

Academic Ethics Code for Taipei Medical University and its Affiliated Hospital

Approved at the School Affairs Meeting on 05/31/2023
Amended in accordance with Order No. 1120009469 of the TMU Secretary on 06/15/2023, with a total of
8 articles

Article 1 (Purpose):

Taipei Medical University (“TMU” hereinafter) has promulgated the Academic Ethics Code for Taipei Medical University and its Affiliated Hospital (“Code” hereinafter) to promote its academic self-discipline system, reinforce research integrity, improve the academic credit of the personnel involved in research projects of TMU and its affiliated hospital, demonstrate the academic value of TMU, and maintain the reputation of TMU.

Article 2 (Applicable Persons):

The Code is applicable to all professors, researchers, staff, and students of TMU and all personnel of its affiliated hospital (“Faculty, Staff, and Students” hereinafter).

Article 3 (Basic Attitudes):

The Faculty, Staff, and Students must ensure honesty, responsibility, professionalism, objectivity, rigor, and fairness in all their research procedures (e.g., conception, implementation, and presentation); respect all other research participants; and avoid conflict of interest.

Article 4 (Regulations to Abide by):

The Faculty, Staff, and Students shall abide by the following regulations:

1. Collection and analysis of research materials or data: Research materials or data must be collected and analyzed in an objective manner and must not be fabricated or tampered with. In other words, unobjective or unscientific selective processing of such materials or data must be avoided. If raw data need to be processed, the process shall be disclosed in full detail to prevent relevant parties from being misled. In addition, research methods and results shall be described according to the research content, and interpretations and inferences that are unfounded and inconsistent with facts are forbidden.

2. Thorough preservation of and reference to research records: Research methods and data must be documented clearly, accurately, objectively, and thoroughly in a manner that enables others to verify and replicate them. Original data must be stored appropriately for a specified period in accordance with the practice related to the fields involved.
3. Disclosure and sharing of research materials and results: To be handled in accordance with the TMU and Affiliated Institutions Guidelines for the Ownership, Management, and Application of Research and Development Achievements.
4. Acknowledgement of contributions by others: When research materials or arguments by others are cited, intellectual property rights must be respected, and the source must be indicated to prevent relevant parties from being misled and thus forced to overestimate their own ideas or contributions. Using other people's work without an appropriate degree of citation may mislead readers and thus will be considered plagiarism. This paragraph is accompanied by the following four items:
 - (1) If a plagiarized section is not the core part of the work (e.g., background, general description of the research method) or is insufficient to mislead readers regarding its originality, the severity of the instance of plagiarism shall be determined according to the practice involved in related fields.
 - (2) Citations that do not comply with academic conventions or that are not rigorous are sometimes caused by carelessness of writers. Such behavior is subject to the self-discipline of the academic community and shall be avoided where possible. In addition, proper academic conventions and citation methods shall be learned.
 - (3) If the result of a study is jointly created and published by multiple researchers, it can be regarded as the result of each researcher involved. If a result is created by multiple researchers through joint research efforts but published separately (e.g., the same survey data are analyzed through different methods or perspectives), the contribution of others shall be indicated (e.g., the source of the survey shall be indicated). Failure to indicate

such contributions of others may lead to readers bring misled.

- (4) Copublished papers, jointly completed research projects, integrated master's projects, and subprojects can be regarded as joint works, whether in whole or in part. Citations to joint works are not regarded as plagiarism. If a paper authored by students under advice in accordance with the practice of related fields are jointly published by the advisors and students, the advisors are regarded as the coauthors of the paper; however, the contribution of the students shall be indicated when the papers is cited subsequently.
5. Restrictions regarding self-plagiarism: Researchers shall not plagiarize their own published works when authoring research proposals or papers. Published works shall not be regarded as future research in research proposals. Researchers shall not conceal similar research results that they have published in other papers that they have authored; such behavior may misleads reviewers tasked with judging their contributions and original ideas. This paragraph is accompanied by the following two items:
 - (1) Some works shall be considered one and the same (e.g., a seminar paper or a project report published in a journal at a later date) and shall not be considered as having plagiarized each other. Projects and project reports are usually not considered formal publications and thus need not be self-cited. Similarly, seminar reports are not considered official publications in related field and thus need not be self-cited.
 - (2) If the same research results are published in multiple languages, they may be interpreted as having been written for multiple audiences according to the characteristics of the fields involved; however, all papers published subsequently shall indicate the previous texts. If the previous texts are listed in the bibliography without being indicated, they will be mistaken for two independent research results, causing the double counting of research results, which shall be avoided but is within the scope of academic self-regulation.
6. A research project cannot be used repeatedly for subsidy application;

multiple submissions of one manuscript shall comply with the publication ethics regulations of publishing units (e.g., journals and conferences). This paragraph is accompanied by the following two items:

- (1) A research project cannot be used for multiple simultaneous subsidy applications to TMU, its affiliated hospital, and its affiliated institution. When researchers apply for subsidies from TMU, its affiliated hospital, and its affiliated institution using the same research project, the items and amounts of subsidies applied for shall be listed on the project application form. Repeat subsidy applications for the same items and amounts is forbidden.
 - (2) Whether multiple publications of a single manuscript is allowed will be determined in accordance with the publication ethics regulations of the publishing unit involved (e.g., journal or conference).
7. Principles and responsibilities for listing coauthors: To be handled in accordance with the TMU and Affiliated Hospital Regulations for the Publication of Papers and Works and the Listing of Authors.
 8. Restrictions regarding peer review: No illegal or improper behavior that may affect the reviewing of research papers must be engaged in. Peer reviews must be confidential; must provide timely, fair, and rigorous evaluation; and must abide by the principles of avoiding conflict of interest. The research information obtained during the review shall not be disclosed or used for other research without consent.
 9. Avoidance and disclosure of interests: To be handled in accordance with the TMU and Affiliated Hospital Guidelines for the Avoidance of Interests for Faculty and Staff, TMU and Affiliated Institution Guidelines for Avoiding Conflict of Interest in Industry–Management and Application of Academia Cooperation and Research and Development Results, and Taipei Medical University–Joint Institutional Review Board Guidelines for the Avoidance of Conflict of Interest During the Review Procedure.

Article 5 (Academic Ethics Violations):

Academic ethics violations shall be handled in accordance with the

relevant regulations of the TMU and Affiliated Hospital Guidelines for Handling Cases of Academic Ethics Violations and the relevant regulations from the funding agencies or institutions involved.

Faculty members may report any cases of suspected falsification, tampering, plagiarism, or other academic ethics violations to points of contact that accept reported cases of such violations in their affiliated institutions or the appropriate competent authority.

Article 6 (Institutional Responsibility):

Units responsible for upholding academic ethics shall reinforce the publication of academic ethics regulations to maintain the quality of research results and the high moral standards of the academic community.

Article 7 (Unspecified Matters):

Any matters not specified in the Code shall be handled in accordance with the relevant TMU regulations or relevant government laws and regulations.

Article 8 (Authority for Approval):

The Code and revisions to the Code shall become effective upon approval at a School Affairs Meeting.

English version is for reference only. If there is any inconsistency or ambiguity between these two versions, the Chinese version shall prevail.