COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION ETHICS

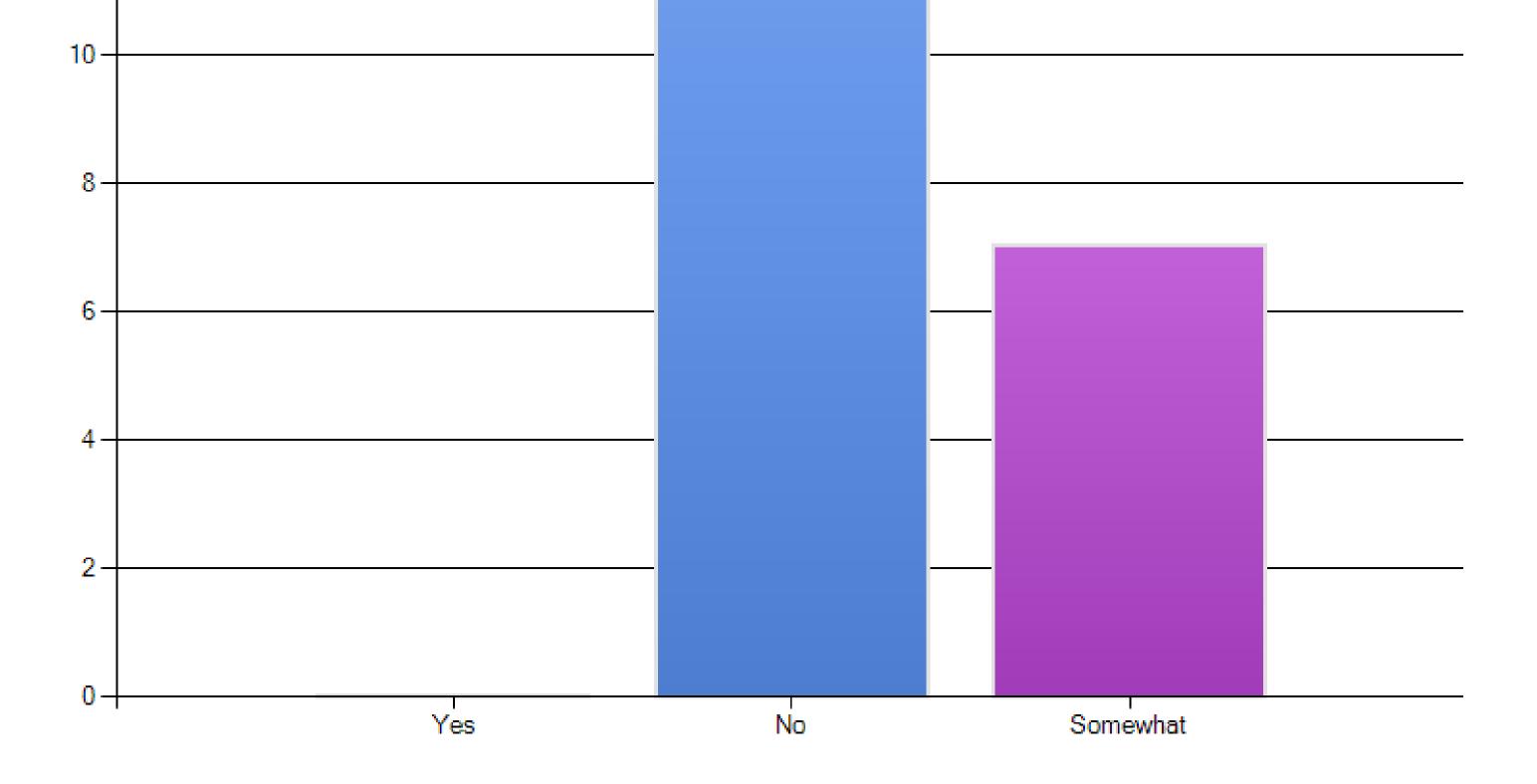
Legal Issues in Retractions and Corrections

Do you feel you have a good understanding of the legalities surrounding retractions and corrections?

MULTIPLE STAKEHOLDERS

• ... complex when multiple organisations are involved (i.e. authors are from different institutions)





What are your experiences in tackling legal issues relating to corrections and retractions?

NOTHING TO REPORT

Authors using measures without permission

FINAL VERSION

- Working for a publisher we often have authors asking why we can't change the online version of their paper and it is difficult to explain about the "version of record" being a final version, even if it is online only and not yet in print
- I don't know anything about legal issues, but we have had some issues with correct version of papers not being allowed, when errors have been found after publication. Putting a bare correct table in as an erratum doesn't help clinicians if they just download the original paper. I have had some very irate authors who want changes, and this is not possible. If it is something like an incorrect dosage, it can also be dangerous as has been found in medical journals

Nothing to report

None

• Nil

- Absolutely Zero
- **No major** problems yet encountered!
- No experience with legal issues
- Thankfully, I have not had to do this as yet

SOMETHING TO REPORT

• At the Editorial Office we have not had any cases of retraction of published articles. We occasionally include an erratum which authors request and find acceptable. We have had cases which needed to be considered for retraction from the peer review **process.** These were relatively easy to solve without further consequences due to the timely discovery of unacceptable levels of overlap with publication(s) already in print elsewhere by

JUST A MATTER OF TIME

- Luckily, so far, I have very little personal experience of these matters. I am aware it could in future be an issue for some of our scientists, and that's why I want to learn about others' experiences. We are fortunate to have an in-house legal team as well, on whom I would depend for legal advice in such a case
- I try to avoid saying anything actionable. So far, I have not had any action taken against me or my publishers by authors or institutions. But I feel it is just a matter of time

HELP!

• I have **5 current cases** I am dealing with at the moment. I am hoping to get some tips at the meeting to help me proceed

the same and other authors

• Very limited, only a couple of cases of plagiarism detected during the peer-review process

READ THIS

• An editorial which is about to be published in *Biological Conservation*: Scientific misconduct occurs, but is rare