

Collaborate Learning Discussion 2 - Case Study: Accuracy of Information

Peer Response 2

Hi Wang

A very informative post, thank you for sharing. You have presented an excellent overview around the validity and reliability of research, to add to this Resnik (2020) mentions that if people can trust the quality and integrity of the research then companies are more likely to fund them.

Regarding the potential courses of action for Abi, I agree that reporting to a supervisor, disclosing information to the public, and consulting with legal professionals could be appropriate options. Prioritising public interest and maintaining transparency in all steps of the research are required to ensure ethical and responsible conduct (BCS, 2022), this is also a crucial step in building public support (Resnik, 2020).

Focusing on your second point around the presentation of both positive and negative data, I would like to add that this is crucial for maintaining scientific integrity and preventing publication bias. DeVito and Goldacre (2019) discusses publication bias as a form of bias that occurs when positive results are more likely to be published than negative results. This can transpire due to several reasons, including selective reporting by researchers, editorial bias, and journal policies favouring positive results (DeVito & Goldacre, 2019). This bias can lead to erroneous conclusions and negatively impact the progress of scientific knowledge (Nair, 2019).

In the case of Abi, it is essential for him to consider publication bias and strive to present a comprehensive analysis of both positive and negative findings. By doing so, Abi can uphold ethical standards such as those prescribed by the ACM Code of Ethics (ACM, 2018) and the BCS Code of Conduct (BCS, 2022) as well as contribute to the advancement of knowledge in his field.

References

ACM (2018) Association for Computing Machinery. ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct. Available from: <https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics> [Accessed 20 March 2023].

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Nair, A, S. (2019) Publication bias - Importance of studies with negative results! *Indian Journal of Anaesthesia*, 63(6): 505-507. Available from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6573059/> [Accessed 20 March 2023].

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