

# What Do the Editors Expect of the Reviewers?

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No conflict of interest  
to disclose


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2013 Impact Factor  
**1.600**

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**Volume 25(3); July 2014**

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*more*

### 2014 ASGO Workshop

 **3rd International Workshop  
on Gynecologic Oncology**

Aug 23(Sat)-24(Sun), 2014  
Asan Medical Center, Seoul, Korea

### Meeting Program and Abstracts

# Contents

- Roles of journal
- Roles of referee system
- Misconducts in publication
- Ethical responsibilities of reviewers

# Roles of Scientific Journal

- Building a collective knowledge base
- Communicating information
- Validating the quality of research
- Distributing rewards
- Building scientific communities

David J. Solomon

Volume 10, Issue 1, Winter 2007

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.3998/3336451.0010.107>

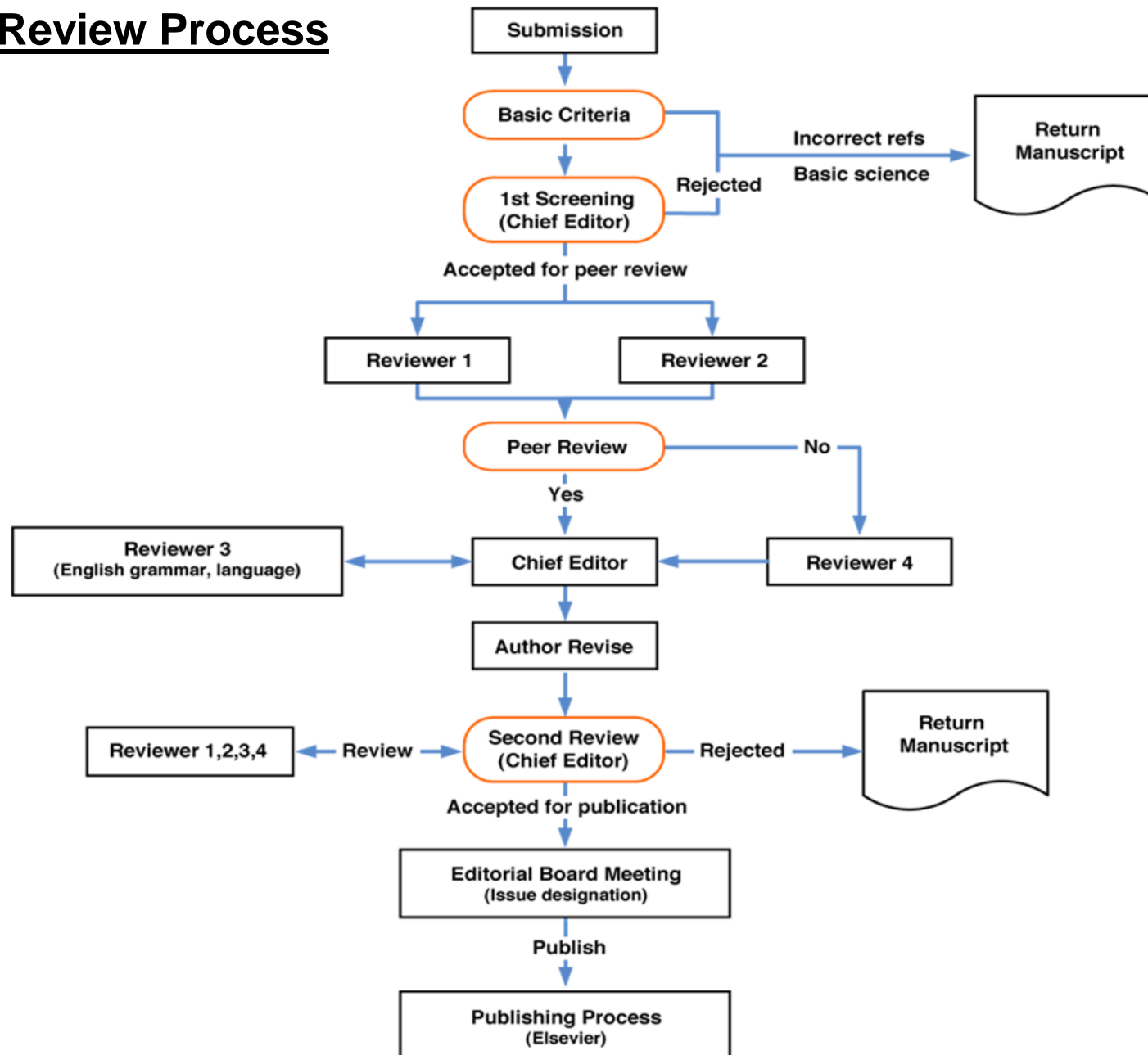
# Role of Referee System

- '...referees will be asked to judge whether the article contributes sufficiently to our knowledge and/or understanding of wells...'
- 'sufficiently' is taken to mean that the article is of a high enough quality to merit inclusion in this one stream, rather than elsewhere in the journal

# Peer Review

- Definition
  - Evaluation of work by one or more people of similar competence to the producers of the work
- Purpose
  - Peer review methods are employed to maintain standards of quality, improve performance, and provide credibility

# Peer Review Process





# Internet : the kindling wood

- Peer reviewing process has been greatly facilitated by introduction of information network
- Reduced cost and effort of conducting peer review
- Increased flexibility in method of peer review



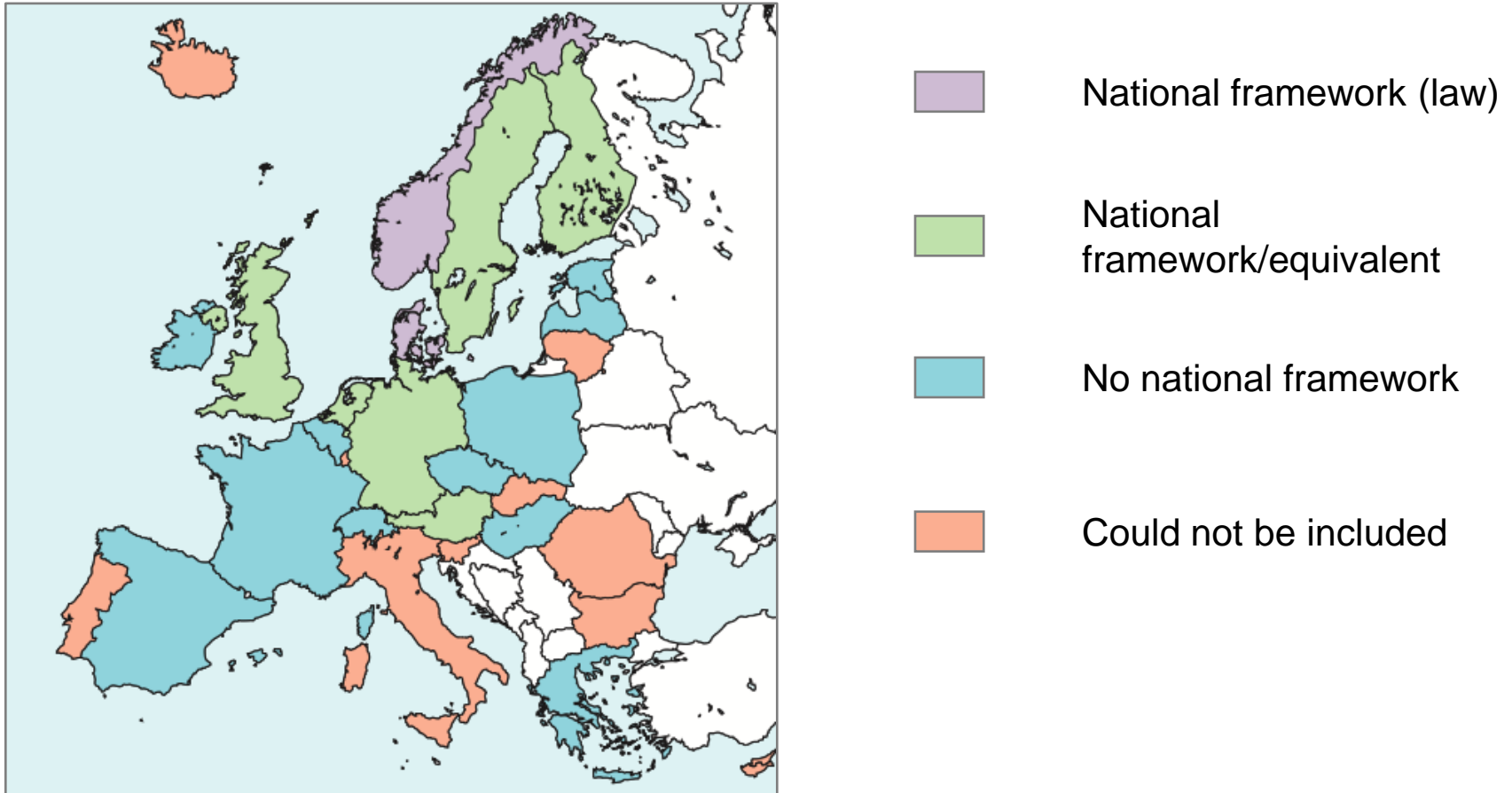
# Experimental systems for reviewing

- British Medical Journal removed blinding in 1999
- Many BioMed Central journals provide open access to the complete review record
- Nature posted preprints for public comment in 2006 (for 3 months)
- Public Library of Science One (PLOS One) publishes immediately with minimal screening and allow for public comment

# Open peer review?

- Possible benefits for authors and readers
  - Reviewer comments put paper in context which is useful additional information for readers
  - Reduces bias among reviewers
  - Peer review examples for young researchers
- Possible benefits for reviewers
  - Shows the reviewer's informed opinion
  - Demonstrates experience as a reviewer
- Possible drawbacks
  - Reviewer might less likely to volunteer

# Guidance on Research Integrity: No Union in Europe



Godecharle, S., et al. The Lancet, 2013; 381 (9872): 1097-1098.

Centre for Biomedical Ethics and Law (SG, KD) and Occupational, Environmental and Insurance Medicine (BN), Department of Public Health, University of Leuven, 3000 Leuven, Belgium

# General Suggestions to Reviewers

- Be prompt
- Be objective
- Be specific
- Avoid acrimony



William A. Zellmer, 1977

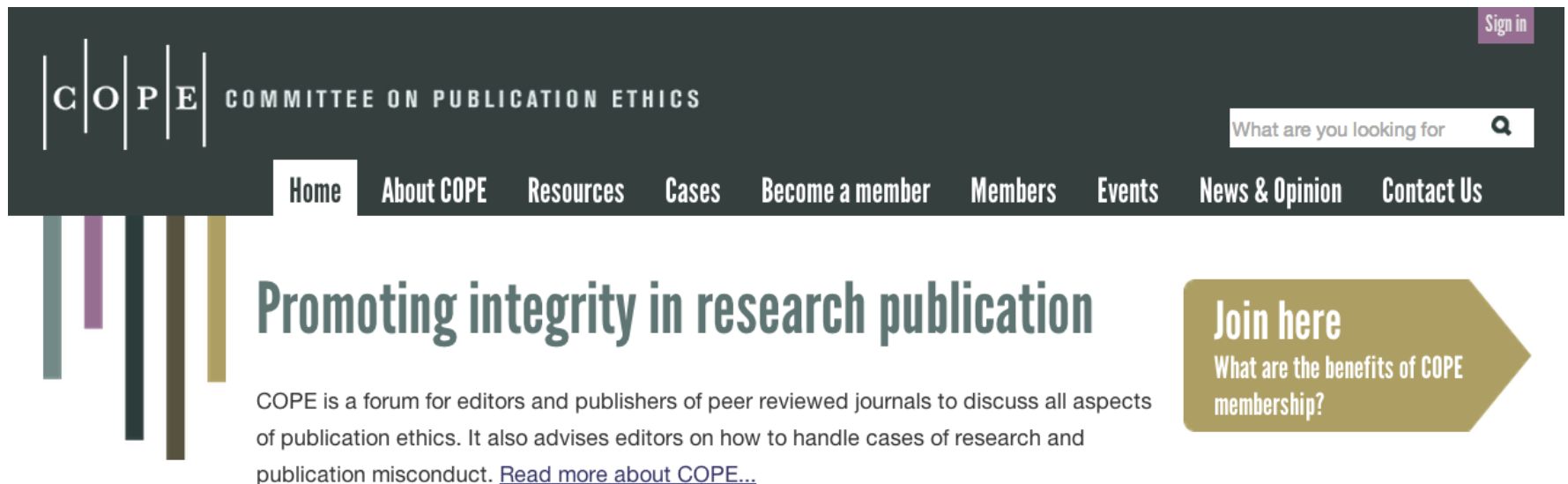
# Reviewer's Role

## in Journal Referee System

- Reviewers can do a better job if they know what editors expect of them
- The ideal reviewer is a careful reader and writer who is thoroughly familiar with the standards and requirements of professional-scientific journals
- Basic responsibility of a reviewer is to advise editors on the merits for publication of the paper in question

# COPE (Committee on Publication Ethics)

- Established in 1997 by a group of UK editors
- 9000 members worldwide
- Provides advice to editors and publishers



The image shows a screenshot of the COPE website. The header is dark grey with the COPE logo (vertical bars for C, O, P, E) and the text 'COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION ETHICS'. A search bar is on the right. Below the header is a navigation menu with links: Home, About COPE, Resources, Cases, Become a member, Members, Events, News & Opinion, and Contact Us. The main content area has a large heading 'Promoting integrity in research publication' and a paragraph describing COPE as a forum for editors and publishers. A call-to-action button 'Join here' is on the right.

COPE (Committee on Publication Ethics)

Home About COPE Resources Cases Become a member Members Events News & Opinion Contact Us

## Promoting integrity in research publication

COPE is a forum for editors and publishers of peer reviewed journals to discuss all aspects of publication ethics. It also advises editors on how to handle cases of research and publication misconduct. [Read more about COPE...](#)

**Join here**  
What are the benefits of COPE membership?

# COPE (Committee on Publication Ethics)

- eLearning course for new editors
- Forum to discuss individual cases
  - does not investigate individual cases
- Audit tools to measure compliance with the Code of Conduct
- 40 cases reported to COPE annually
- Major publishers have signed up
  - Elsevier, Wiley–Blackwell, Springer, Taylor & Francis, Palgrave Macmillan and Wolters Kluwer



# COPE Case Taxonomy

- Authorship
- Conflict of Interest
- Consent for Publication
- Contributorship
- Copyright
- Correction of the Literature
- Data
- Editorial Independence
- Funding/Sponsorship
- Metrics
- Miscellaneous
- Misconduct/Questionable Behavior
- Mistakes
- Peer Review
- Plagiarism
- Questionable/Unethical Research
- Redundant/Duplicate Publication
- Whistleblowers

# Signs indicating authorship problems

- Corresponding author does not respond to comments
- Changes are made by somebody not on the author list
- Unfeasibly long or short author list
- Role missing from list of contributors
- Industry-funded study with no authors from sponsor company

# COPE Flowcharts

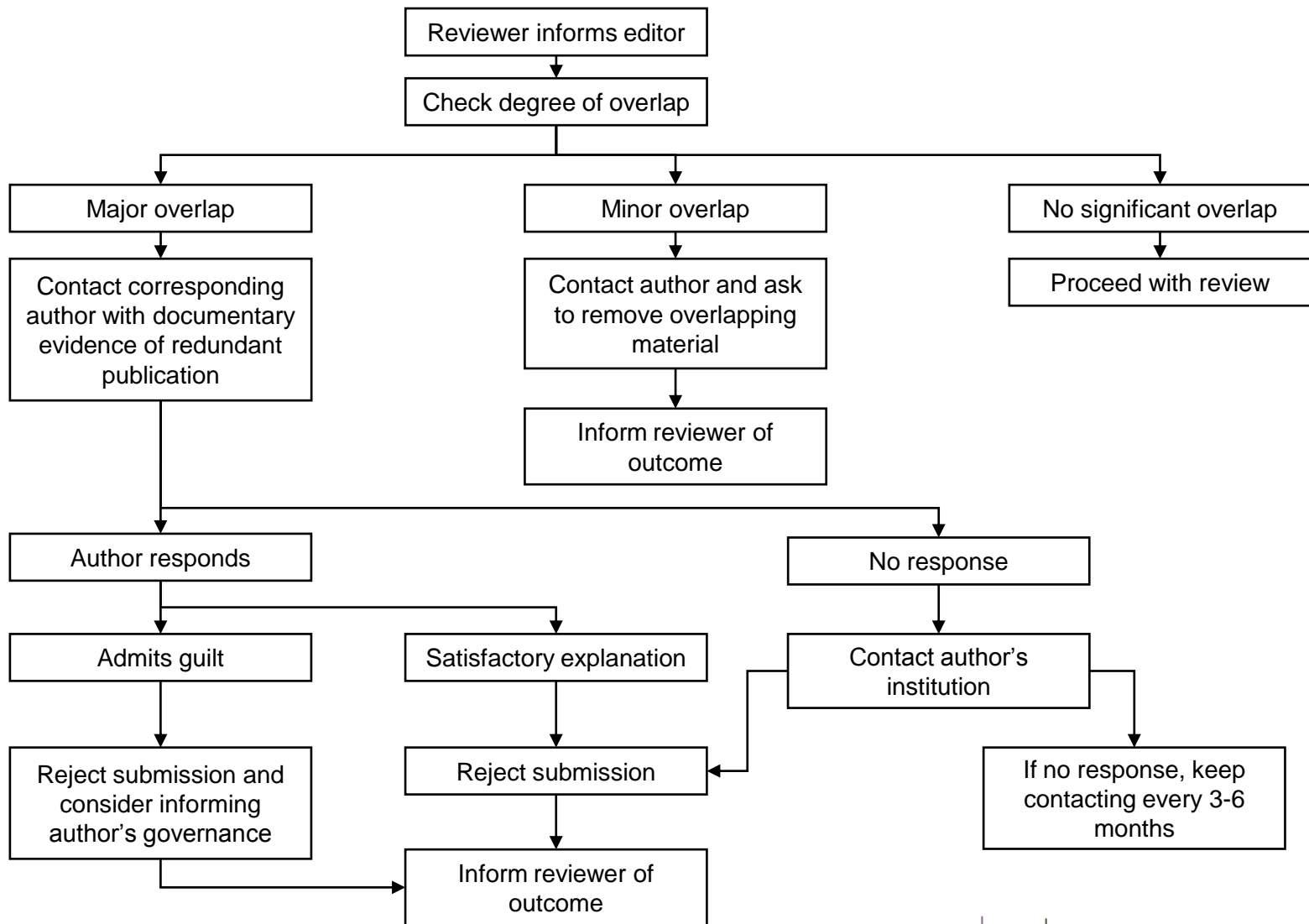
- Redundant (duplicate) publication
- Plagiarism
- Fabricated data
- Ghost, guest or gift authorship
- Undisclosed conflict of interest
- Ethical problem
- Reviewer has appropriated an author's ideas or data

# Redundant (duplicate) Publication

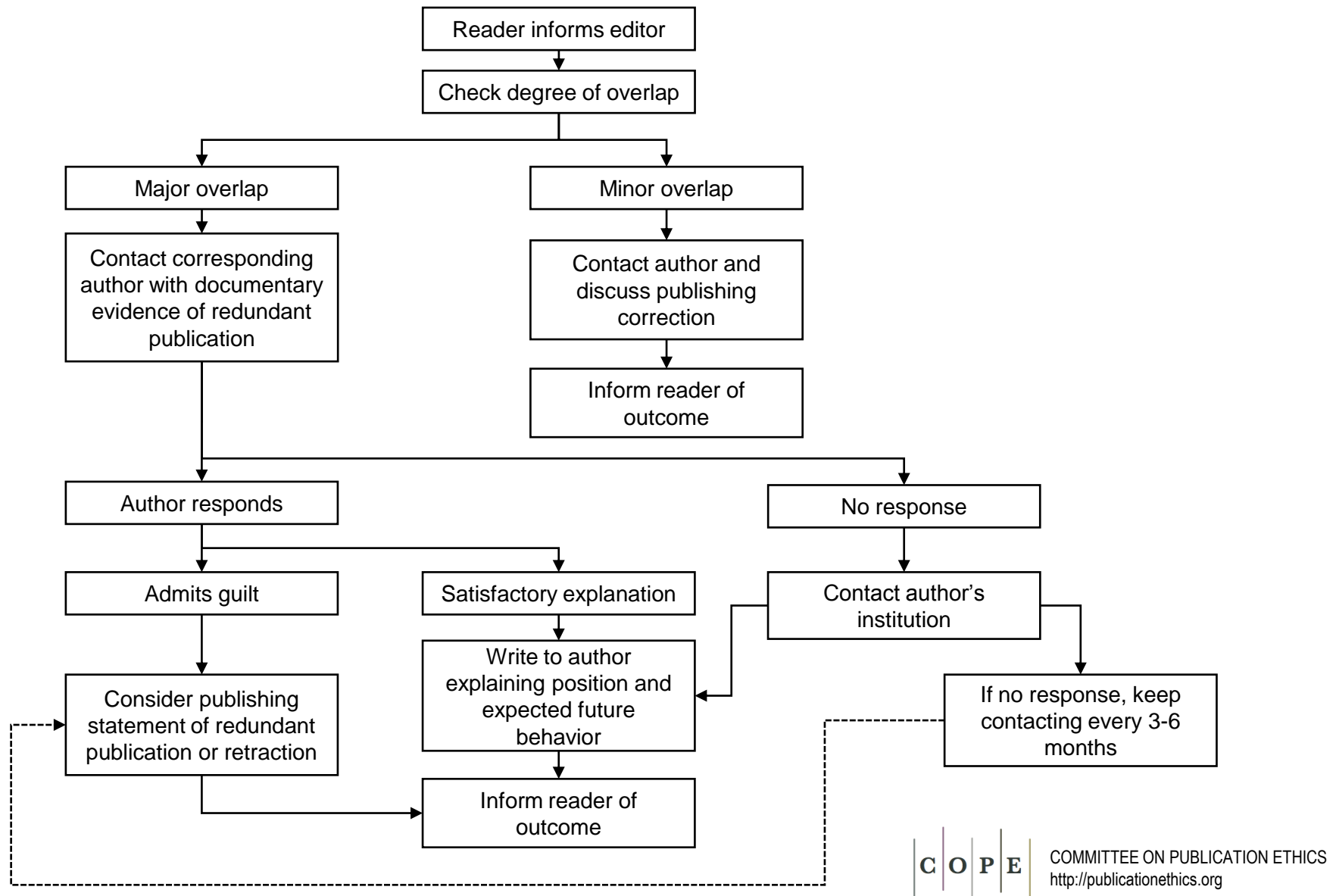
- Reporting (publishing or attempting to publish) substantially the same work more than once, without attribution of the original source(s)
  - At least one common author
  - The same or similar subject or study populations
  - Identical methodology or nearly so
  - The results and interpretations vary little



# What to do if you suspect **redundant (duplicate) publication** (a) in a submitted manuscript



# What to do if you suspect **redundant (duplicate) publication** (b) in a published manuscript

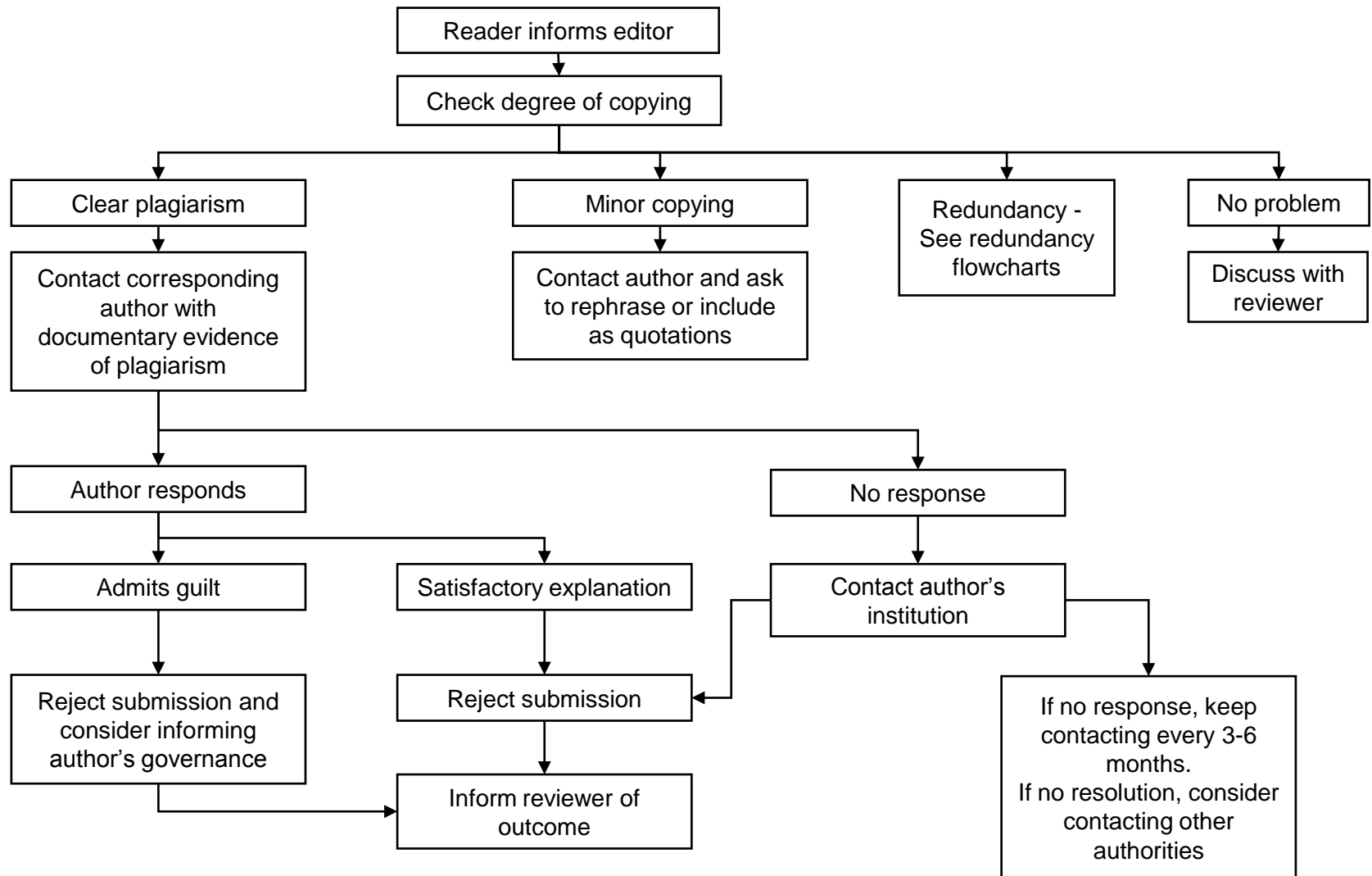


# Plagiarism

- “the deliberate or reckless representation of another’s words, thoughts, or ideas as one’s own without attribution in connection with submission of academic work, whether graded or otherwise”

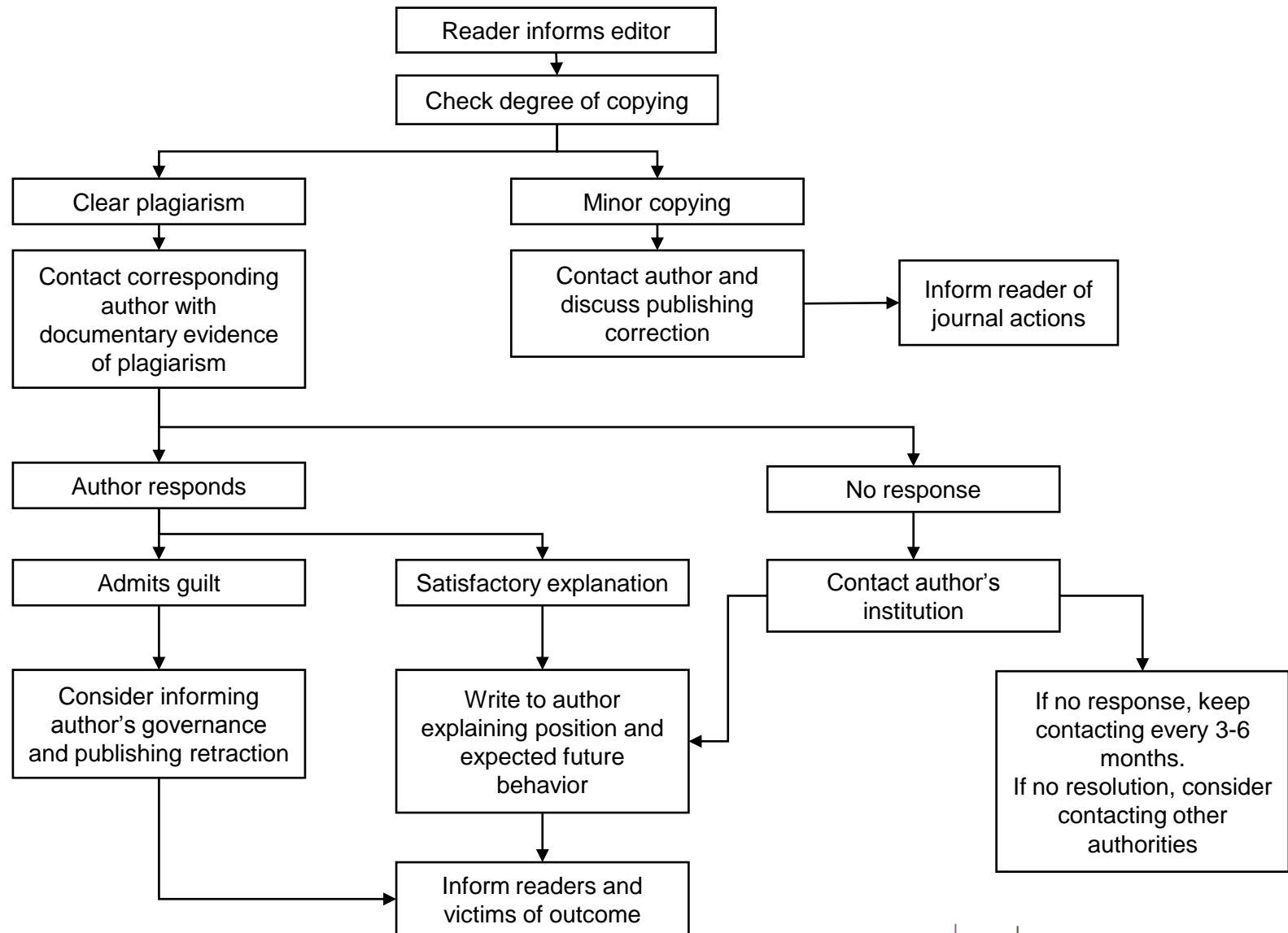


# What to do if you suspect **plagiarism** (a) in a submitted manuscript





# What to do if you suspect **plagiarism** (b) in a published manuscript





By JAKE MILLER / CBS NEWS / August 7, 2014, 4:41 PM

# Accused of plagiarism, John Walsh withdraws from Montana Senate race



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75352 views
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# Ghost Authorship

- A ghostwriter is a writer who writes papers that are officially credited to another person



# Gift (guest, honorary) Authorship

- Gift authorship is granted to those who played no significant role in the work





# Ethical responsibilities of reviewers

- Confidentiality
- Constructive critique
- Competence
- Impartiality and integrity
- Disclosure of conflict of interest
- Timeliness and responsiveness



Council of Science Editors

<http://www.councilscienceeditors.org/resource-library/editorial-policies/white-paper-on-publication-ethics/2-3-reviewer-roles-and-responsibilities/>

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# Timeliness

- A handling editor should make a recommendation within 3 months (6 weeks for short papers) from the date that the paper is received from the authors.
- The handling editor should normally allow **6 weeks (3 weeks for short papers)** for each reviewer to respond.

Guidelines for Members of Editorial Board

Knowledge and Information Systems

An International Journal, Springer

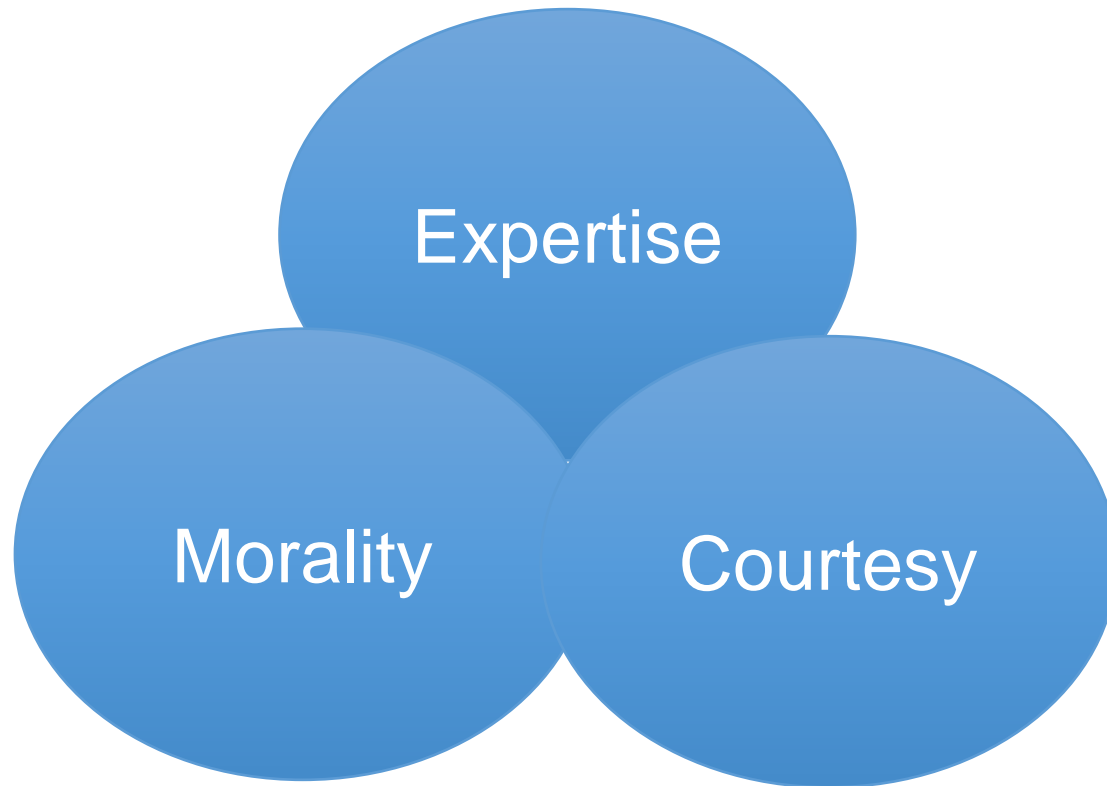
<http://www.cs.uvm.edu/~kais/gd-eb.shtml>

# Peer Reviewers Should Have:

- Expertise
- Confidentiality
- No conflicting interests
- Being objective and constructive
- Timeliness
- **Courtesy**

# Advise to Reviewers from COPE

- Peer review is largely a reciprocal endeavor
- Do not contact the authors directly (without the permission of the journal)
- It is the authors' paper and do not attempt to rewrite it
- Confidential comments to the editor should not be a place for denigration or false accusation





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<http://blog-paran.com/linek>

Thank you for your attention

