

## Author's Reply

## Response to the Comment on “The Editor and the Author at Fault: A Lesson from Recent Retractions”

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### Reply;

We thank Joob et al<sup>1</sup> for their interest in the recent report published in *Archives of Iranian Medicine*. They nicely urge that the peer review process is an undeniable step in the scientific publishing worldwide. In agreement with Joob et al, we think that the current approach used by thousands of journals is not sufficiently accurate and free of bias. The rationale for our recent publication is about lack of attention by editors in choosing the scientific reviewers. Shaping the current process into a better approach can guarantee that certain authors cannot compromise the review process. In reply to the authors, the main task for the editors is to choose the best reviewers and this responsibility is not replaceable. Checking the reliability of the review process conducted by the editor is not a feasible solution, but the editorial board can do their best when they aim to nominate the editors for each subject area in their journals. In other words, this critical responsibility (selecting the scientific reviewers) should be transferred to the editors entirely! However, the

main message in this paper is to ask the chief editor to first choose editors with ethics and then trust their potential to manage the conducted review process. Scientific publishing activity is not the same as a court and sentences issued! We need an academic atmosphere to let individuals mature scientifically! Last but not least, we think that only expert and scientific editors who choose the best reviewers should be assigned to high-ranked journals. In conclusion, a new method to wisely ethically screen editors should be nicely addressed by world-class decision-makers in science.

### Conflict of Interest Disclosures

None.

### Ethical Statement

Not applicable.

### References

1. Joob B, Wiwanitkit V. Editor and the author and retractions. *Arch Iran Med*. 2019;22(1):107.

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