Cryptography in modern-day medical science*

For *C*enturies people have been using encrypted messages to convey confidential information. During the process of encryption, a cipher (ie, algorithm) *IS* used to convert data into gib*B*erish that can only be **d**ecoded with knowledge of the key required to decry**p**t the inf**o**rmation. In today's world of medical science, most scientists are still communicating wit**h** one another, mo**s**tly unintentionally, using coded messages when discussing and presenting experimental data. The current form of correspondence, generally referred to as pu**b**lishing scientific papers, is held in high esteem and greatly so**u**ght after. Yet, the tried manner of presenting data conflicts with the aim of a rather no**v**el develop**m**ent in the field of academic pu**b**lishing, namely open-access jo**u**rnals. The main, and to my opinion valid, argument for this type of **j**ournal is that **p**ublicly funded research sh**o**uld be freely available **t**o the general po**p**ulation. H**o**wever, both s**c**ienti**s**ts and journals do not provide the public with the key that is essential for deciphering research papers. As a result, experimental data are o**f**ten misinterpreted and snippets of information can start living a life of their own. So, should we as scientists make an effort to provide the populace with the key to decrypt the epitome of our scientific endeavours — for instance, **b**y applauding innovations such as the **l**ay abstract — or should we stay on the beaten path and do our utmost to publish our incomprehensible findings in reputable **jo**urnals with clear and easy to understand names suc**h** as Nat**u**re, Sc**i**ence or the Medical Journal o**f** Australia? En**d** of **p**re**f**iller.

*** Note:** This article contains an encrypted message. Can you decrypt it?

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