

## Unconscious plagiarism and withdrawal of the manuscript under consideration

*Değerlendirme aşamasındaki yazıda bilinçsiz kopyalama ve yayının geri çekilmesi*

Dear Editor,

The recent publication entitled "Unconscious plagiarism and author's request for withdrawal of his paper under consideration" is very interesting. There are some issues for discussion (1). First, whether unconscious plagiarism exists is an interesting question. In fact, one might have the same idea as well as write the same thing with the others. However, based on the present advancement on internet searching and computational plagiarism check, the problem can be early detected. To prevent the problem, it is suggested that all authors are suggested to perform plagiarism check before submission (2). The possible role of the journal might be provision of the plagiarism check tool for help author check the manuscript before submission. If this system is introduced, submitting author cannot say that the problematic work is accidental or unconscious plagiarism. Indeed, unconscious plagiarism is usually the reason from the accused plagiarist. Second, the concern on withdrawing manuscript under consideration should be discussed. Indeed, it is the right of the author to withdraw the manuscript. There are several reasons for withdrawing such as conflict among authors after submission, delay in reviewing process, existence of new data, and detection of error in report after submission, author decision to submit to new journal and etc. Sometimes, the problem such as plagiarism is detected during reviewing and the submitting author tries to withdraw the manuscript. In this case, it should be assigned as attempted plagiarism and the proper ethical management has to be done despite the author's intention to withdraw the manuscript.

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### Author's Reply

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the author's interest and constructive comments on the my short paper titled with "Unconscious plagiarism and withdrawn

of the manuscript under consideration"(1). This is really important but generally disregarding issue. As a result, the number of manuscripts in which unconscious plagiarism appears is not less at the editor's desk (2). Young researchers tend to incorporate some parts of previously similar published articles into own papers using "copy and paste" method. To prevent unethical cases, journals publish guidance for authors on the preparation and submission of papers, and also, many of them ask authors an ethics check-list during submission. In spite of this, plagiarism may be attempted. Prior to acceptance, editors and reviewers always must remember possibility of this situation in submitted articles and search using free cross-check programs available on internet (3). If unethical situation is suspected, the editor needs to investigate why this happened and find out whether involuntary misconduct or not. The editor should ask for a response and remind the regulatory rules to author(s). If the editor and editorial board feel the study is unethical, it is assigned as an attempted plagiarism and some of the editors directly reject manuscript but the others not.

Management of withdrawal is still controversial issue and there is no definite standard rules. The proper ethical algorithm is managed despite the author's intention to withdraw the manuscript, as you said. International Committees on Publication Ethics recommend that the patched written parts of submitted paper be asked to change and that the reviewing process be continued, if the author's reply is sufficient to make unconscious plagiarism clear. Anatolian J Cardiology is a member of COPE, ICJME and HEART groups. So, we try to obey these guidelines on the preparation, submission and publication of manuscripts. Therefore, in this case, we did not accept author's withdrawal request of his article under consideration and continued the ethical investigation without rejecting.

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## Heart block: Neither sweet nor bitter

*Kalp bloğu: Ne tatlı ne de acı*

Dear Editor,

The mad honey is widely used as an alternative therapy for the treatment of gastrointestinal diseases such as gastritis, peptic ulcer and the reduction in the coronary artery disease (CAD) risk in Black Sea region of Turkey (1). However, mad honey produced from the nectar of some rhododendron species may be poisonous. The cause of the intoxication is the grayanotoxin which has toxic effects on sodium channels (2) and induces increased parasympathetic tone that causes