

Peer response 3:

Hi Maria,

I appreciate your intelligent reply to my topic. I value your perspectives and the additional references to ethical guidelines and codes of conduct. Permit me to explain a few things:

First, I should specify which BCS (2022) Code of Conduct principles I referred to for clarity. Principle 1. a relates to public health and well-being, while 2. f describes avoiding injury due to falsification. These principles align with the necessity of presenting both positive and negative results to maintain the integrity and trustworthiness of the data analysis process.

Second, regarding professional integrity and trustworthiness, your reference to the Association for Computing Machinery (2018) Code of Ethics and its emphasis on trustworthiness is a crucial reminder. Trustworthiness, as highlighted in section 1.3 of the Association for Computing Machinery (2018), is not just a standard but a fundamental pillar of the statistical programmer's role. Abi's commitment to this standard ensures his work remains credible and reliable.

Third, from a legal perspective, adhering to ethical guidelines and providing comprehensive and transparent reports (BACP, 2019), as the UK Parliament (2023) highlights, can protect Abi from potential legal repercussions if the data were to be misused or misrepresented.

Fourth, if Abi's results were modified by others, as per Logullo et al. (2024), one potential action could be to document and report any discrepancies between his original findings and the presented results to relevant professional bodies or oversight committees and include disclaimers in his reports to highlight the importance of

independent verification and the potential risks of selective reporting. This balances full disclosure and reputation management. While full disclosure might impact the reputation of Whizzz, it is crucial to remember our ethical and professional obligation to present accurate and complete data (Association for Computing Machinery, 2018). The long-term credibility of both Abi and Whizzz is directly tied to their commitment to transparency and integrity (Ortega-Rodríguez et al. 2020). Addressing potential legal, social, and reputational impacts reinforces the importance of ethical data presentation and the broader implications for stakeholders (Saltz & Dewar, 2019).

References:

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