



Responding to concerns about research reproducibility

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The scientific community is very aware of the need to improve the reproducibility of research, so as to drive scientific progress, accelerate translation into clinical applications, and maximise returns on funding. The Academy of Medical Sciences, the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC), the Medical Research Council (MRC) and the Wellcome Trust have been working to understand this issue better and to consider ways to address it. As part of this commitment, we jointly organised a small symposium in April 2015, on the 'Reproducibility and reliability of biomedical research'.

It was clear from discussions at the symposium that this is an important issue that must be addressed effectively. Efforts to improve the reproducibility and reliability of research will require the cooperation of everyone involved, including research funders, publishers, research institutions, professional bodies and individual researchers – both in the UK and internationally. However, delegates emphasised that actions by the community should not unnecessarily inhibit research, stifle creativity, or increase bureaucracy.

Informed by the symposium and the associated report, our organisations will develop and implement changes and work alongside others to facilitate action on a global scale. We will each publish, within 12 months, an update on our progress.

Further information on this project can be found here:

<http://www.acmedsci.ac.uk/researchreproducibility>