8 September, 2021

Dear Professor Ioannidis,

We are pleased to submit the attached manuscript, titled 'Reproducibility of COVID-19 pre-prints', for consideration for publication in *Royal Society Open Science.*

We examine the reproducibility of COVID-19 research by creating a dataset of pre-prints posted to arXiv, bioRxiv, medRxiv, and SocArXiv between 28 January 2020 and 30 June 2021 that are related to COVID-19. We extract the text from these pre-prints and parse them looking for keyword markers signaling the availability of the data and code underpinning the pre-print. For the pre-prints that are in our sample, we are unable to find markers of either open data or open code for 75 per cent of those on arXiv, 67 per cent of those on bioRxiv, 79 per cent of those on medRxiv, and 85 per cent of those on SocArXiv.

We felt the nature of the paper – looking at reproducibility and open code/data – made it well-aligned with *Royal Society Open Science*. Our paper would also complement others that have been recently published in *Royal Society Open Science*. For instance, 'The rapid, massive growth of COVID-19 authors in the scientific literature' by John P. A. Ioannidis, Maia Salholz-Hillel, Kevin W. Boyack and Jeroen Baas, published on 7 September 2021 looks at how scientists published papers related to COVID-19.

We would like to thank you for considering our submission.

Sincerely,

Rohan Alexander
Annie Collins