

## Librarian Action Plan

### Librarians have an essential role to play in addressing biomedical research reporting and reproducibility issues: a call to action

Serious concerns have been raised about the robustness of biomedical research studies and their resultant publications.

Potential solutions and recommendations have been much discussed, including in the [Lancet Waste Series](#)<sup>1</sup> and in the [Manifesto for Reproducible Science](#)<sup>2</sup>.

At the [EQUATOR Network](#)<sup>3</sup> we believe that **biomedical librarians have a key role to play in helping to address these fundamental concerns.**

#### What impact could my library have?

Biomedical librarians are excellently placed to raise awareness of and target new services towards helping to address research reporting and reproducibility issues amongst their clinicians/researchers/faculty. By taking some simple actions now librarians can contribute to raising biomedical research standards and publication quality. The resultant higher impact research outputs raise the profile and reputation of institutions, with librarians being seen to have directly contributed to this.

#### Who should I work with?

**Involve** key people from your institution/organisation: Faculty; Deans; Departmental Heads; Research Clinicians.

**Approach** departments: Research Services; Writing Centre; Grants Office, Scholarly Communications Office.

**Discuss** and share ideas with other biomedical librarians!

### Action plan

#### Some simple ideas to get you started!

##### Promotion

- \* Add/share hyperlinks to initiatives for example the EQUATOR Network, METRICS, Centre for Open Science, NIH Rigor and Reproducibility, FOSTER Open Science to library websites, Libguides or social media.
- \* Raise awareness of reporting guidelines, reproducibility standards, data sharing resources, open access, research study registers in library bulletins and current awareness services.
- \* Highlight reporting and reproducibility issues in library leaflets and posters.

##### Training

- \* Where relevant add in a few additional slides about reporting guidelines, research reproducibility, research protocols, research study registers, data sharing, open access etc. to existing training sessions/workshops.
- \* Work with faculty to incorporate training on reporting guidelines and reproducibility into existing courses.

##### Researcher Support

- \* When providing the results of literature searches to clinicians/researchers advise them on the correct reporting guideline to use to write up their study for publication.
- \* Discuss current research reporting and reproducibility issues with clinicians/researchers and make sure that they are aware of where they can obtain help in designing, conducting and reporting their research.

#### References

1. Research: increasing value, reducing waste, The Lancet Series. <http://www.thelancet.com/series/research>
2. Munafò MR et al. A manifesto for reproducible science. Nature Human Behaviour.2017;0021. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41562-016-0021>
3. The EQUATOR Network <http://www.equator-network.org/>  
The EQUATOR Librarian Network <http://www.equator-network.org/librarians/>

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## Can I help?

*Please note down any ideas that you have had for how you could support calls to address biomedical research reporting and reproducibility issues in your particular library setting.*

My local action plan ideas	
<u>Promotion</u>	
<u>Training</u>	
<u>Researcher support</u>	
<u>Other activity</u>	