**TITLE: Fraud and Misconduct in Clinical Research: A Step to Improve Ethical Practice in Research**

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**Editor Comments:**

1. It is not clear if these guidelines being referred to are the National Guidelines for the ‘Guideline for Responsible Conduct of Clinical Studies and Trials’ are for researchers in Oman, or whether these guidelines have the sanction of the Health Ministry of Oman.

As the paper is currently written, it reads like rationale for having ethical guidelines and subsequently reviewing existing ones, especially in the introduction part. What is missing is whether this is an effort of the Govt of Oman to develop guidelines for research in Oman. Could the authors explain if these are to be read as the national guidelines for Oman?

2. What was the process by which these guidelines were developed and how are they expected to be part of research practice? By voluntariness or through legislation? Whatever be the rationale, it needs to be stated.

Answering the above questions would help to strengthen the writing. It would also help if the authors could summarise the review of various forms of historical misconduct (instead of the longish narrative of various misconducts) and add the explanation of the specific rationale for the Govt of Oman to develop these.