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Endorsement of Animal Research: Incorporation of In Vivo Experiments (ARRIVE) Guidelines/Gold Standard Publication Checklist (GSPC) by Chinese Journals: a survey of journals' instructions for authors and editors

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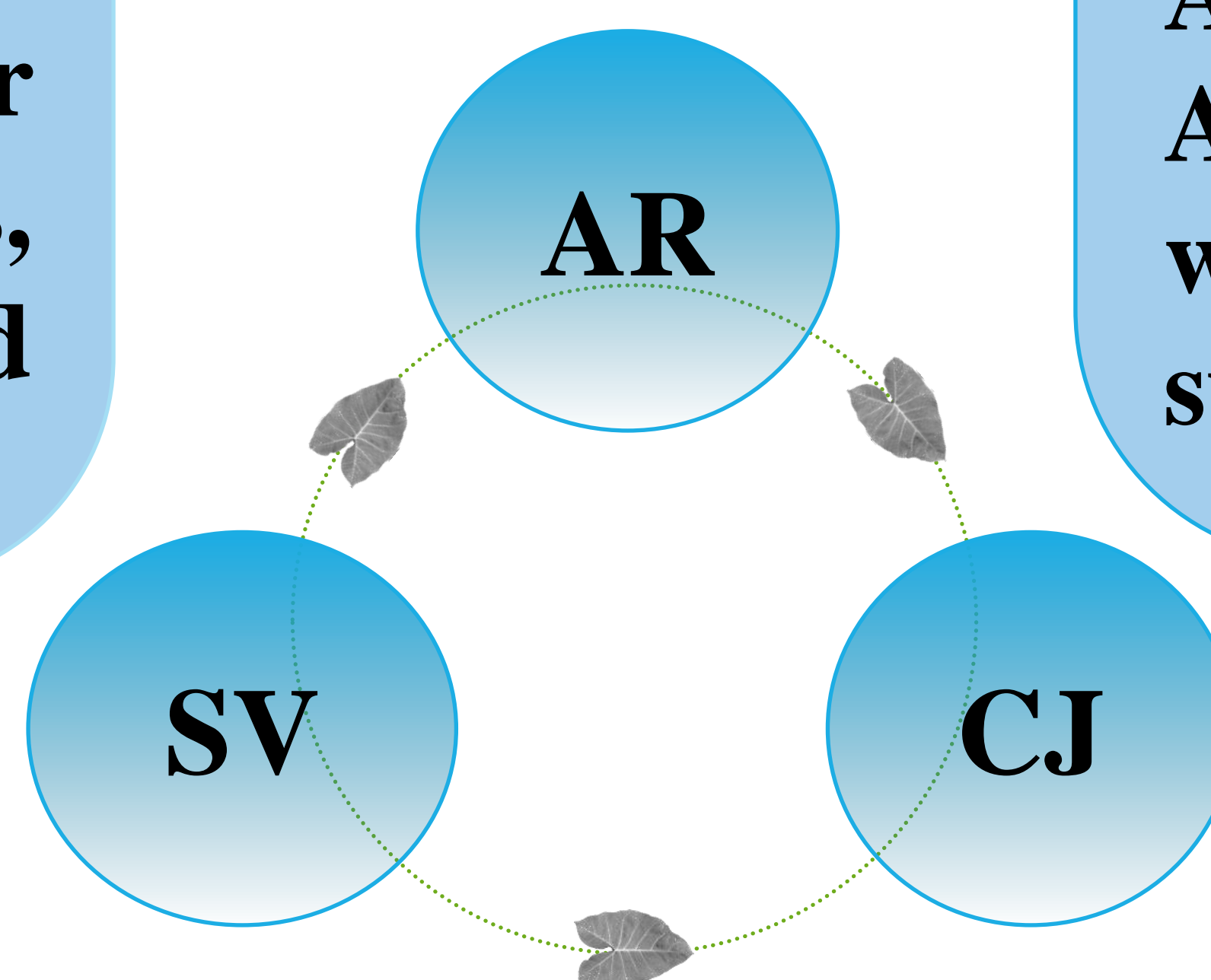
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Objective

To determine the rate at which Chinese journals include Animal Research: Reporting of In Vivo Experiments (ARRIVE) Guidelines/Gold Standard Publication Checklist (GSPC) in their instructions for authors, and the awareness and recognition of editors.

Methods

The survey was performed on Chinese journals. The most recent versions each journal's instructions for authors (IFA) were downloaded, and the information related to the ARRIVE/GSPC was collected. A self-developed questionnaire was used to conduct the survey among the editors.



Results

Questionnaires were sent to 240 qualified journals and 198 of them returned them, achieving an 82.5% response rate. The results showed that none of the journals included the ARRIVE/GSPC in their IFA, and the awareness rate was only 13.1% (26/198). The participants who were unaware of the ARRIVE/GSPC were less likely than those who were aware of them to believe it was necessary to include the ARRIVE/GSPC in the IFA (23.3% vs. 61.5%), and less likely to request authors in their manuscript preparation (28.5% vs. 88.5%), editors in the editing and processing (28.5% vs. 84.6%), and reviewers in peer review stage (28.5% vs. 92.3%) to follow the ARRIVE/GSPC.

Conclusions

Currently no Chinese journals include the ARRIVE/GSPC in their IFA. The recognition rate of the ARRIVE/GSPC was low among the editors. So, we suggest that Chinese journals should promote inclusion of the ARRIVE/GSPC in journals' IFA. It is also important to educate researchers and editors alike to increase their understanding of the ARRIVE/GSPC, so that the quality of reporting of animal study can be improved.