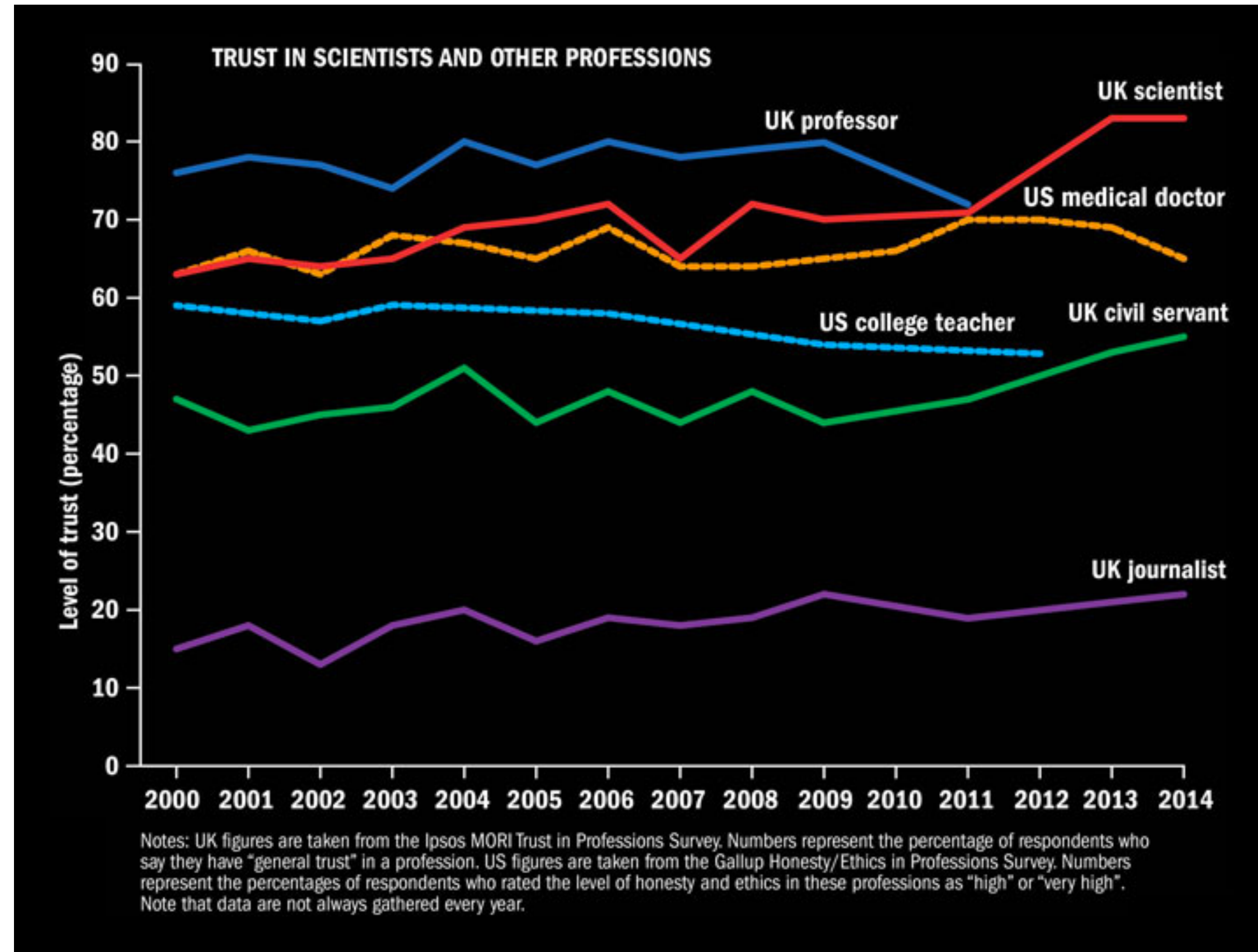




Publication ethics

A/Prof Tim Moss

@unintimidating



Trust me, I'm a scientist



<https://www.timeshighereducation.com/features/is-industry-funding-undermining-trust-in-science>



ethics |'εθɪks|

plural noun

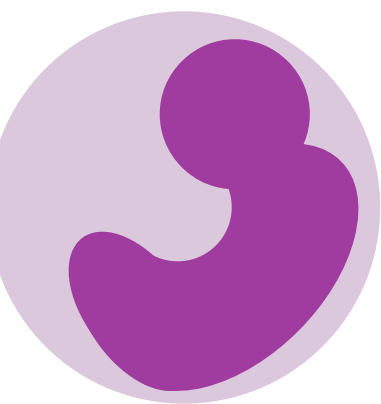
moral principles that govern a person's
behaviour or the conducting of an activity.



etiquette |'etiket, eti'ket|

noun

the customary code of polite behaviour in society or among members of a particular profession or group.



honest |'ɒnɪst|
adjective

free of deceit; truthful and sincere

simple, unpretentious, and unsophisticated



Definition of publication ethics

Ethical behaviour in writing and submitting a scientific manuscript for publication



Why do we publish?



© 2005 - www.ThincTanc.co.uk





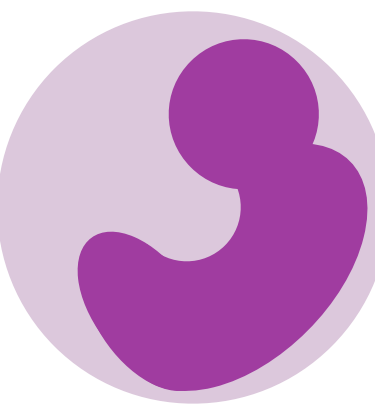
Australian Government
National Health and Medical Research Council
Australian Research Council

Universities Australia
www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au

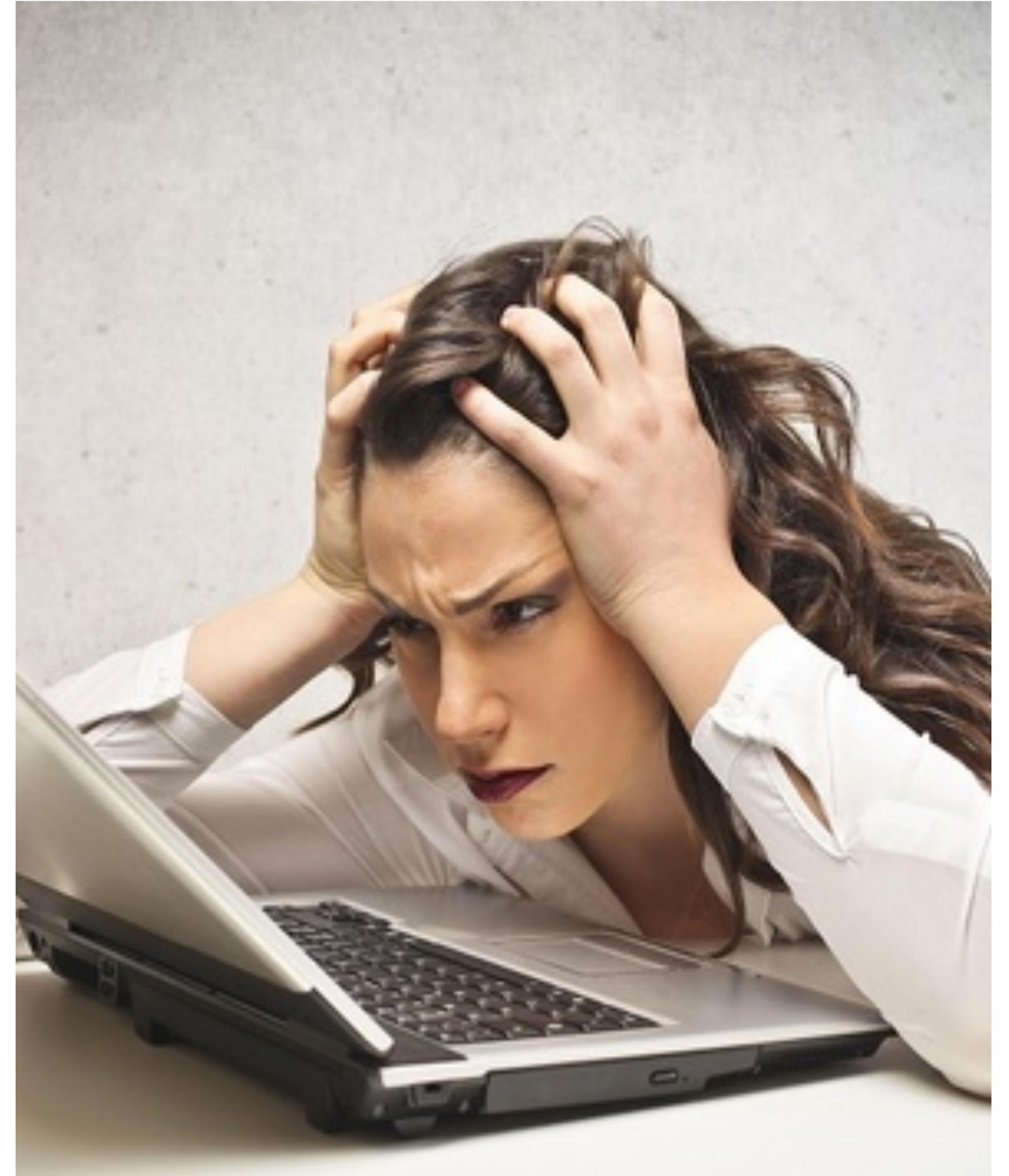
AUSTRALIAN CODE FOR THE RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT OF RESEARCH

Responsibilities of researchers

- Disseminate all research findings
- Ensure accuracy of publication and dissemination
- Cite the work of others fully and accurately
- Obtain permission for republishing
- Disclose research support accurately
- Register clinical trials
- Manage confidentiality
- Communicate responsibly to the public
- No multiple submissions

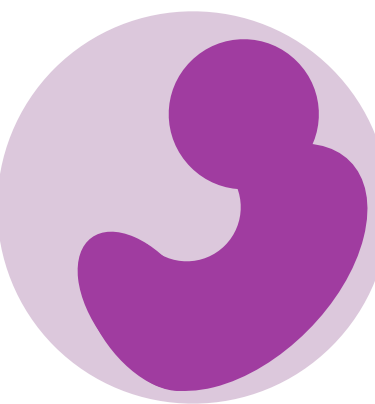


Who is an author?



Council of medical journal editors' definition of an author

- Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work; **AND**
- Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content; **AND**
- Final approval of the version to be published; **AND**
- Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.



NHMRC's definition of an author

Authorship must be based on substantial contributions in a combination of:

- conception and design of the project
- analysis and interpretation of research data
- drafting significant parts of the work or critically revising it so as to contribute to the interpretation

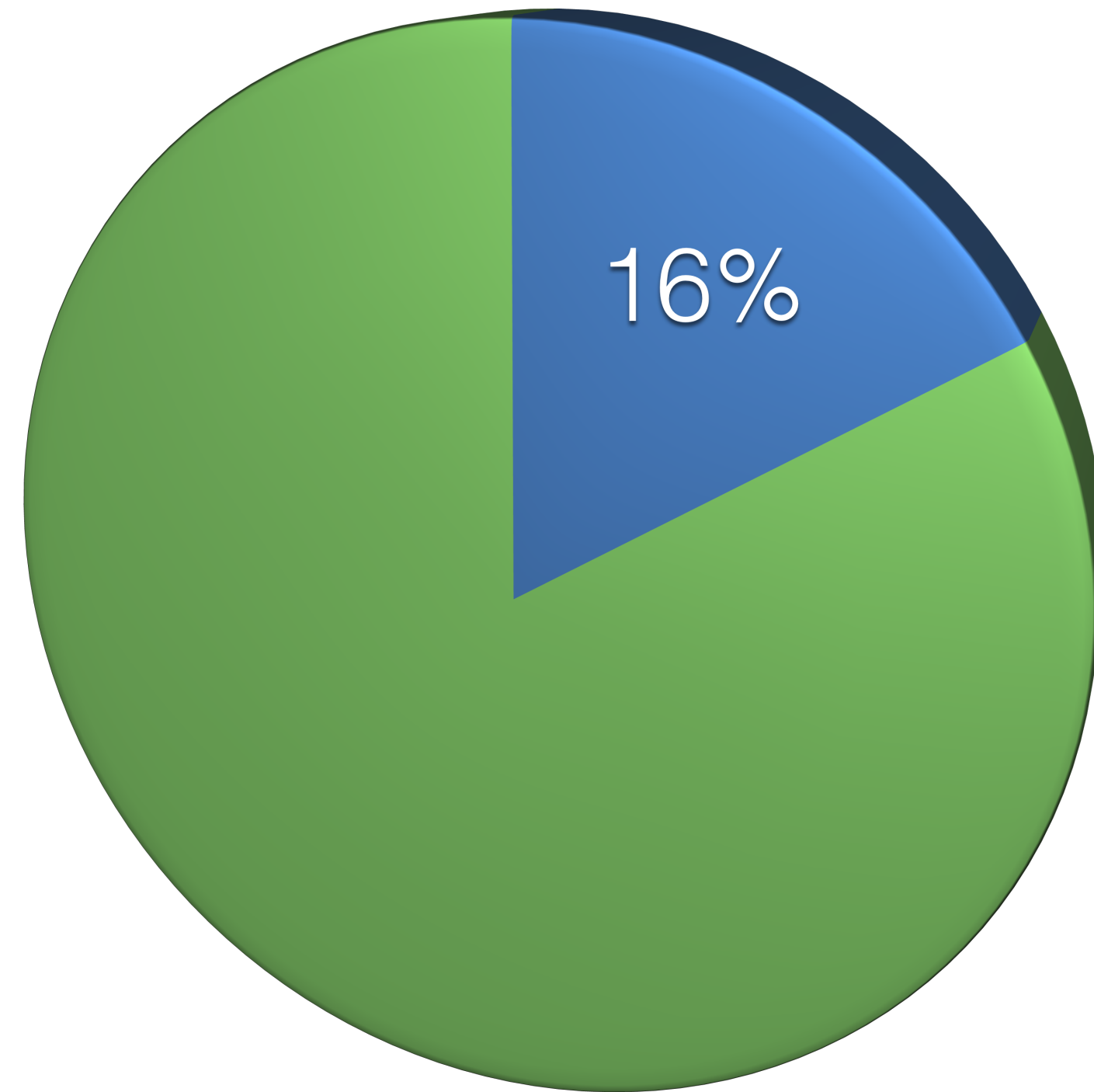


Authorship guidelines from NHMRC

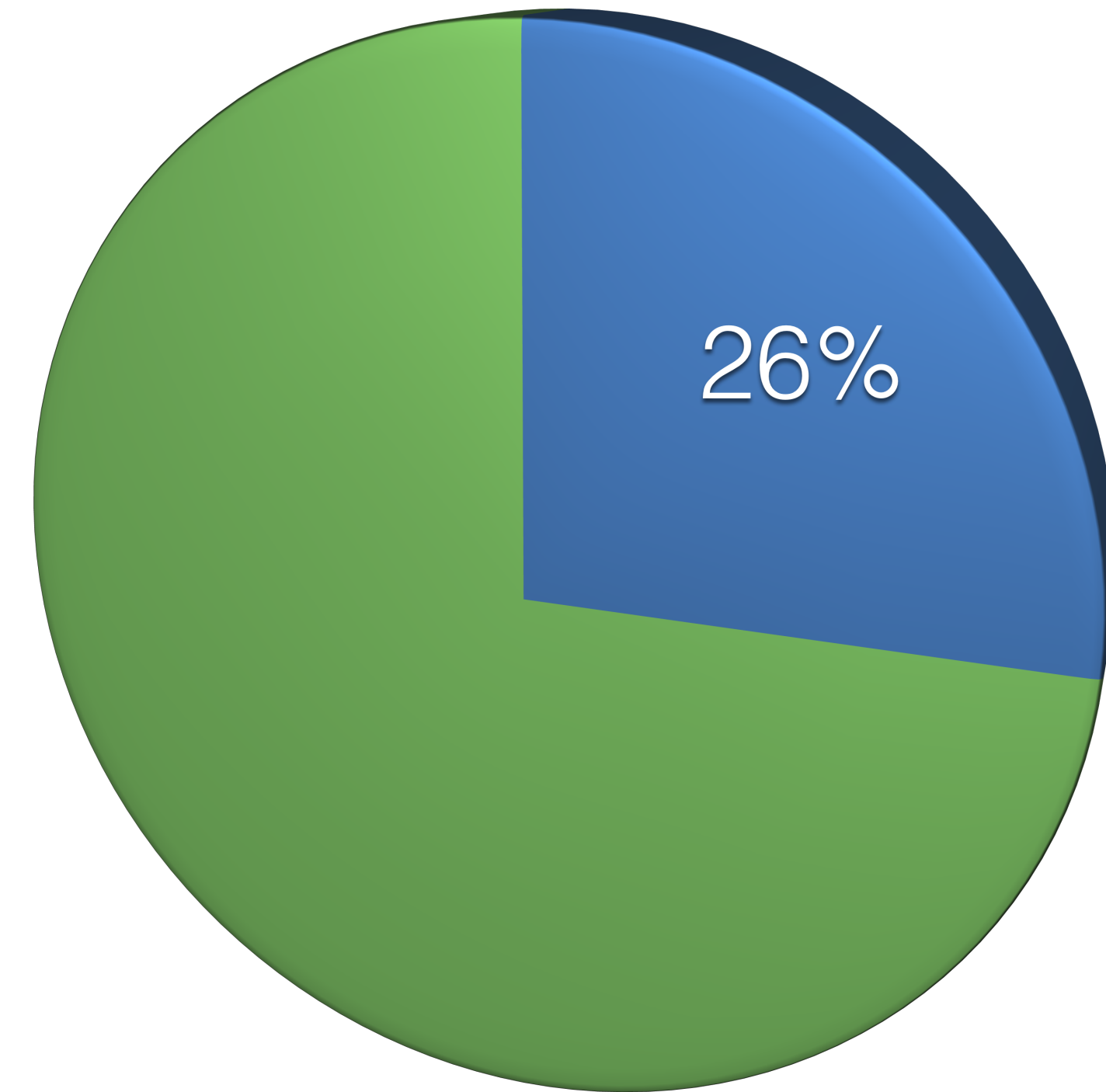
- Not tied to position or profession
- Voluntary or paid contribution
- Provision of materials, routine technical support or making measurements is insufficient
- Substantial intellectual involvement is required



Original research

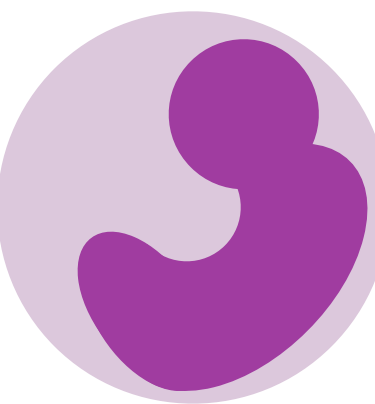


Review

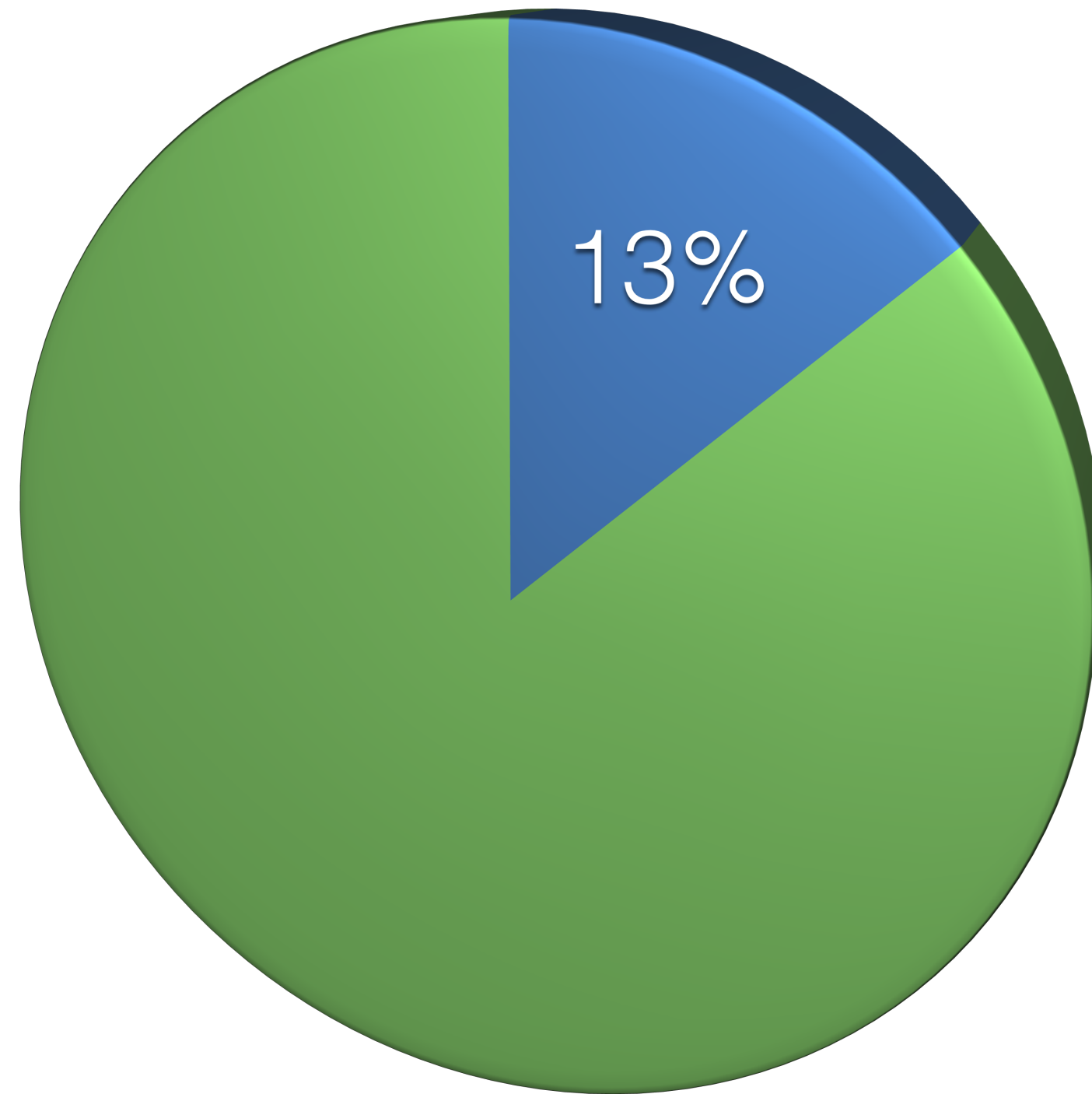


'Honourary' authorship

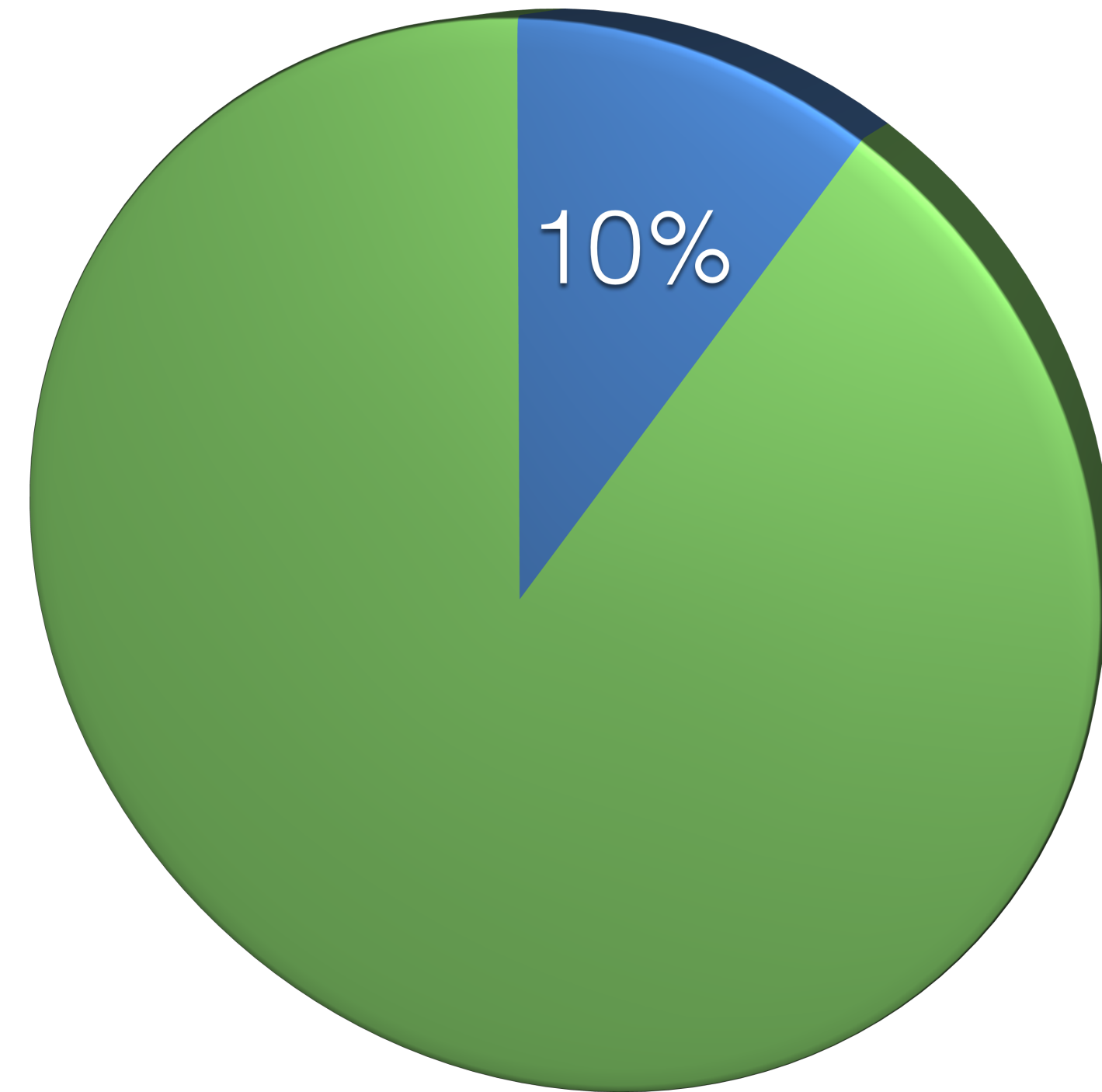
Flanagan et al. JAMA 1998



Original research

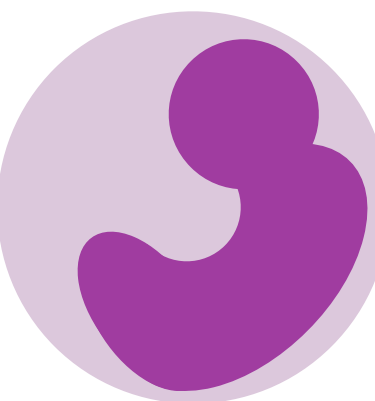


Review

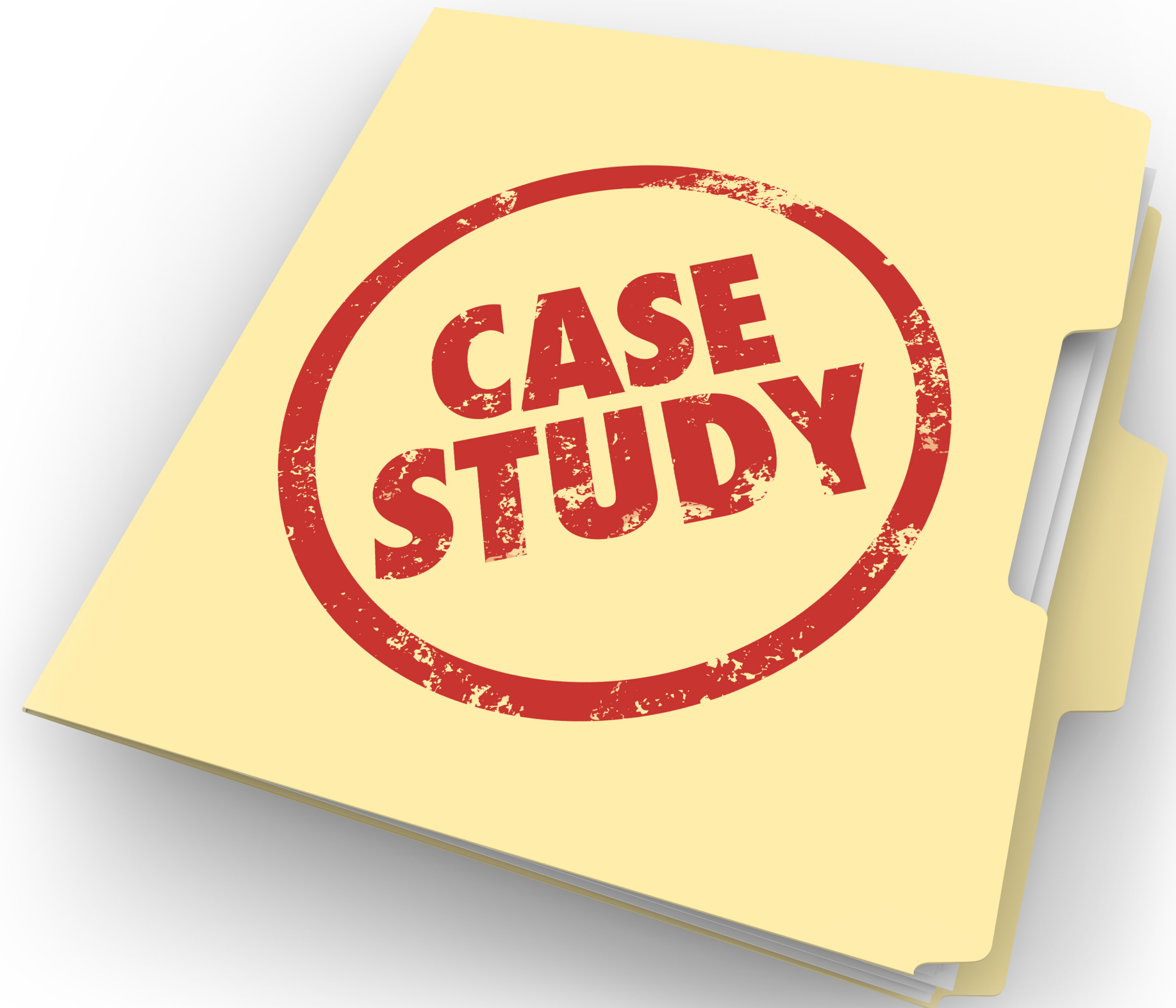


'Ghost' authorship

Flanagan *et al.* JAMA 1998



- A methodology paper
- Running some assays
- Legacy authorship
- Use of tissue from a previous study



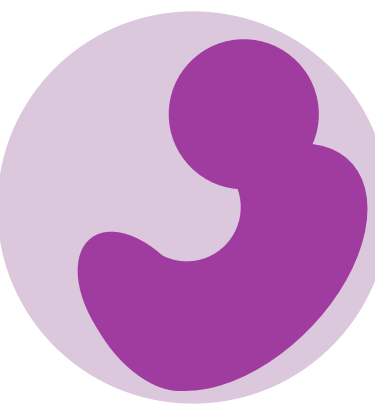
A methodology paper

1. Doug approached Clyde about using methods established in Clyde's lab
2. Abby and Beth are Doug and Clyde's students, respectively
3. Abby and Beth did the experiments in Clyde's lab
4. An original research article was published by Abby, Beth, Clyde and Doug
5. After publication, Abby was asked to submit a methods paper
6. Abby met with Doug, who agreed to write the methods paper
7. Who should be authors on the methods paper?



A methodology paper

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6. Abby met with Doug, who agreed to write the methods paper
7. Abby and Doug asked Clyde for access to equipment to perform more measurements
8. Abby asked Beth for help with making more measurements
9. Who should be an author on the resulting work?



Ethics in peer review

- One submission at a time
- All authors must agree to all versions of a submission
- No factual changes after acceptance



Image manipulation

- No specific feature within an image may be enhanced, obscured, moved, removed or added
- 'Linear' adjustment is acceptable
- Disclose manipulations in figure legend



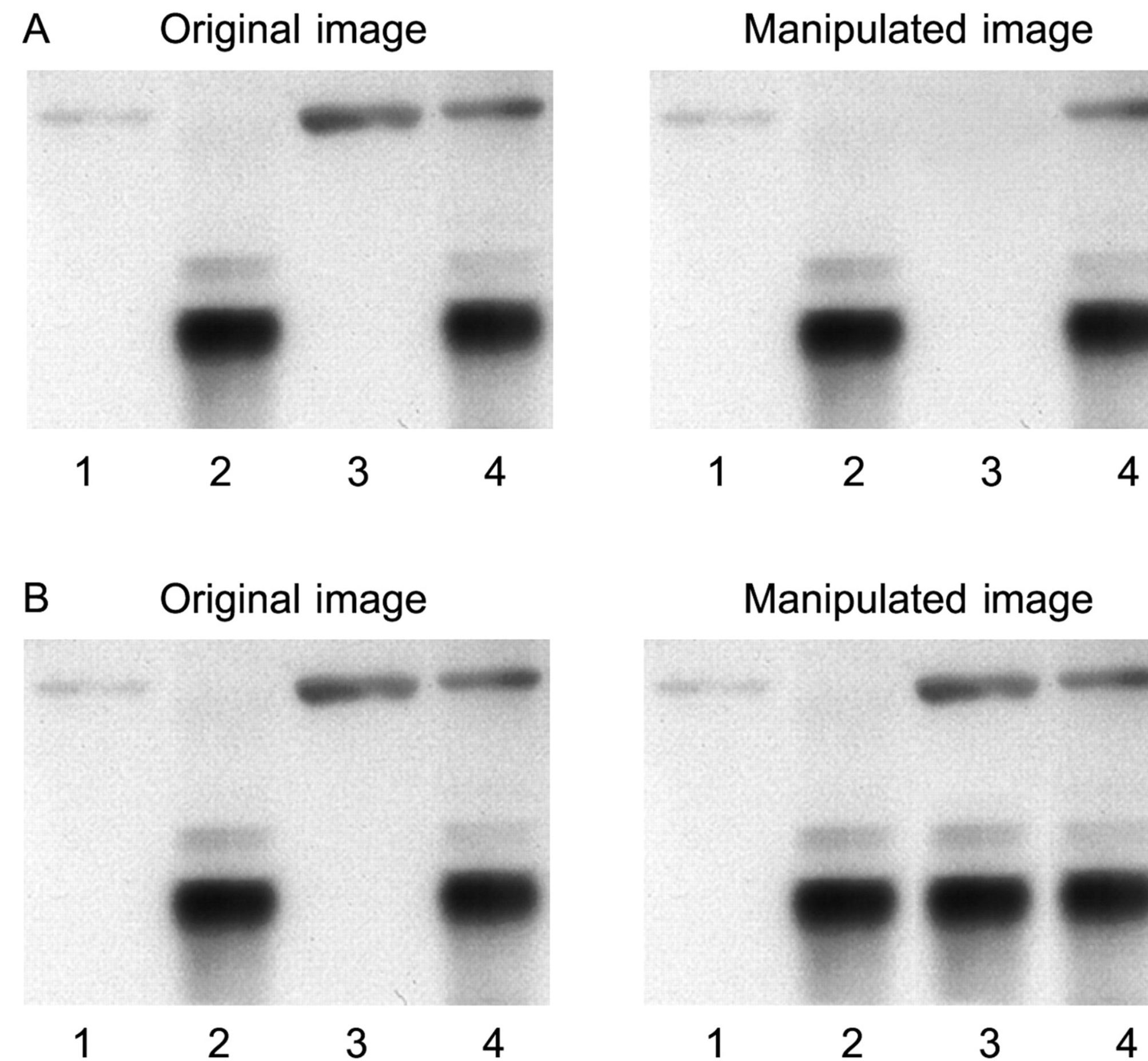


Image manipulation

Roster & Yamada *J Cell Biol* 2004



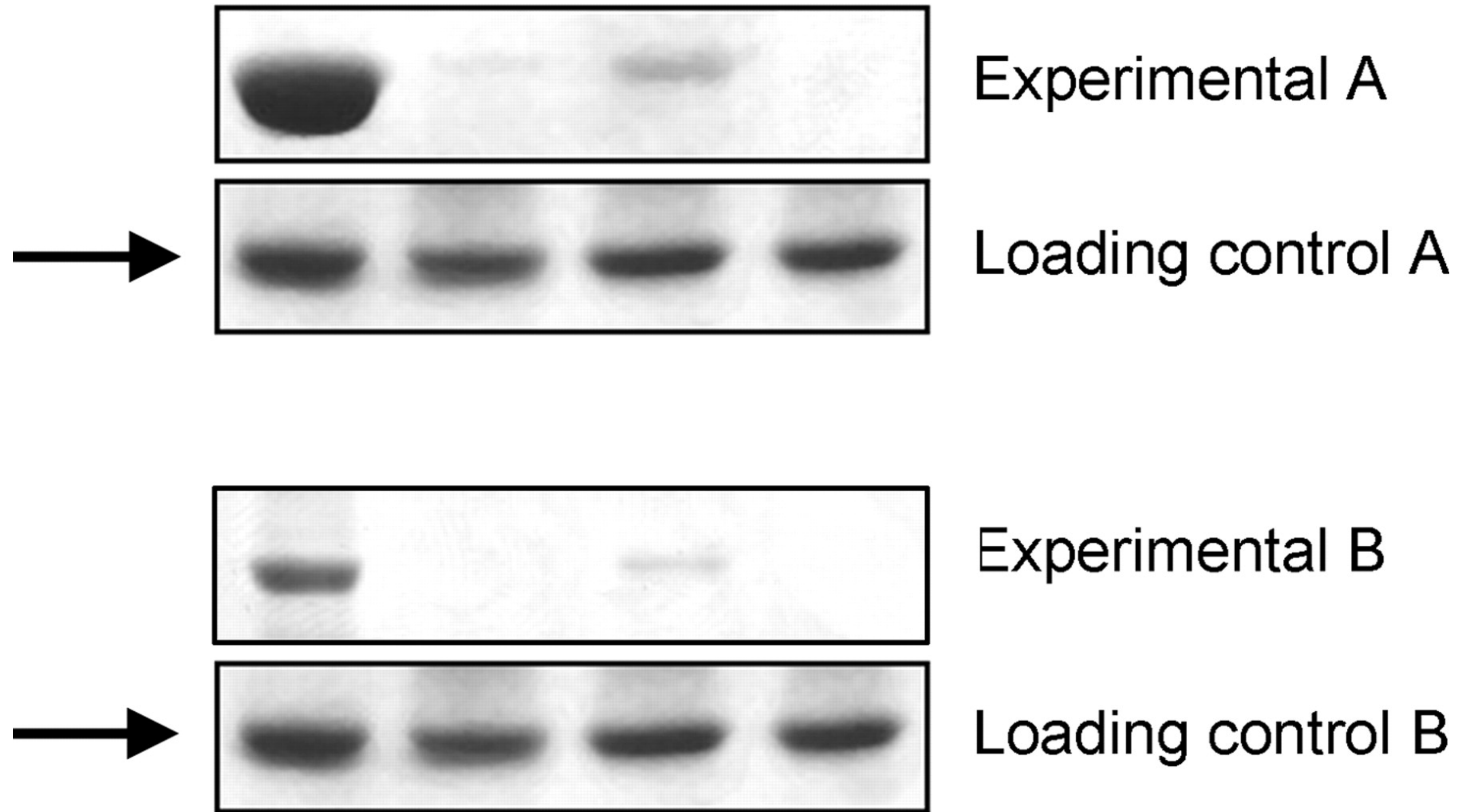
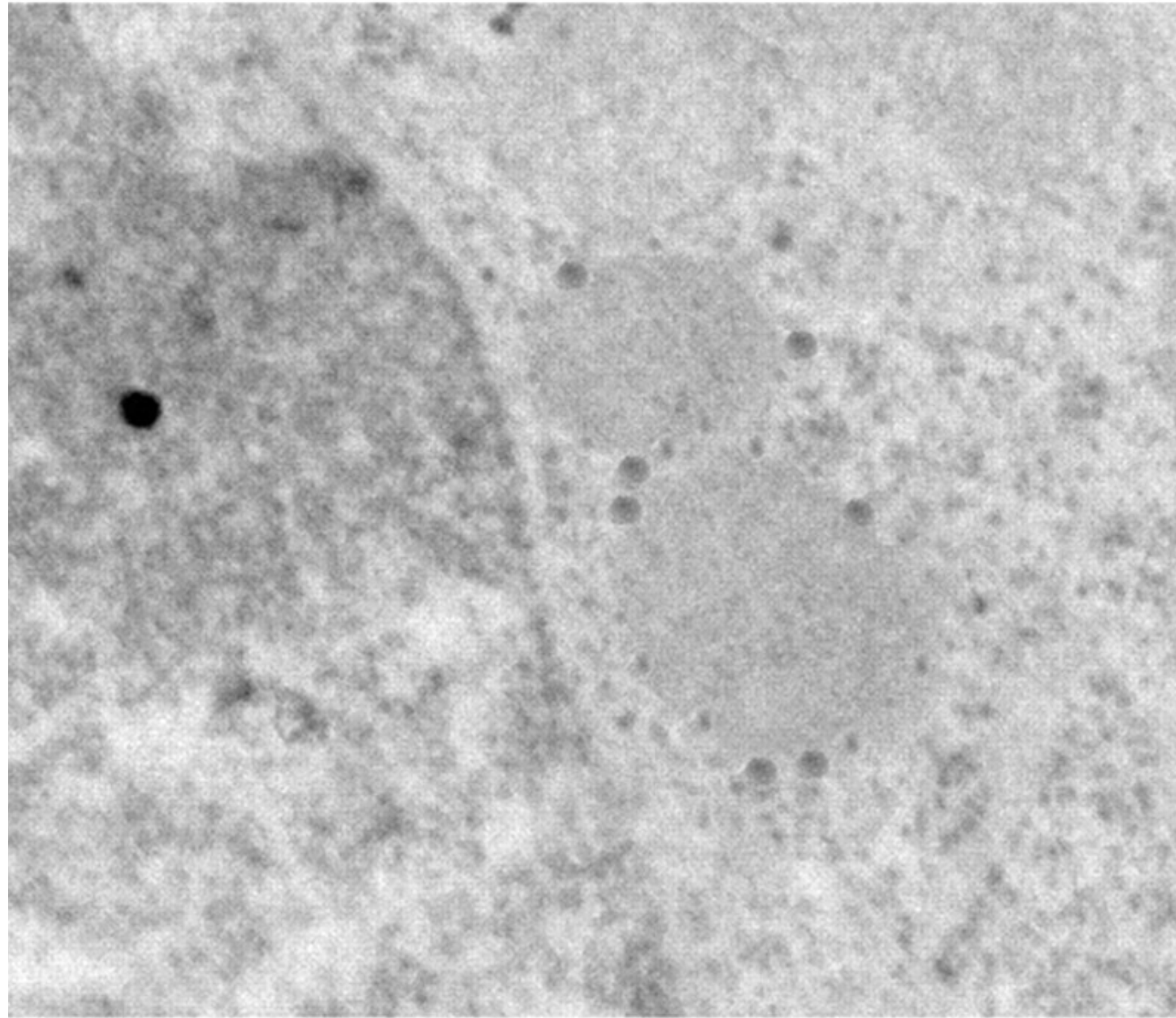


Image manipulation

Roster & Yamada *J Cell Biol* 2004



Original image



Manipulated image

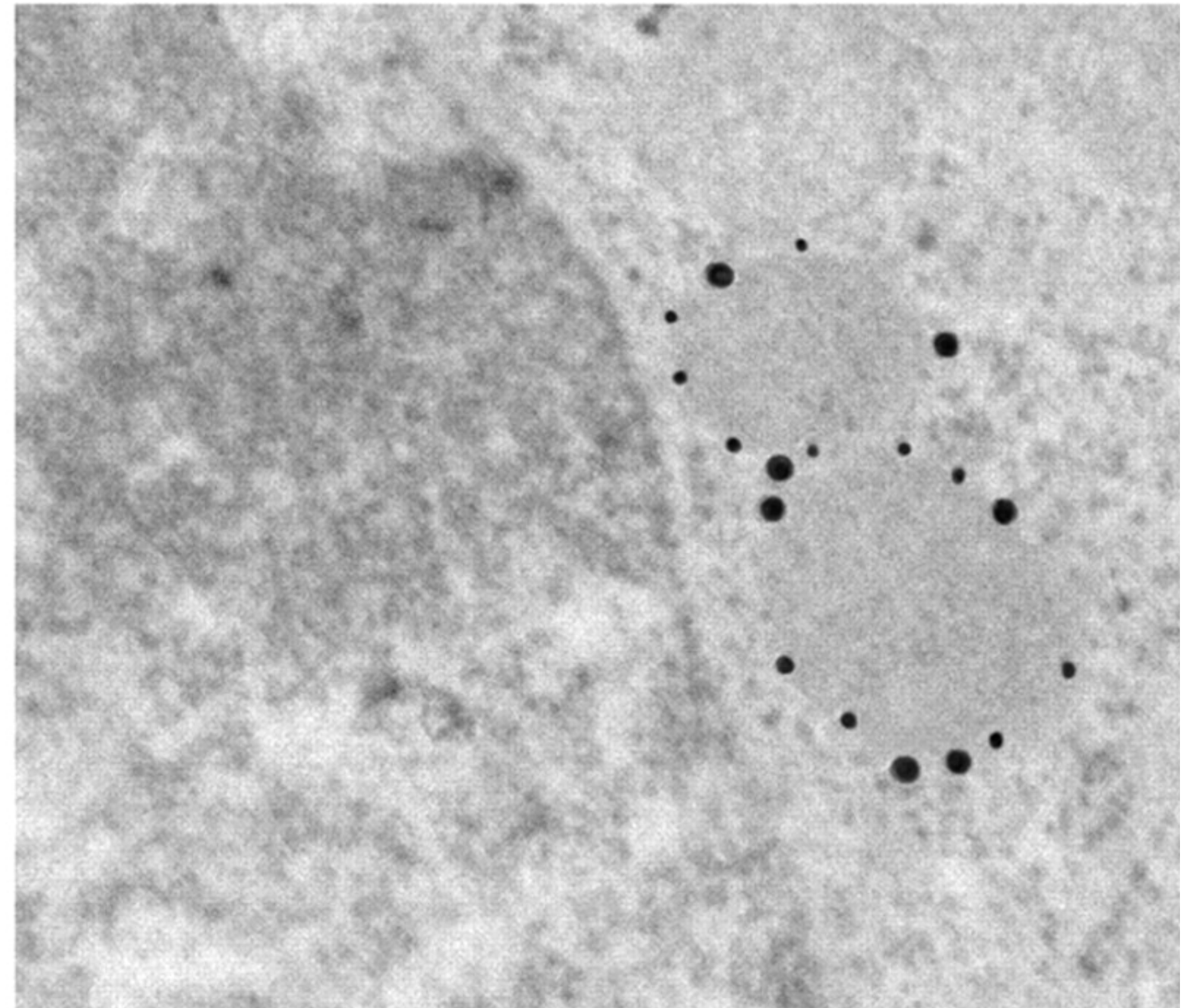


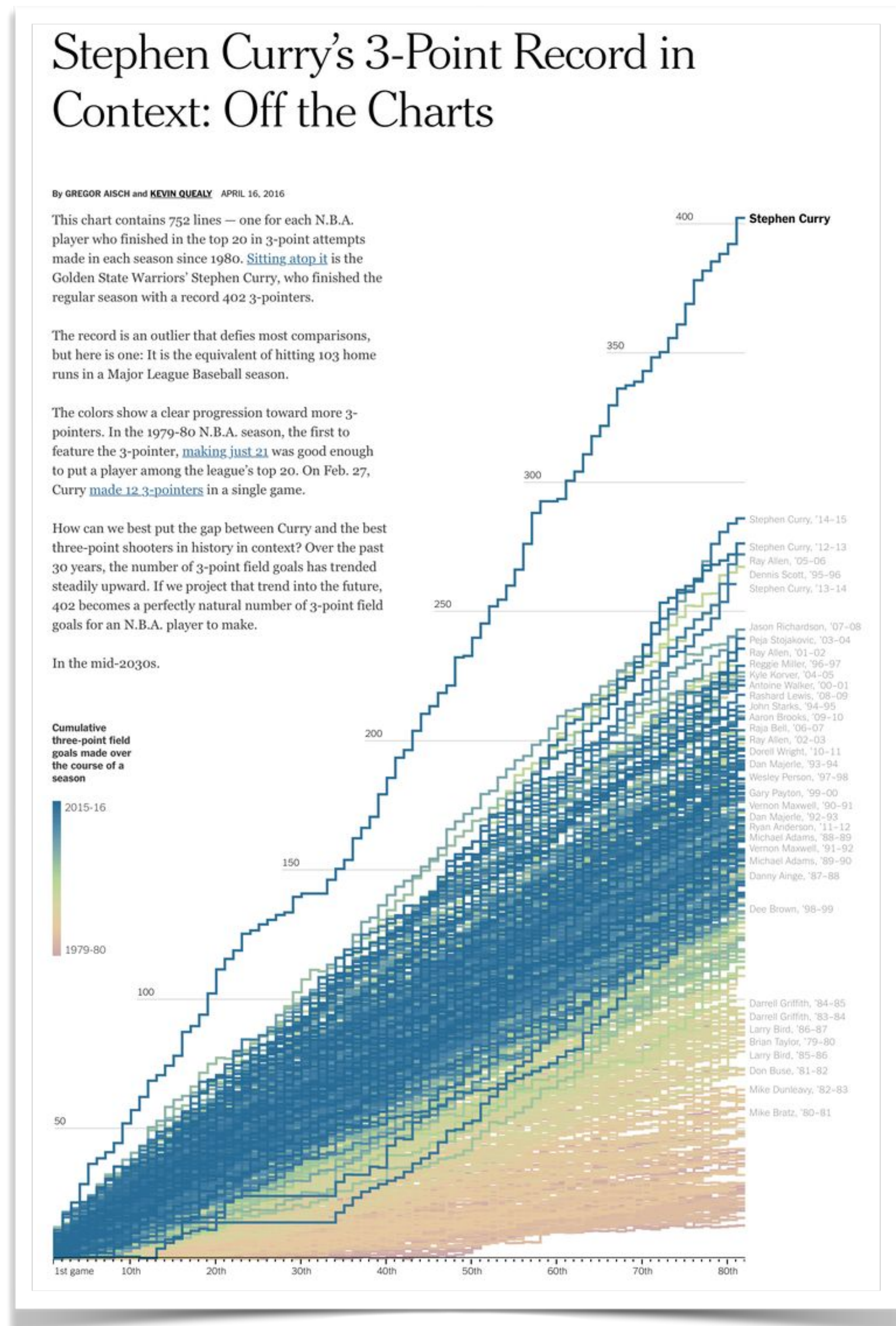
Image manipulation

Roster & Yamada *J Cell Biol* 2004



Dealing with outliers

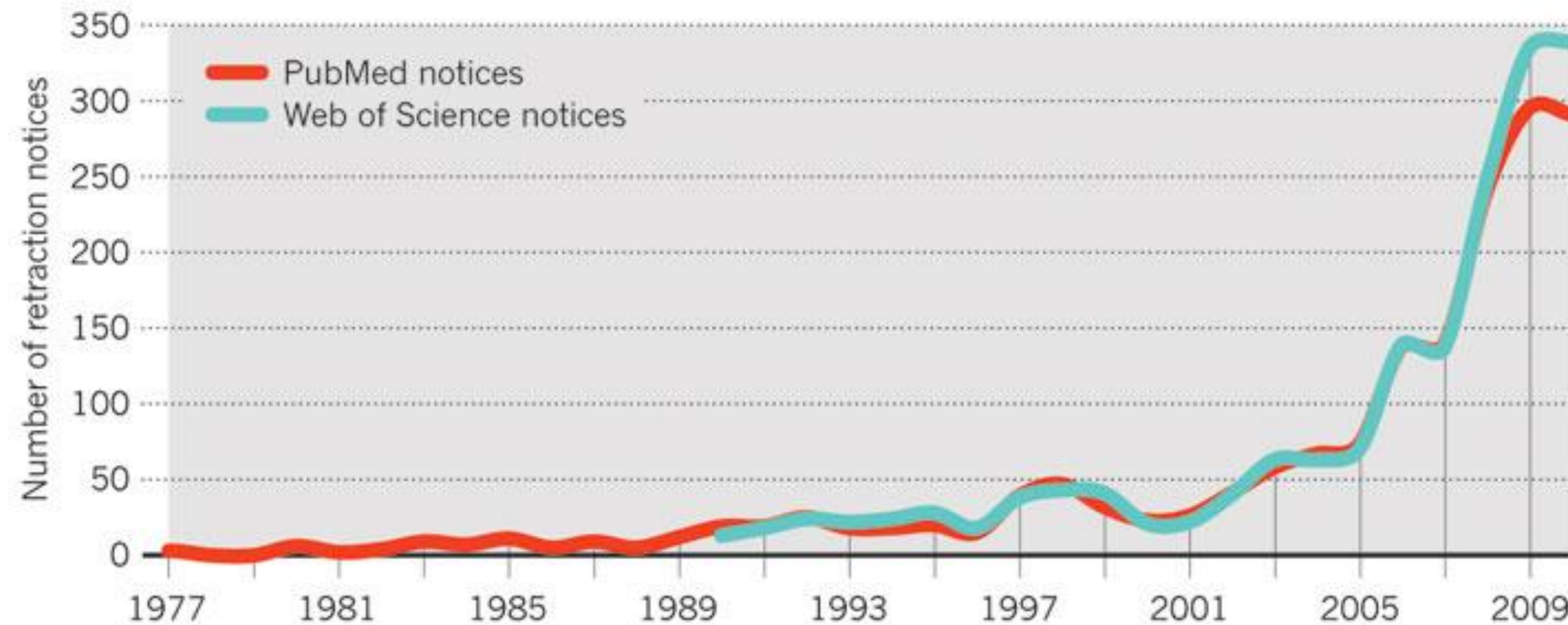
- You need a legitimate reason to exclude data
- Exclusion based on arbitrary variation from mean is not justified



Resources

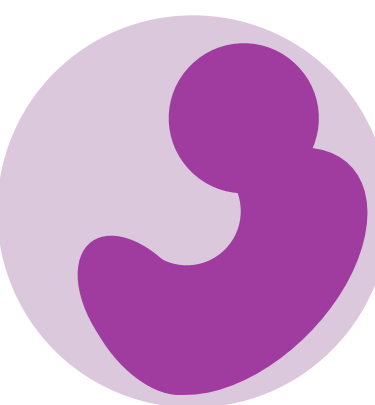
- Committee on publication ethics
- Council of medical journal editors
- Resources for research ethics education, UCSD
- NHMRC





Retractions on the rise

<http://blogs.nature.com/nyc/2012/03/06/marchs-sonyc-on-setting-the-research-record-straight-what-retractions-tell-us2>



Definition of scientific misconduct

Fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results

