LETTER

Standards, Double Standards and No Standards

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Editor,

The report by Kalichman et al. (2013) is interesting. Kalichman et al. (2013) mentioned an "awareness of the diversity of those standards." Standards should be applicable and usable in all settings. If there are different standards, there might be a problem in the implementation of standards. The case of "double standards" can lead to several practical problems. The conduct of research in an institute might be different from another institute. In addition, within an institute, the use of alternative standards might be selectively applied for some specific persons. The senior or administrative persons might be excluded from standards. A double-standard is a common problem in many developing countries (Zavala and Alfaro-Mantilla 2011) and is an indicator for the low quality of scientific and academic societies in those countries. For sure, this is considered a double-standard. If those situations occur repeatedly, it will result in "no standards".

References

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Zavala, S., & Alfaro-Mantilla, J. (2011). Ethics and investigation. *Revista Peruana de Medicina Experimental y Salud Pública*, 28(4), 664–669.

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