Fostering research integrity and social relevance of research findings: an experience from Thailand

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Research Integrity

- High quality and robust practice across the full research process.
  - Planning->Systematic review, research expertise
  - Conducting->Individual responsibility, respect
  - Recording->Individual responsibility, reliability
  - Reporting->Honesty
  - Disseminating the results->Accountability, publication ethics

- Research Ethics

- Research Misconduct
Principle of Research Integrity

- Reliability
- Honesty
- Respect
- Accountability

Good Research Conduct
Situation of Research Integrity in Thailand

- Unknown prevalence of research misconduct
- No specific law for Research
- No party takes responsibility to manage research integrity
- No National Office of Research Integrity
- University Perspectives—Bad reputation to report research misconduct
- Cultural beliefs—
  - Bad habit to report other’s fault.
  - Seldomly concerned about Conflicts of Interest
  - High tolerance to minor errors or mistake
Thai Innovation Agency Chief Caught In Plagiarism Saga

One of Thailand’s top universities is under fire for not taking action on allegations that innovation agency director Supachai Lorlowhakarn copied parts of his Ph.D. thesis.
Thai PhD withdrawal leads to calls to retract article

By: Prime Sarmiento

[MANILA] A decision by a Thai university to rescind, on the grounds of plagiarism, a PhD previously granted to a senior government official has stirred up calls for a local academic journal to retract the official's allegedly plagiarised article, published in 2008.
Parties involved in Research Integrity

- Policy Maker
- Professional Council
- Researchers
- Institutions
National Research Council of Thailand

- Policy making:
  - Safety Guidelines for Laboratory 2012
  - Animals for Scientific Purposes Act 2015
  - National Policy and Guidelines for Human Research 2015
  - National Ethics Committee Accreditation System of Thailand 2015
  - Biosafety Guidelines for Modern Biotechnology 2016
  - Draft Human Research Ethic Act 2018
ANIMALS FOR SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES ACT,
B.E. 2558 (A.D. 2015).

BHUMIBOL ADULYADEJ, REX.
Given on 8th March B.E. 2558 (2015)
Being the 70th Year of the Present Reign.

Policy making:
Implementation:

- Use same platform with other governmental funding agencies for grant application
  - Prevent financial misconduct
- Voluntary action for institution:
  - Funding, reward
  - Integrate research ethics into Academic Code of Conduct
- Compulsory action for researcher
  - Research ethics review before grant application
  - Apply via National Research Management system->transparency
Transparency of Research Result

- Public Access to Result:
  - Thai National Research Repository (NCRT)
  - Health System Research Institute (HSRI)
Parties involved in Research Integrity

- Researchers
- Policy Maker
- Professional Council
- Institutions
The medical Council Regulations on medical ethics preservation BE 2549 (2006)

Part 9

Research Study and Experiment on Human

Article 47    A medical practitioner who conducts a research study and experiment on human shall receive a consent from a human subject and be ready to protect the subject from any risk arising from such experiment.

Article 48    The medical practitioner shall treat the subject in the same manner as treating the patient in the medical practice stated in Part 4.

Article 49    The medical practitioner shall be responsible for risks or damages caused by the experiment to the subject who is not at fault.

Article 50    The medical practitioner who conducts or participates in the research study or experiment on human shall undertake such study or experiment only after it is approved by ethics committee concerned.

Article 51    The medical practitioner who conducts or participates in the research study or experiment on human shall conform to ethical guidelines for research study and experiment on human and researcher’s code of ethics.
Parties involved in Research Integrity

- Researchers
- Institutions
- Policy Maker
- Professional Council
Research Institutes

- Capacity Building:
  - Research Ethics, Responsible Conduct of Research
- Create Good Research Environment: Software
- Oversight:
  - Research Ethics Committee (REC)
  - Office of Research Integrity (ORI)
  - Professional Ethics Committees
- Networking: NECAST, SIDCER-FERCAP, NCRC
- Monitoring by REC, Research Misconduct Committee
Approach Methods to foster RI in Thailand

- Education
- Capacity Building
- Networking
Thank you!

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