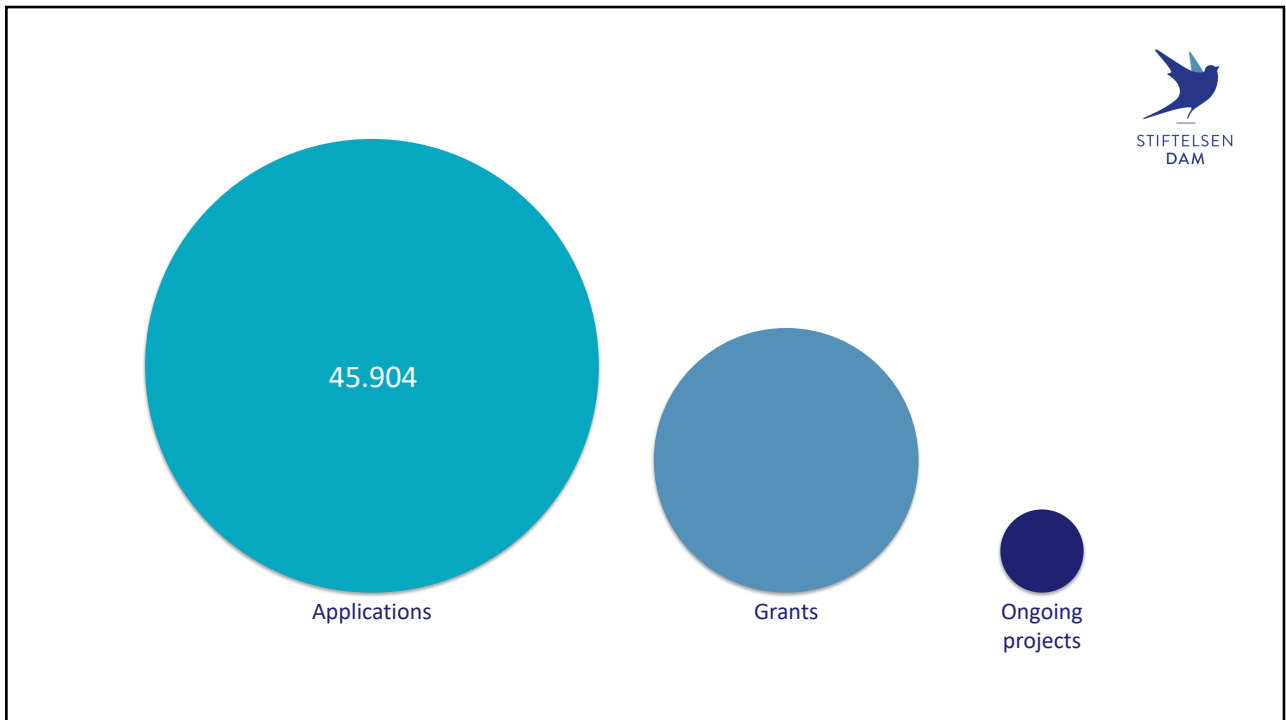


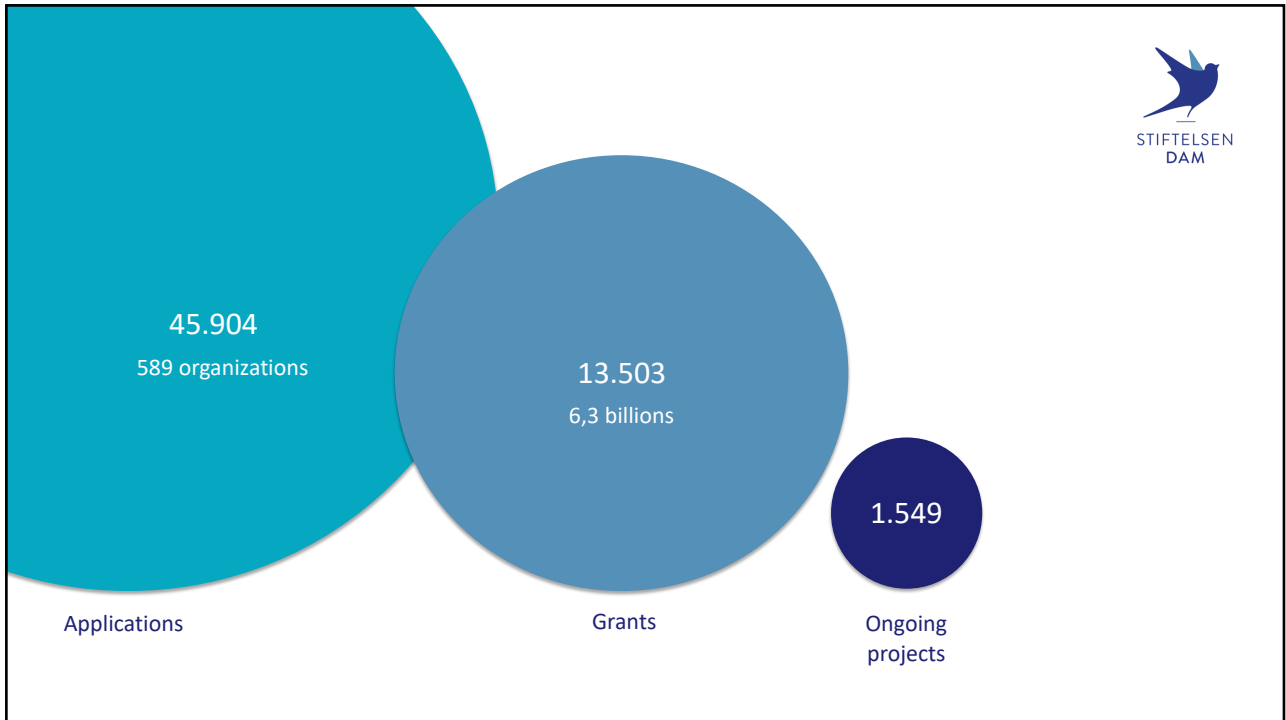


Slide 1 features a dark blue background. On the left is the Stiftelsen Dam logo, which consists of a white circle containing a stylized blue bird in flight, with the text "STIFTELSEN DAM" below it. To the right of the logo, the title "The biggest threat" is written in white. Below the title, the name "Chief Program Officer Jan-Ole Hesselberg" is also written in white.

1



2



3

Small, but good

Research Integrity and Peer Review (2021) 6:12

Open Access

Individual versus general structured feedback to improve agreement in grant peer review: a randomized controlled trial

Jan-Ole Hesselberg¹, Knut Inge Fostervold¹, Pål Ulleberg¹ and Ida Svege²

Abstract: Background: open low short gene

Methods: general for the start of participat

Reviewer training for improving grant and journal peer review

Journal: Research Evaluation

Manuscript ID: Draft

Manuscript Type: Article

Keywords: Project Evaluation, Efficiency, Two-stage procedure, Short Proposals, Reliability, Reviewer Agreement

Abstract: An important share of research funding is allocated via competitive programs, which entail considerable time and resource costs. Such as to develop and evaluate the proposals. The goal of this article is to evaluate whether adding a two-stage evaluation procedure could increase the efficiency of the process. For this purpose, we study the evaluation system designed by the Foundation Dam (Stiftelsen Dam), one of the largest foundations in Norway supporting health research. In 2020, Foundation Dam adopted a new evaluation procedure consisting in a first phase of a short proposal or abstract or short proposals, a second-stage evaluation of a long proposal. We explore whether such a procedure reduces the evaluation costs and how the evaluation procedures compare in terms of reliability. We employ evaluation data from 658 short proposals and 777 long proposals, submitted in the period from 2018 to 2023, and the results from a survey of 762 applicants. The results show that the two-stage procedure reduced the average time that an applicant spent in drafting the proposal(s) by 38% and the average time for each reviewer to evaluate an applicant's proposal(s) by 29%. The reviewers' scores of short proposals in the first stage display greater reliability and agreement than the reviewers' scores of long proposals in the old one-stage procedure.

Systematic evaluation of clinical trial reporting at medical universities and university hospitals in the Nordic countries

Version History: Version 1.1 (2022-11-29), edits: Revised Table 1 (list of member hospitals for Finnish university hospitals and the University Hospital of North Norway). Revised Acknowledgements section (funding information for the project, Cathrine Axfors).

Original version 1: 2022-11-08.

Written by: Cathrine Axfors^{1,2}, Susanne Wieschowski, Maia Salholt-Hilleis, Nicholas J. DeVitoa, Kim Boesen¹, Till Bruckner¹, Matteo Bruschettille, Marek Czajkowski¹, Jan-Ole Hesselberg¹, Jenni Luoma^{1,3}, Shah Mulla^{1,4}, Florian Naudet^{1,5}, Sofie Possmark^{1,6}, Enro Raitio^{1,4,15}, Marlin Ringlens¹, Lars Småbøkkens¹, Rebecca M. Wilkin^{1,18}, Samudhi Yenukara, Lars G. Hemkens^{1,9}, John P. Ioannidis¹, Daniel Strech¹, Gustav Nilsson-Ehle³

¹Meta-research Innovation Center at Stanford (METRICS), Stanford University, USA. ²Department for Women and Children's Health, Uppsala University, Uppsala. ³QUEST Center for Responsible Research, Berlin Institute of Health at Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Berlin, Germany. ⁴Bennett Institute for Applied Data Science, Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences, University of Oxford, Oxford, Oxfordshire, UK. ⁵TransparMED, Bristol.

4



The biggest threat



Unpublished research*
When entire or parts of results are not published
"Published" is not
"published in scientific journal"

6



What's the problem?



- It's no random what results we'll never see
- Results that harm **commercial interests** and **research careers** are much more often left unpublished
- Participants are exposed to unnecessary danger**
- Society is exposed to unnecessary danger**

7

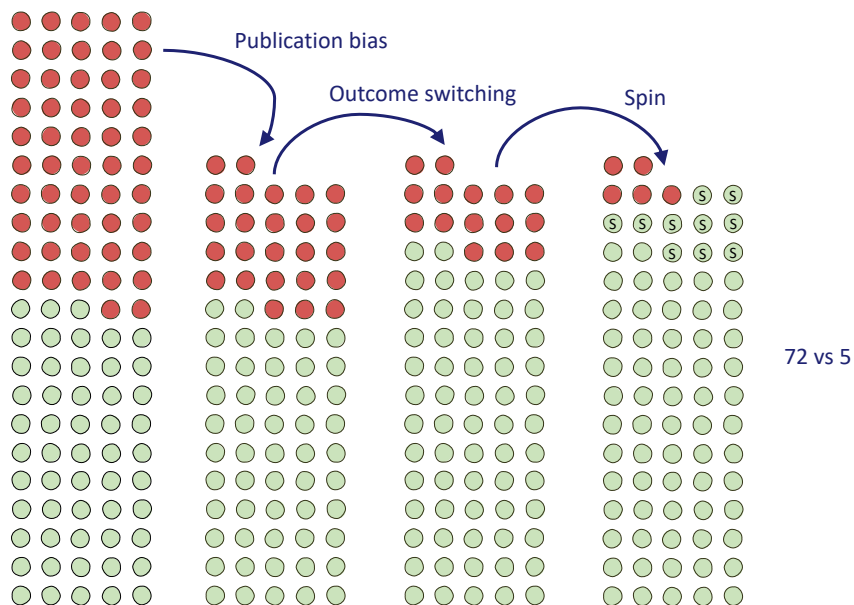


**The cumulative effect of reporting and citation biases on the apparent efficacy of treatments:
the case of depression**

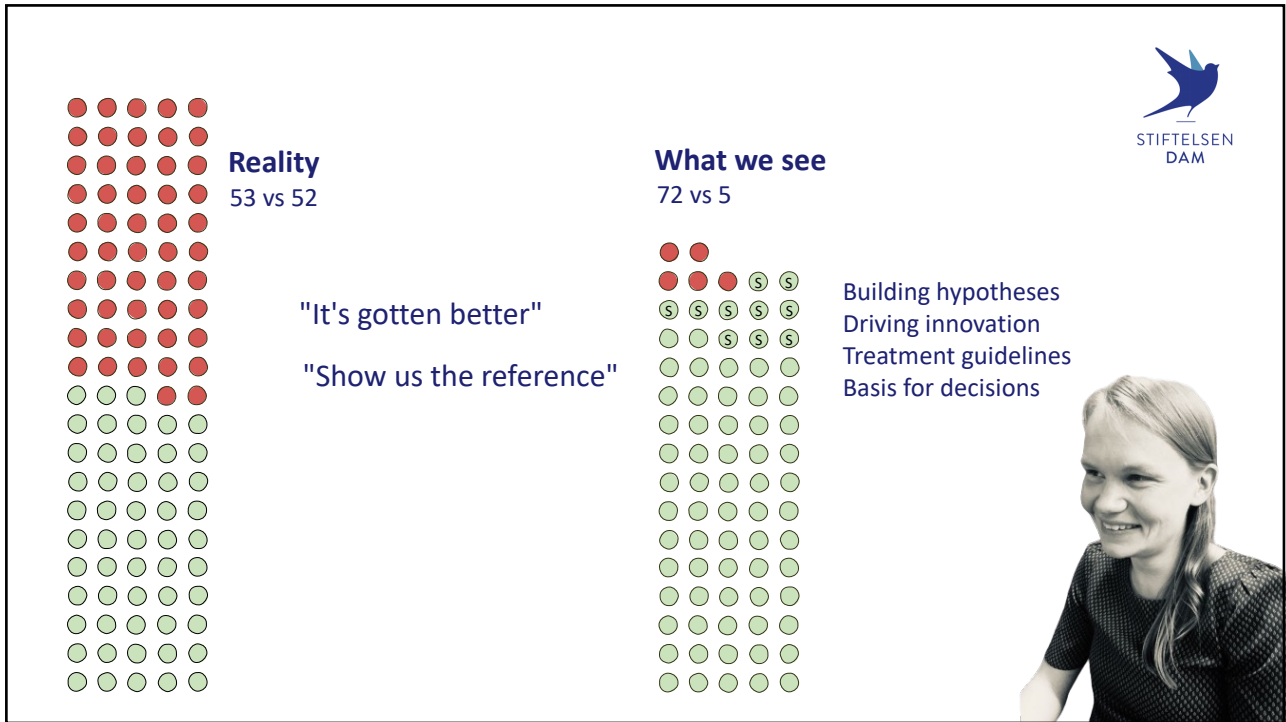
Ymkje Anna de Vries et al. 2018



8



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Mega trial: Clinical studies in the Nordic region

STIFTELSEN DAM

METRICS

Team of 39 researchers:

- Found 2,113 clinical trials marked as "finished" in 2016-2019
- Looking for shared results:
- in registers (ClinicalTrials.gov and EUCTR)
- through Google search

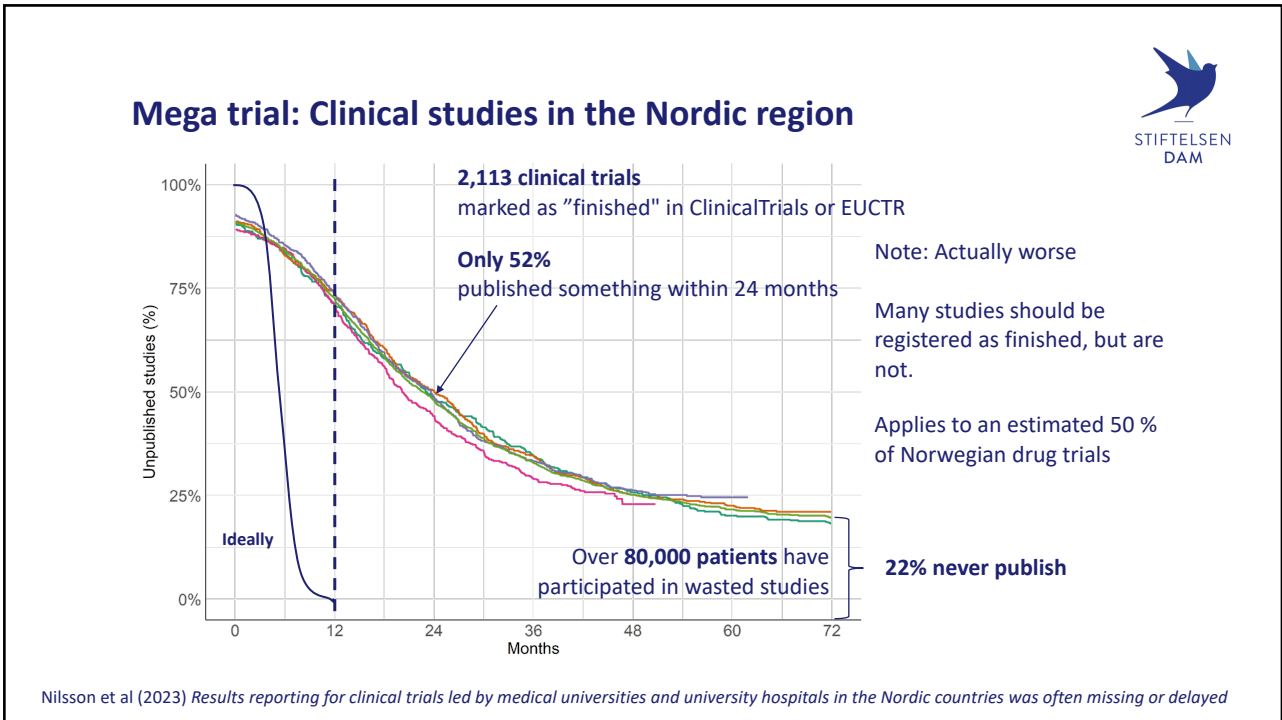
Question:

- What proportion publish within two years of closing?
- What proportion never publish?

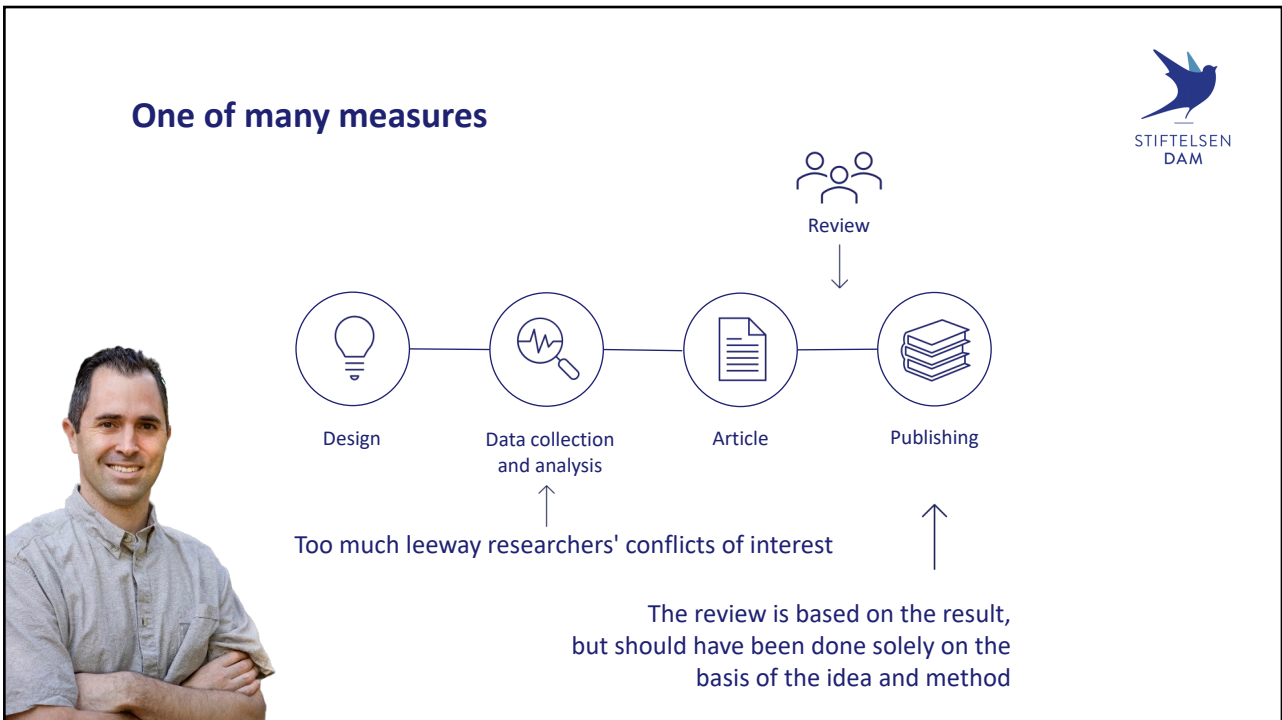
John Ioannidis
Gustav Nilsson
Cathrine Axfors

Nilsson et al (2023) *Results reporting for clinical trials led by medical universities and university hospitals in the Nordic countries was often missing or delayed*


14



15




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One of many measures

REGISTRERTE RAPPORTER





The journal reviews the quality of the project **before** it is initiated
 Users, other researchers and decision-makers will see what is being initiated
 The researchers are guaranteed publication ...
 ... and committed to the method, unless they have good reasons for deviation



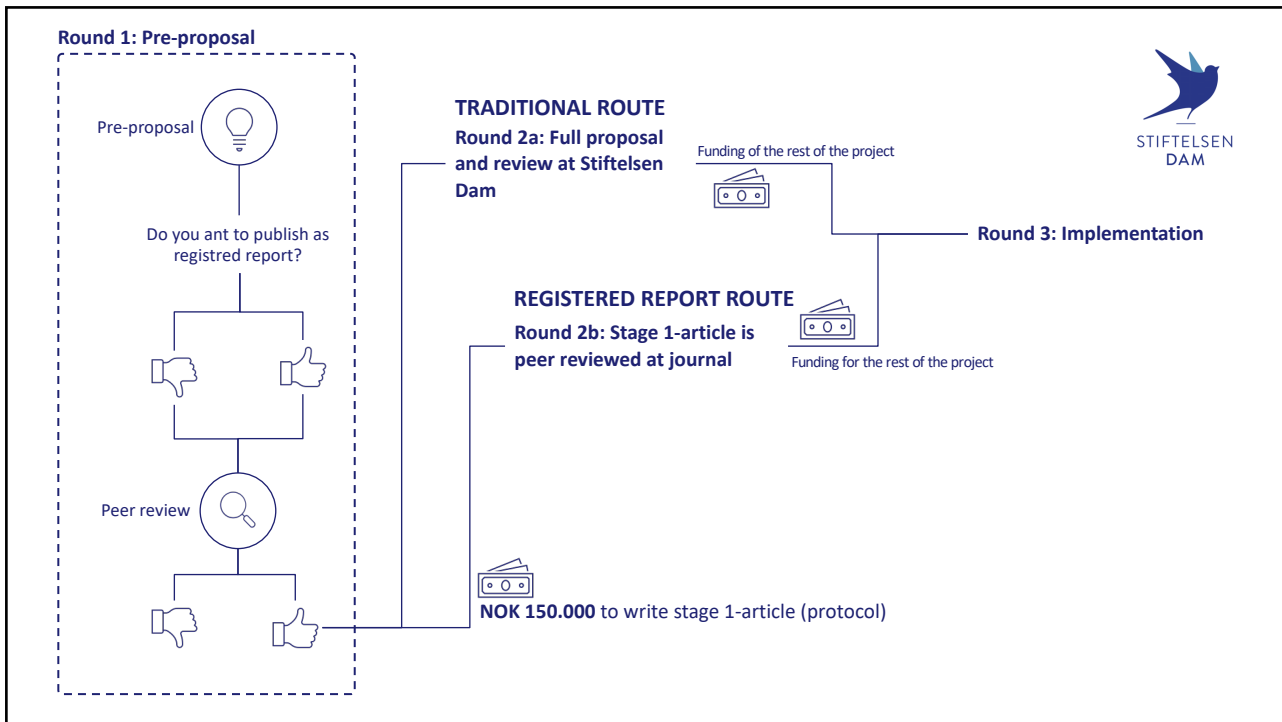
19

Registered reports at Stiftelsen Dam

- Two-year commitment, 2024-2025
- The applicant considers whether RR is relevant, and can choose between it or the normal application process
- When selecting RR, the pre-proposal is the only application submitted and assessed by the Dam Foundation
- If a pre-proposal is granted, funding for the project is guaranteed, provided that an approved journal accepts the RR
- The RR must be submitted to the journal by September 15 and be accepted for publication by December 31

21



22

Registered reports at Stiftelsen Dam



Is registered report appropriate for your project?

- Particularly suitable for hypothesis-driven research
 - Clinical trials
 - Replication studies
 - Other hypothesis-testing studies, regardless of design
- RR does not exclude exploratory analyses
- Some journals also offer RR for other types of studies, including studies with qualitative/exploratory design

STIFTELSEN DAM

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Registered reports at Stiftelsen Dam

How do you proceed?

- Read the call for proposals on www.dam.no/forskning
- See www.cos.io/rr
 - Check the list of journals that offer RR
 - Study good examples
 - Confer checklists and recommended literature, e.g. "Ten rules for writing a registered report»
 - Check FAQ
- Plan well, including finances and process for the preparation and publication of RR
- Be open to input and to make adjustments



Registered Reports Participating Journals Details & Workflow Resources for Editors For Funders FAQ Allied Initiatives

Frequently Asked Questions

Available for download here: <https://osf.io/gha9f/>

Novelty of Format

- ▼ How do Registered Reports differ from clinical trial registration?
- ▼ Why are Registered Reports needed for grant-funded research? Isn't the process of grant assessment in itself a form of pre-registration?

Philosophy of Science

- ▼ The Registered Reports model is based on a naive conceptualisation of the scientific method.
- ▼ Registered Reports may not apply to my specific field therefore it is not a useful solution.

Design and Analysis

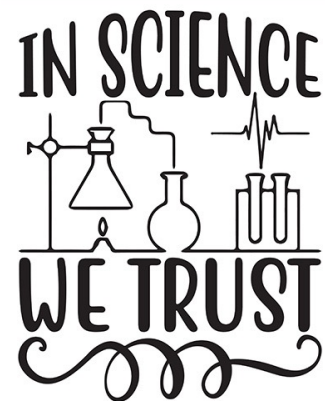
- ▼ Where authors are unable to predict the likely effect size for an experiment, how can they report a power analysis as part of a Stage 1 submission?
- ▼ Setting a requirement of 90% for statistical power is unrealistic for expensive methods and would require impossibly large sample sizes. The Registered Reports format therefore disadvantages researchers who work with expensive techniques or who have limited resources.
- ▼ Some of my analyses will depend on the results, so how can I pre-register each step in detail?
- ▼ My aim is to publish a series of experiments but the design of the later experiments is contingent upon the outcomes of the earlier ones. Isn't Registered Reports limited to single experiments?

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Registered reports at Stiftelsen Dam

Pros

- Less duplication of effort for researcher, peer-reviewer, journal and funder
- Higher approval rate at Dam
- "In-principle acceptance" ensures publication of results
 - without looking for a journal that will accept them
 - without being asked to do other/new analyses
- Better planning and thorough peer review of the protocol increase the likelihood of implementation and reliable results
- Better academic quality assurance and less room for unethical research practice
- Increased trust in research



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Registered reports at Stiftelsen Dam

Forskning

Forskning er stiftelsens nest største program.
Omtrent en tredjedel av midlene går til dette.

Om programmet Utlysning Søknadsbehandling Til deg som har mottatt støtte




Programmet har en utlysning i året, som publiseres i november.
Søknadprosessen for Forskning gjennomføres i to trinn. Første trinn er en kortfattet skisse søknad. De høyest rangerte søknadene imiteres til å sende inn utvidet søknad.
Forskningsprogrammet finansierer forskning i tråd med formålet som er i samsvar med forskningens etiske prinsipper. Alle søknader må fremmes i samarbeid med en søkerorganisasjon hos Stiftelsen Dam.

Summarized

- Project in 2024 and 2025
- The applicant can choose between the normal application process and the registered report
- The applicant must assess whether a registered report is relevant
 - May not be suitable for everyone
- Benefits for applicant
 - Higher grant percentage for registered report
 - Support for designing the protocol publication (Stage 1)
 - Time-saving in the final phase
- Follow-up evaluation

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Q&A

This is just clinical research. How are things in other areas?
Probably worse. The clinical research is the best regulated.

Isn't better training an option?
Obviously not. All scientists have been learning about this for decades already.

What are the solutions?

- We need to stop rewarding bad scientific practice
- The digital infrastructure must make it *possible* and *easy*.
- The legislation should preferably make it *necessary*
- Someone needs to follow up



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