Reflections on Plagiarism and the Use of Turnitin®

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Audience Poll

• How many of you have uncovered plagiarism in one of your pharmacy classes?
Session Objectives

• Understand reasons why students plagiarize.

• Discuss the significance of student “intent” in plagiarizing.

• Articulate how Turnitin® can be used to identify and prevent plagiarism among pharmacy students.

• Relate the benefits and challenges of using Turnitin®.
Why do Students Plagiarize?

Three Common Motivational Patterns

- Under Pressure
- Unable
- Under-interested

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Extrinsic Rewards & Motivation

Under Pressure

Unable

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- Under Pressure
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- Extrinsic Rewards & Motivation
- Low Mastery Goals

Why do Students Plagiarize?

Three Common Motivational Patterns

- Extrinsic Rewards & Motivation
- Under Pressure
- Low Mastery Goals
- Unable
- Under-interested
- Perceived Low Self-Efficacy

Social & Cultural Influences

• Growing focus on achievement and not the process of learning

• Increased enrollments in colleges and universities coupled with a competitive job market and economic climate

• Social devaluation of learning

• Everyone else does it so why shouldn’t I?

• May be more acceptable in some cultures

Plagiarism Among US College Students

In a survey of over 63,700 US undergraduate and 9,250 graduate students done between 2002-2005:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Undergrads</th>
<th>Grad Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Self reported paraphrasing/copying a few sentences from written source without proper citation</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self reported copying materials almost word for word from a written source without citation</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admitted to fabricating/falsifying a bibliography</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Plagiarism Among US Pharmacy Students

- According to a survey conducted of P3 students (n = 296) at 4 universities across the United States
  - 49% admitted either they or classmates have copied directly from a source without referencing it

What is Plagiarism?

• Derived from the Latin term, *plagiarius*, which literally means kidnapping

• To use (intentionally or unintentionally) another person’s ideas, information, or expressions in your writing without acknowledging the source; intellectual theft

Types of Plagiarism

• **Direct**: borrowing of verbatim material without quotations and crediting of the original author

• **Mosaic**: intertwining own work with an unattributed borrowed mix of ideas and a few verbatim words or phrases

• **Paraphrase**: restating a phrase or passage providing the same meaning but in a different form without crediting the original author

• **Insufficient Acknowledgment**: failing to cite material in a manner to make it clear what has been borrowed from another author

The Role of Intent in Plagiarism
Key Points

• Intentional vs. Unintentional plagiarism
• Factors to consider when determining student intent
• Intent as a factor when determining consequences for plagiarism
Intentional vs. Unintentional

- Intentional – occurs when students use another person’s ideas, information, or expressions as their own without acknowledging the source
- Unintentional – occurs when students use another person’s ideas, information, or expressions but fail to quote or give credit because they don’t know how or because of cultural differences


Intentional Plagiarism

Intentional Plagiarism

Unintentional Plagiarism

Unintentional Plagiarism

Factors to Consider When Determining Student Intent

Factors
• Experience of the Student
• Nature of the offense
• Scope (amount) of the offense
• Student explanation

Caveats
• Difficult to determine intent after the fact
• Involve other stakeholders in the decision-making process
• None of the factors is determinative by itself

Factors to Consider When Determining Student Intent

- Experience of the Student
  - Student learning background
  - Research experience
  - Familiarity with University/College policies
  - Number of previous offenses

- Nature of the Offense
  - Word-for-word (verbatim) copying without attribution
  - Use of a word without knowing the meaning (style)


Factors to Consider When Determining Student Intent

- Scope (amount) of the offense
  - One passage that is poorly paraphrased; one citation missing; one quotation not enclosed in quotation marks
  - Entire essay filled with errors
- Student Explanation
  - Plausible and consistent
  - Contrived and inconsistent


Intent as a Factor in Determining Consequences

**Types of Consequences**

- Most severe – expulsion, dismissal, suspension
- Least severe – letter in student file, grade penalty, repeat assignment, submit additional assignments, attend workshops or seminars


Case

A teacher requires 5 drafts for a seminar paper, each due on a specified date, each receiving points as part of the final grade. On the first draft, the teacher notes major ideas without attribution and sloppy quotations without quotation marks. The student admits he typed the paper early that morning and did not take the time to sort out attribution or complete a spell check. The teacher charges him with plagiarism and demands that the school expel him.

How would you handle this case?
A. Repeat the assignment
B. Grade penalty
C. A and B
D. Expel the student
E. Other

Audience Poll

How are plagiarism cases handled at your College/School of Pharmacy?

A. Course instructor
B. Administration
C. Honor Council
D. Combination

Is intent considered when determining consequences?
Discipline vs. Punishment

**Discipline**

- Focus - help student to correct deficiencies that led to the problem
- Key elements – provide education regarding the shortcoming(s) that caused the problem; provide assistance to correct the problem; discuss potential impact on career

**Punishment**

- Focus on offense only
- Little to no education involved
- No preventative strategies


Turnitin ®

www.turnitin.com

• Origin
  – Owned by iParadigms (www.iparadigms.com)
  – Dr. John Barrie, PhD, Biophysics
  – www.plagiarism.org

• Primary features
  – Originality Check
  – GradeMark
  – PeerMark
  – Gradebook
Turnitin ® Instructor Manual

http://turnitin.com/en_us/training/instructor-training/instructor-user-manual

Instructor Training

Instructor User Manual

Download the Instructor Manual

[AACCP Annual Meeting]
Turnitin® Registration

• Check with your College
• Through website need to:
  • Create ‘New Instructor’ account
  • Create course (will have course ID number)
  • Create title of assignment, options
• Through Blackboard:
  • Create assignment, options
Originality Report

• Caution!
  – “It is important to distinguish ‘unoriginal work’ from ‘plagiarism.’ An originality report detects the former and an educator may then make a judgment call possibly resulting in the latter.”

Barrie, J. Catching the cheats: How original. The Biochemical Society. 2008 (December)
### Originality Report

#### Class Similarity Index Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>SIMILARITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medication Therapy Management</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Impact of Direct-to-Consumer Advertising</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sexual harassment paper</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sexual harassment and what need to do</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workplace Violence: A Manager's Responsibility</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual Harassment Paper</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sexual harassment in the workplace</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy Robberies</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discrimination in the Workplace--Research</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discrimination in the workplace</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Report-Direct to Consumer Advertising</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conflicts in the Workplace and Management</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>307 report</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient Discrimination Paper</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From Turnitin® originality report, Pharmacy 307, Pharmacy Marketing & Management
Originality Report

• Similarity of matching (Similarity Index)
• Meaning of colors
  – Blue: no matching text
  – Green: 1 word to 24% matching text
  – Yellow: 25-49% matching text
  – Orange: 50-74% matching text
  – Red: 75-100% matching text
polled, "most physicians agreed that because their patient saw a DTC ad, he or she asked thoughtful questions during the visit. About the same percentage of physicians thought the ad made their patients more aware of possible treatments". This seems to be a positive effect of DTC advertisements and something we would want to encourage, however when further questioned, physicians also noted that they thought the advertisements did not convey information about risks and benefits equally well. 65 percent of physicians believe DTC advertisements confused patients about the relative risks and benefits of prescription drugs. In addition, about 75 percent of physicians surveyed believed that DTC advertisements cause patients to think that the drug works better than it does, and many physicians felt some pressure to prescribe something when patients mentioned DTC advertisements. As many as eight percent felt very pressured to prescribe a specific brand name drug during an appointment. This seems to be exactly the opposite effect we are hoping to achieve in healthcare practices. Not only are patients confused about the drugs they are hearing about on TV, but doctors are feeling pressured to prescribe something they may have otherwise not, which jeopardizes the quality of care patients may receive.
treating patients with regards to vaccine safety and efficacy in preventing diseases. A huge milestone with pharmacy has been the allowance of pharmacists to give vaccines to patients. Now, the vaccines pharmacists are allowed to give are dependent upon state’s law. Some states require specific education or certification requirements; some limit the types of vaccinations pharmacists are allowed to administer. Other states limit the age of patients that pharmacists can vaccinate; some states require pharmacists to have a prescription from a physician before administering a vaccine; and some states limit the routes of administration. To further patient health and preventative care action should be taken to expand this area. Pharmacist involvement in vaccine research for diseases such as HIV and malaria (those that do not currently have vaccines) and proactive petitions to increase pharmacist authority and training in order to give these vaccinations can only help the population.

Furthermore, the element of substance abuse prevention is another area of preventative care that pharmacists can be involved in. The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists believes that pharmacists have the unique knowledge, skills, and responsibilities for assuming and important role in substance abuse prevention, education, and assistance. ASHP also believes that pharmacists should be active in this because substance abuse causes such negative effects and leads to a wide variety of issues. This is something that is hard to disagree with. Substance abuse is a major problem in society and in the workplace (within health care especially). A study of psychiatric disorders in America suggested a lifetime prevalence of substance abuse disorders of 16.4%, of alcohol abuse or dependency of 13.3%, and of other drug abuse or dependency of 5.9%. It is also suggested that the prevalence of drug abuse among health professionals appears to be similar to that in the general population.
Moreover, the pharmacists serve as essential source for promoting public education regarding vaccination. They utilize a variety of methods to disseminate information and provide education through phone, letters, brochures, e-mail, television, newspapers, presentations to community and professional groups, and participation in public events such as health fairs. Considering the 2009 widespread outbreak of the H1N1 virus, the fear of being contrived with the deadly virus sparked a great commotion about vaccinations and many patients were faced with the decision of whether to vaccinate themselves. Although the decision to receive vaccines is still a patient’s preference, pharmacists were instrumental in providing people with required information to make effective choices when it comes to immunizations, in terms of the both benefits and risks. In addition to this, they were also identifying those patients who are in target groups for certain vaccinations and ease the fears of numerous people by providing them with the facts as well as the significant risks associated with not being vaccinated. Thus, pharmacists play an important role in educating people regarding the need of vaccination and the importance of healthy society.
Copies of papers submitted in other classes

Because submitted papers remain the intellectual property of their authors, instructors, and respective institutions, we are unable to show you the content of this paper at this time.

If you would still like to view this paper, please use the button below to submit a permission request to the author's instructor. We will send the instructor an email detailing your request and include any information the instructor will need to respond if your request is accepted.

send a request to view this paper

From Turnitin® Report
Things I Discovered

• Girlfriend/Boyfriend?
  81%

• Reused portion of previous paper?
  63%
  1 Submitted to Student paper
  55%
Turnitin ® Options

Originality Report

Generate Originality Reports for submissions? 🤔
- Yes
- No

Generate Originality Reports for student submissions 🤔
- Immediately (can overwrite reports until due date)

Exclude bibliographic materials from Similarity Index for all papers in this assignment? 🤔
- Yes
- No

Exclude quoted materials from Similarity Index for all papers in this assignment? 🤔
- Yes
- No

Exclude small matches? 🤔
- Yes
- No
Exclude small matches?  Yes

Exclude matches by:
- Word Count: 4 words
- Percentage: 0%

Allow students to see Originality Reports?  Yes

Reveal grades to students only on post date?  Yes

Submit papers to:  standard paper repository
Challenges & Reminders

• Similarity index % is indicator of matching.
  – Low % or High % might contain plagiarism
  – Common words/phrases may be flagged

• Turnitin ® options are useful.
  – Letting students review

• Identification of plagiarism is a faculty determination.
Benefits of Using Turnitin®

• Useful as a student learning tool—plagiarism prevention

• Revision assignment option (allows for submission of multiple drafts without overwriting the previous drafts/submissions)

• Can be integrated with learning management systems (e.g., Moodle, Blackboard)

• Expansive database
Challenges of Using Turnitin®

• Learning curve to using the system both for faculty and students

• Originality reports can become complex if extensive borrowing of content is detected from multiple sources

• Student dislike—avoid becoming “the plagiarism police”
Benefits and Challenges of Using Turnitin®

**Benefits**
- Originality report is very helpful
- Led to the development of a seminar to help our internal applicants avoid plagiarism

**Challenge**
- Time consuming
Student Turnitin® Report Example

• Can you identify any concerns within the report?
  – Similarity index?
  – Potential plagiarism?
  – Potential mis-identification as plagiarism?
  – Poor writing or formatting?
  – Other?
Within the past ten years, the health care field has had a giant leap in the use of evidence-based medicine. An increasing use of evidence-based medicine has caused an evolutionary change on the medical field.\textsuperscript{6} Over the past few decades there has been a huge increase in the amount of research put into drug development. Because of this increase more responsibility has fallen onto the pharmacy team. The cognitive knowledge of pharmacists is so vast and continues to change the way people view medicine. Because of the changes in pharmacy and the roles of pharmacists in health care more concern is growing among professionals. Some of these issues are ethical which must be understood and respected by the pharmacy team. The people who could potentially have ethical issues are classified as vulnerable; an in order to understand the issues at hand one must understand the definition of a vulnerable population. The definition of vulnerability is stated as, \textit{\textquotedblleft those who are relatively or absolutely incapable of protecting their own interests.\textquotedblright}\textsuperscript{3} That being stated, the true meaning
elderly who reduced essential drug use increased from 5.8 to 12.6 events per 10,000 months, a net increase of 6.8 adverse events. There was also a significant increase of 14.7 to 27.6) in adverse events in those patients who received welfare. The rate of I related to patient reduction of the use of essential drugs also increased by 14.2 even 000 person-months in the elderly and by 54.2 among patients receiving welfare.”
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