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To the editor, IJME

This is to confirm that the article entitled 'Research Governance in Australia: exposing empirical deception' submitted to the Indian Journal of Medical Ethics is original and has been authored exclusively by the undersigned.

The submission is not under consideration for publication in any other journal.

Consent is given for Mr Kirwood to act as the author for correspondence. All previous research can be found at https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Geoff_Kirwood/contributions

Details of sponsorship or relevant competing interests, financial or otherwise: no funding has been provided by any organisation, nor are there any conflicts of interest to declare.

I have read the terms and conditions of authorship of IJME and accept them.

The author is no longer affiliated with any research institution, and although the context is within a country having high per-capita wealth, is a salient instruction to developing countries on how not to regulate research. Credibility of research output is ultimately dependent upon the possibility to highlight misconduct to authorities. This is not possible in Australia without the assistance of the media.

Signatures of all authors: