study in between 1st October 2012 and 31st January 2013.

This is how a paper should be written? It is evident that the authors have done plagiarism of the NJE article. According to me both authors and the journal editors should be blamed for such an unethical act. The major fault lies with the authors. But it is the journal editor's duty to undergo plagiarism checking before sending the article for peer review which can reduce this practice in medical field in future.

Acknowledgment

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