



## The Brain Imaging Replication Crisis

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### Message from the Guest Editor

Evidence-based medicine and all scientific advancements depend on the ability to replicate scientific findings. Some irreproducible results are expected in the course of the scientific evaluation supported by statistical testing, for example, with the conventional  $\alpha = 0.05$ . However, current evidence indicates that actual rates of non-replication across a wide variety of scientific endeavors are much higher than 0.05—a problem known as the replication crisis. Factors that can contribute to this problem include academic and financial incentives; publication practices; limitations in the sensitivity and reliability of scientific tests; “p-hacking” and “HARKing” that inflate effective p-values for experiments; methodological errors. The replication crisis significantly impacts the field of brain imaging, despite of and perhaps because of the methodological complexity involved with this field. The severity of the problem is a subject of much discussion and debate, but the problem remains largely unsolved, with the potential to seriously impede scientific progress.





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