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## The reporting quality of the interventional animal experiments in Chinese journals-based on the evaluated results of the Animals in Research: Reporting In Vivo Experiments (ARRIVE) guidelines

Ting Zhang, Yuan-yuan Zhang, Bin Ma\*

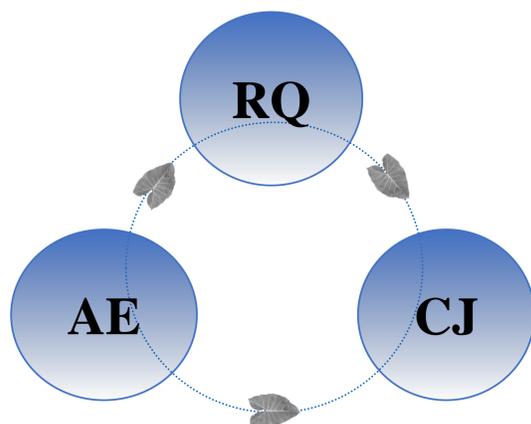
Lanzhou University, Dong-gang Road 199, Gansu Lanzhou 730000, China

### Objective

To evaluate retrospectively the reporting quality of animal experiments published in Chinese journals adhering to the Animals in Research: Reporting In Vivo Experiments (ARRIVE) guidelines.

### Methods

We searched databases including CNKI, Wan Fang, VIP and CBM by July, 2018. Four well-trained reviewers screened and extracted articles independently. The ARRIVE guidelines were used to assess the quality of animal experiment reports. The compliance rate of every item was analyzed comparatively according to different published time.



### Conclusions

The reporting quality of animal experiments in Chinese journals is generally lower than moderate level. Along with the publication of the ARRIVE guidelines in 2010, the compliance rate of most items in the ARRIVE guidelines has been improved to some extent. However, some specific items of methods, results and discussion were not still reported sufficiently and integrally. Therefore, it is necessary to popularize the ARRIVE guidelines, advocate researchers to adhere to the ARRIVE guidelines in the future and specially to promote the use of the ARRIVE guidelines in specialized journals, so as to promote the design, implementation and reporting of animal experiments, and ultimately improve their quality.

### Results

4342 studies were included finally, of which 73.03% had been cited  $\leq 5$  times, only 29.04% (1261/4342) were published in journals of Chinese Science Citation Database. The assessment results showed that the compliance rate of more than half of sub-items (51.28%, 20/39) was less than 50% and 65.00% (13/20) of sub-items was less than 10%.