Tackling some of the trials and tribulations of a researcher
Imagine …

- You’ve been working hard in the lab.
- You now have some exciting results.
- You want to share them with others.
- You want to make sure you get there first.
You submit.

• Silence…

• After several months, you finally get a response.

  The referees said ‘No!’
OK, next journal.

• Now you spend another couple of weeks:
  › Deciphering the new author instructions.
  › Reformatting the article,
  › …the references,
  › …the fonts and spacing,
  › …the cover letter.
You finally send it in.

• Some more months go by…
  The journal will accept it! But…

• …you need to do these extra expts
• …and re-write this whole section

You read the referee reports – you’re fairly sure you know who the referees were.
You resolve to do the work.

- It takes months to make the changes.
- You re-submit.
- Again, more months pass by…
- …you chase,
- …and chase.

And guess what?
It’s now been over a year.

- You’re reading one day and you suddenly see …

Your main competitor just published the very same findings in another journal!
This happens a lot.

- Most researchers can tell you this same story.
- Slow, secretive publishing makes no sense.
- It’s bad for science.
- It damages careers.

It’s time for a change.
F1000Research

• Immediate publication (within one week).

• Completely transparent peer review, post publication (averaging two referee responses within 10 days).
**F1000Research:**

- Covers biology and medicine.
- Uses Gold OA.
- Uses CC-BY (text) and CC0 (data).
- Has extensive and prestigious Advisory Panel and Editorial Board.
- Formal launch is January 2013.
Refereeing Process

- All open and signed.
- Focus is on whether the work is scientifically sound.
Articles indexed once they receive two positive reviews.
Now imagine…

- You’re reading your competitor’s article.
- Some of the results are surprising.
- You are not sure you believe them.
- You suspect the analysis has been done incorrectly.
So...

- You check for supplementary files.
- You try to work out what’s what.
- You find some relevant files but they don’t make any sense; you have lots of questions.
- Some of the key files simply aren’t there.
- You contact the author.
SILENCE!

In this digital age, why should readers have to simply assume that the authors created the data and conducted the analysis correctly?
F1000Research

- Full, mandatory data deposition and sharing.
- To date, over 100 articles; 100% success rate for getting the data.
Your postdoc comes in.

• She’s been trying a particular experiment for months now.
• It simply doesn’t work.
• She’s tried everything you both can think of.
She’s just been to a conference.

• She presented her work as a poster.
• And explained the results to attendees…
• …and someone told her he’d done the same thing and it didn’t work for him either.

Now, why couldn’t we have known that before?
F1000Research

Accepts all scientifically sound articles, including:

• Negative/null results
• Single findings
• Case reports
• Replication studies
Summary

F1000Research tackles four big issues:

• Speed of publication.
• Peer review.
• Data sharing.
• Sharing of all scientifically sound science.
Time’s Up!

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