Recommendations for making post-publication corrections

THE RECOMMENDATIONS

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1 Establishing contacts
2 Transparency
3 Respond
4 Investigate
5 Share information
6 Notify

INSTITUTIONS
2 Transparency
3 Respond
4 Investigate
5 Share information
6 Educate

THIRD PARTIES
2 Tone
3 Escalate
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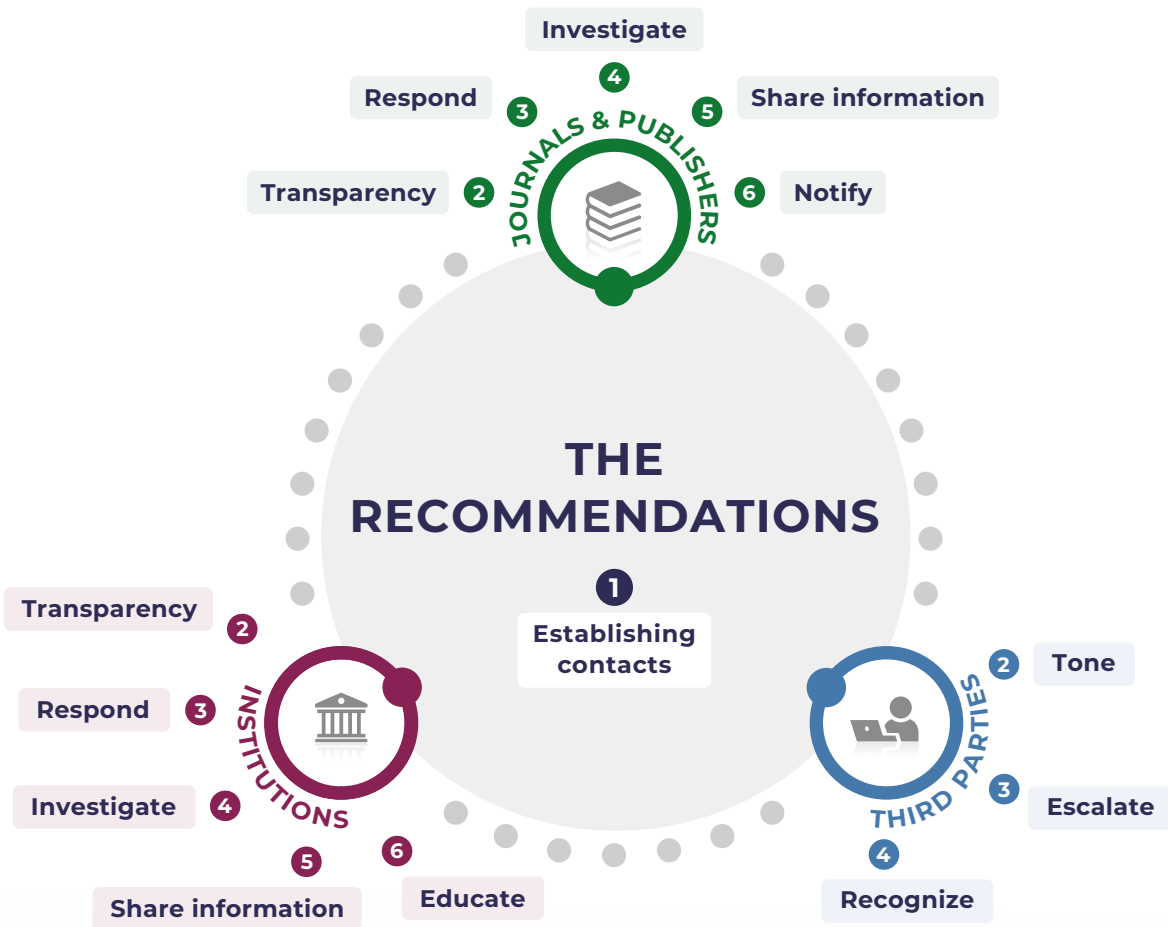
For journals and publishers

1 Establishing contacts
Post information regarding how concerns can be raised and provide an email address.

2 Transparency
Display clear policies and processes regarding post-publication amendments.

3 Respond
Provide an initial response when concerns are raised and update on final outcome.

4 Investigate
Have a designated team to investigate concerns according to COPE guidelines and consider if author/institutional input is needed to inform outcomes.

5 Share information
Regarding paper mill cases with others as necessary (e.g. journals, publishers, societies, institutions, STM Integrity Hub).

6 Notify
Where concerns will take time to investigate consider posting a Notification on the article to alert readers to potential concerns.

For institutions

1 Establishing contacts
Post information regarding how concerns can be raised and provide an email address.

2 Transparency
Display clear policies regarding research investigations.

3 Respond
Provide an initial response when concerns are raised and indicate whether a review will happen.

4 Investigate
Have an impartial team to investigate concerns raised.

5 Share information
With publishers as necessary to amend the published literature.

6 Educate
Implement strategies to support research integrity (e.g. verifying authorship and data).

For third parties

1 Establishing contacts
Where possible contact the journal/publisher directly and simultaneously if multiple journals/publishers involved; consider noting the concern on PubPeer.

2 Tone
Maintain professional tone and language in all communications and avoid potentially defamatory language.

3 Escalate
If you do not receive a response from the journal/publisher escalate via COPE or the authors' institution.

4 Recognize
Investigations and due diligence takes time; substantive updates may not be available until the case is resolved.