## **Peer review crisis**

The peer review process is a crucial part of scientific research, where experts in a field review and evaluate research before it is published in academic journals. However, there have been concerns about a "peer review crisis" in recent years, particularly in regards to the reproducibility and reliability of published research.

One major issue is the increasing volume of research being published, which can make it difficult for peer reviewers to adequately assess the quality and accuracy of all the submissions. This can lead to errors or omissions in the review process, which in turn can affect the validity of the research.

Another issue is the potential for bias in the peer review process. Reviewers may have personal or professional conflicts of interest that could influence their evaluation of the research. Additionally, there may be a tendency for reviewers to be more likely to accept research that confirms their own biases or research interests, leading to a lack of diversity in the studies that are published.

There have also been cases of fraudulent research being published despite the peer review process. This can be due to intentional deception by the researchers, but also due to weaknesses in the review process itself, such as a lack of thoroughness or a failure to check for errors or anomalies in the data.

Overall, the peer review process is an important aspect of scientific research, but it is not without its flaws. To address these concerns, some researchers have called for more transparency and accountability in the peer review process, including the use of open review systems and the publication of reviewer comments alongside the research. Other proposals include better training and support for peer reviewers, as well as increased funding and resources to improve the quality and quantity of peer-reviewed research.

To maintain the quality of the peer review system and avoid the overwhelming feeling, every author has to serve as a peer reviewer. When one author declines an invitation to review, another author will be invited, and so on. Reviewing three manuscripts per article published is not a hard job, but reviewing 15 manuscripts per article published, which could result in 75 reviews a year if you publish five articles, may be overwhelming. However, this is not a system problem, but a neglect of duty from the other four co-authors who should be sharing the task <sup>1)</sup>.

## **Solutions**

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Fernandez-Llimos, F., Salgado, T. M., & Tonin, F. S. (2020). How many manuscripts should I peer review per year? Pharmacy Practice, 18(1). https://doi.org/10.18549/PharmPract.2020.1.1804

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