

THE COMPASS

A BULLETIN BY THE RESEARCH INTEGRITY AND ETHICS OFFICE

Retraction of research papers

Four research papers published by an NTU research fellow in Nature's Scientific Reports have been retracted following investigations found evidences of plagiarism, falsification of figures, and untrue statements about IRB approvals found within the articles. These retractions are:

1. [Scientific Reports 5, Article number: 13583 \(2015\)](#)
2. [Scientific Reports 6, Article number: 26639 \(2016\)](#)
3. [Scientific Reports 6, Article number: 26948 \(2016\)](#)
4. [Scientific Reports 6, Article number: 38555 \(2016\)](#)

NTU researchers are reminded on the need to obtain NTU-IRB approvals for research involving the use of human subjects prior to the commencement of any research activity. This is especially pertinent in light of HBRA in Singapore. ([see below](#))



HBRA Contraventions

The savings and transitional period for the Human Biomedical Research Act (HBRA) will end on 31 Oct. Researchers conducting HBR are reminded to ensure that their research studies are compliant with HBRA requirements starting **1 Nov 2018**.

Under this Act, it is mandatory for all HBR studies to be reviewed and approved by NTU-IRB prior to starting research activities. The following activities are contraventions under HBRA:

- Failure to obtain appropriate informed consent from research subjects
- Compelling a person to participate in research
- Failure to protect health information and human biological material against loss and unauthorised disclosure
- Re-identification of anonymised information or biological material without consent
- Conducting restricted HBR studies without obtaining IRB and MOH's approval
- Conducting prohibited HBR studies

Researchers **contravening** any part of this legislation may be **guilty of an offence** and subject to **fines / imprisonment** or **both**. More information on HBRA is available on our [website](#). For further queries, please write to IRB@ntu.edu.sg.



SALAS Conference

The Singapore Association of Laboratory Animal Science (SALAS) will be holding its annual conference from **8th-9th November**. Organised around the theme of **"Advancements in Laboratory Animal Care and Management, Facilitating Research Innovations"**, the conference will feature speakers with expertise in fields such as lab bio-safety, veterinary and animal research. [[+ Read more](#)]

Call for Posters is now open and those interested may submit their abstracts by **30 Sep 2018**. Shortlisted students will be eligible to attend the conference at no charge. Early bird registration ends on **7 Oct 2018**. [[+ Read more](#)].



Deadlines: **NTU-IACUC:** Next due date for new AUP submissions is **7 September 2018**
NTU-IRB: New submissions are due on Mondays of every week.

Email Us: [NTU-IRB](#) [NTU-IACUC](#) [RIEO](#) [NTU Research Integrity Officer](#)

Web Links: [NTU-IRB](#) [NTU-IACUC](#) [Research Integrity](#) [ARFMS](#)