

Additional file 1 Characteristics of the retracted articles

Characteristic	N (%)			
	JAMA (n=20)	Lancet (n=31)	NEJM (n=26)	Total (n=77)
Article type				
Clinical Study	6 (30.0)	12 (38.7)	9 (34.6)	27 (35.1)
Research Article	11 (55.0)	9 (29.0)	7 (26.9)	27 (35.1)
Letter	2 (10.0)	2 (6.5)	6 (23.1)	10 (13.0)
Case Report	-	2 (6.5)	3 (11.5)	5 (6.5)
Commentary/Editorial	1 (5.0)	2 (6.5)	1 (3.8)	4 (5.2)
Meta-Analysis	-	2 (6.5)	-	2 (2.6)
Review Article	-	2 (6.5)	-	2 (2.6)
Authors with at least two retraction	1 (5.0)	1 (3.2)	2 (7.7)	4 (5.2)
Retraction in the first year after publication	4 (20%)	16 (51.6%)	10 (38.5%)	30 (39.0%)
Time to retraction, days, (range)	813 (154-4907)	266 (2-8474)	735 (18-2716)	651 (2-8474)
Times cited	77 (2-214)	91 (0-1499)	48 (1-2677)	79 (0-2677)
Retraction after 2000	19 (95.0)	23 (74.2)	18 (69.2)	60 (77.9)
Retraction after 2010	17 (85.0)	18 (58.1)	9 (34.6)	44 (57.1)