

PHILOSOPHY

PUBLICATION ETHICS AT MDPI IS INACCEPTABLE

24.04.2024

MDPI [changes the content of a published paper even without any correction](#) note – read yourself

Updating Published Papers

MDPI recognizes our responsibility to correct scientifically relevant errors or ethical issues that have been brought to our attention. To offer transparency regarding any changes for our authors and readers, we have the following standardized criteria in place for updates to any of our published papers.

Direct update

Direct updates are updates made directly to the publication and can be completed in certain situations (please refer to our correction reference guide) if deemed by the Editorial Office to be a reasonable request. Once approved, the paper will be updated and re-published on our website. Following this, all relevant indexing databases will be notified to ensure that the database versions have also been revised.

Corrections

MDPI distinguishes between *Minor* and *Major* corrections.

- *Minor corrections* address issues that do not impact the scientific content of an article but require an updated version to be uploaded to the version of the record (VoR). Should this update be approved, it will be accompanied by the addition of a footnote on the pdf version and the addition of a "correction statement" located in the backmatter of the website version. A minor correction will not be accompanied by a separate published correction notice.
- *Major corrections* aim to address issues and errors that could affect the scientific interpretation of an article. Once approved, the paper will be updated and re-published on our website, along with the publication of a *correction*. This notice is a separate publication that links to the updated paper but is published in the most current issue of the journal. The *correction* notifies all readers that a significant change has occurred to the paper and that the revised version is now available on the website.

Following both a *Minor* and *Major correction*, all relevant indexing databases will be notified to ensure that the database versions have also been revised. You will find further information on our publication update policy in our [correction reference guideline](#).

Author Name Change Policy

Some authors might wish to change their name following publication. In such cases, MDPI will update and republish the article and re-deliver the updated metadata to the appropriate indexing databases (please note that all updates are dependent upon the policies of the databases). Our teams are aware that name changes can be sensitive and/or private in nature, for a variety of reasons that may include alignment with gender identity, marriage, divorce, or religious conversion. Therefore, to protect author identity, a *Correction* will not be published and co-authors will not be notified. Authors should contact the journal's Editorial Office with their name change request.

We are completely losing track if "deemed by the Editorial Office to be a reasonable request" is leading to modifications of text, images or data. And this happened already [as I learned recently](#).

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