

### Undergraduate Student Edited 3 Articles at PLoS ONE

An undergraduate students (HONG Yanggang / 洪扬刚) at Wenzhou Medical University (温州医科大学) has edited three articles on an U.S. based journal "PLoS ONE".

DOI	Editor	Submitted	Accepted
10.1371/journal.pone.0337546	Yanggang Hong, Wenzhou Medical University, CHINA	2025-07-21	2025-11-10
10.1371/journal.pone.0336243	Yanggang Hong, Wenzhou Medical University, CHINA	2025-06-13	2025-10-22
10.1371/journal.pone.0330619	Yanggang Hong, Wenzhou Medical University, CHINA	2025-01-26	2025-08-04

A previous investigation by the 5GH Team found multiple irrelevant references to HONG in the article [1], which was one of the three articles HONG edited at PLoS ONE [2]. When replied to the inquiry from the 5GH Team, a staff editor at PLoS ONE stated that "the handling editor asked the authors to cite his own publications", suggesting misbehaviour from HONG during his practices as the editor for the article [1].

The staff editor also addressed that the PLoS ONE is conducting an further investigation on this matter, which was prioritized by the EiC of the journal, and that the journal will dis-list HONG at their editorial board. The 5GH Team appreciate the efforts PLoS ONE is taking.

[1] 10.1371/journal.pone.0330619

[2] 5GH-2025-000017.R5 (<http://5gh.org.cn/WuGH/2025/000017.R5.html>)

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