



Missing Research Results: A Funders Perspective

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Unpublished research and selective reporting is our worst nightmare

When entire or parts of results are not shared

Important: Not just talking about
“published in scientific journal”





«Joint statement on public disclosure of results from clinical trials»

18 May 2017

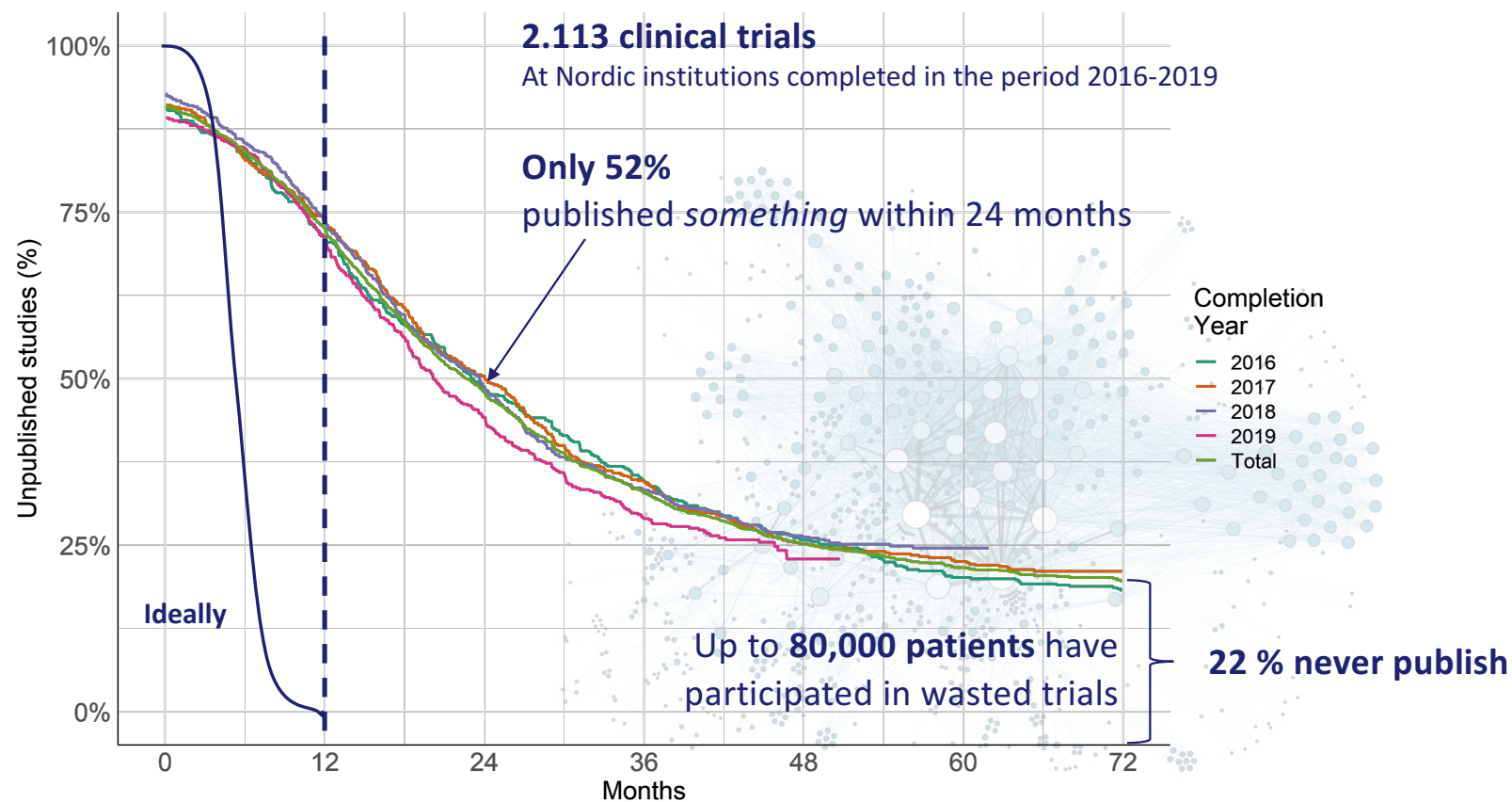
Sharing of summary results and protocol in registries within

12
months

Publication of results in a scientific journal within

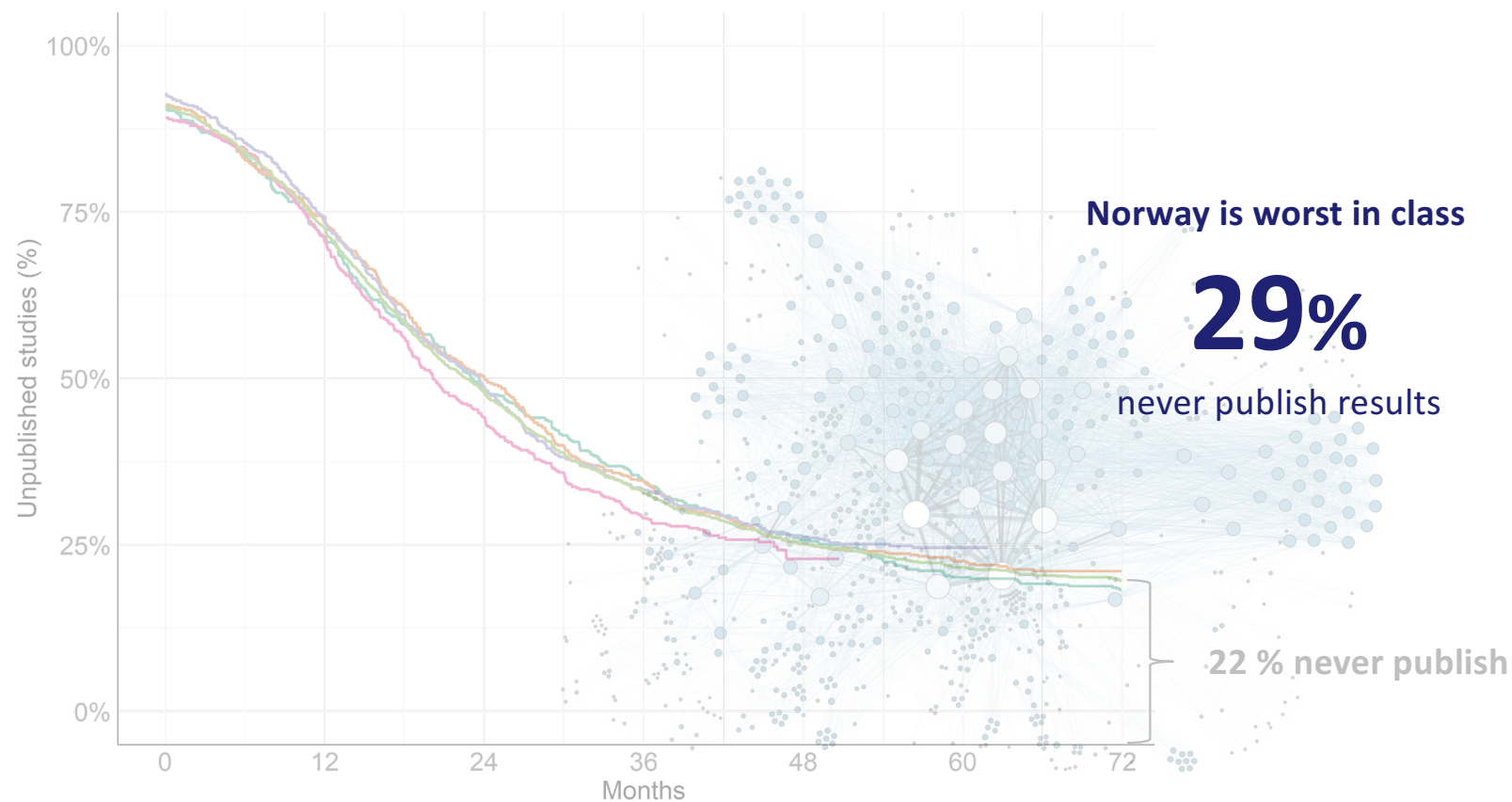
24
months

Mega trial: Clinical trials in the Nordic region



Nilsson et al (2025) Results reporting for clinical trials led by medical universities and university hospitals in the nordic countries was often missing or delayed

Mega trial: Clinical trials in the Nordic region

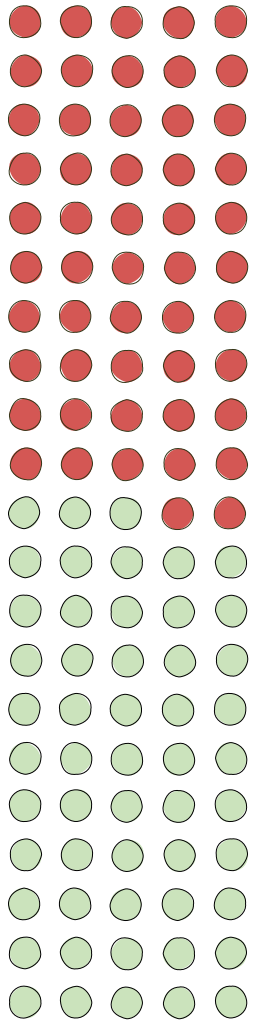


Nilsson et al (2025) *Results reporting for clinical trials led by medical universities and university hospitals in the nordic countries was often missing or delayed*

**The cumulative effect of reporting and citation
biases on the apparent efficacy of treatments:
the case of depression**

Ymkje Anna de Vries et al. 2018





105 trials shared with the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

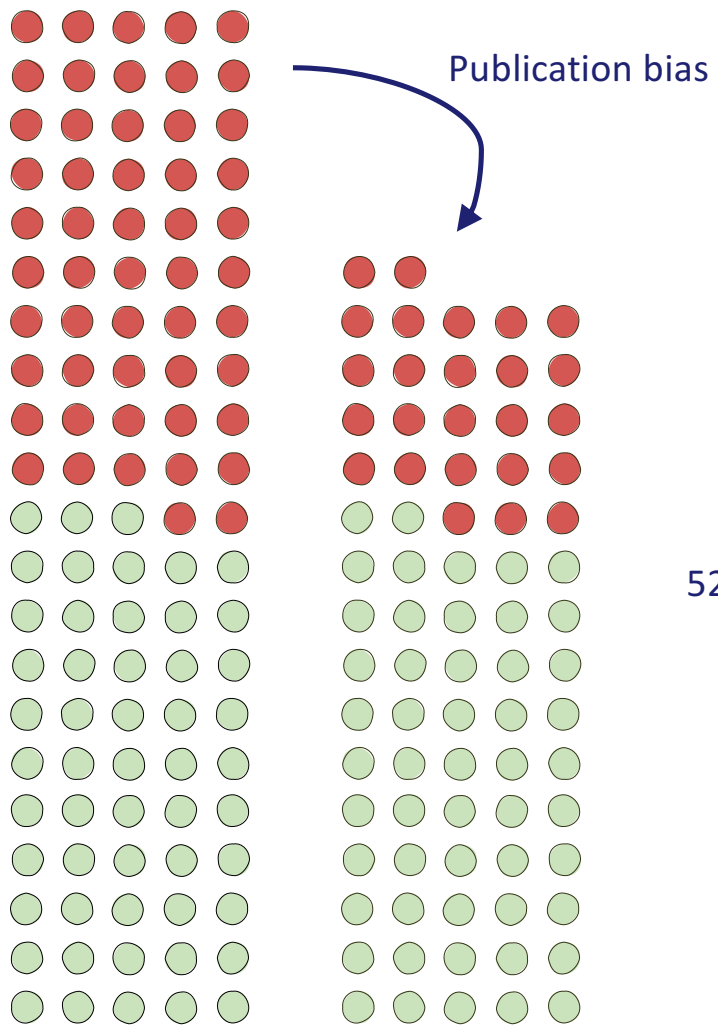
52 negative

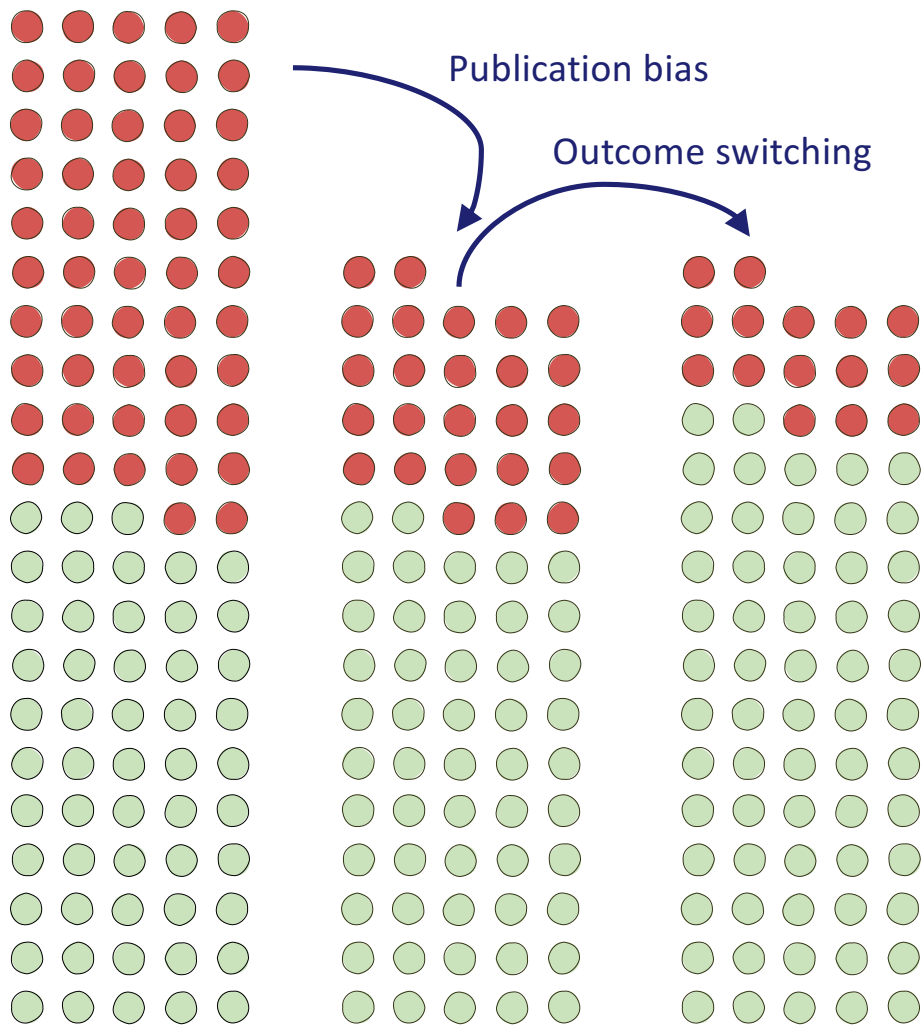
The cumulative effect of reporting and citation biases on the apparent efficacy of treatments: the case of depression

Ymkje Anna de Vries et al. 2018

53 positive

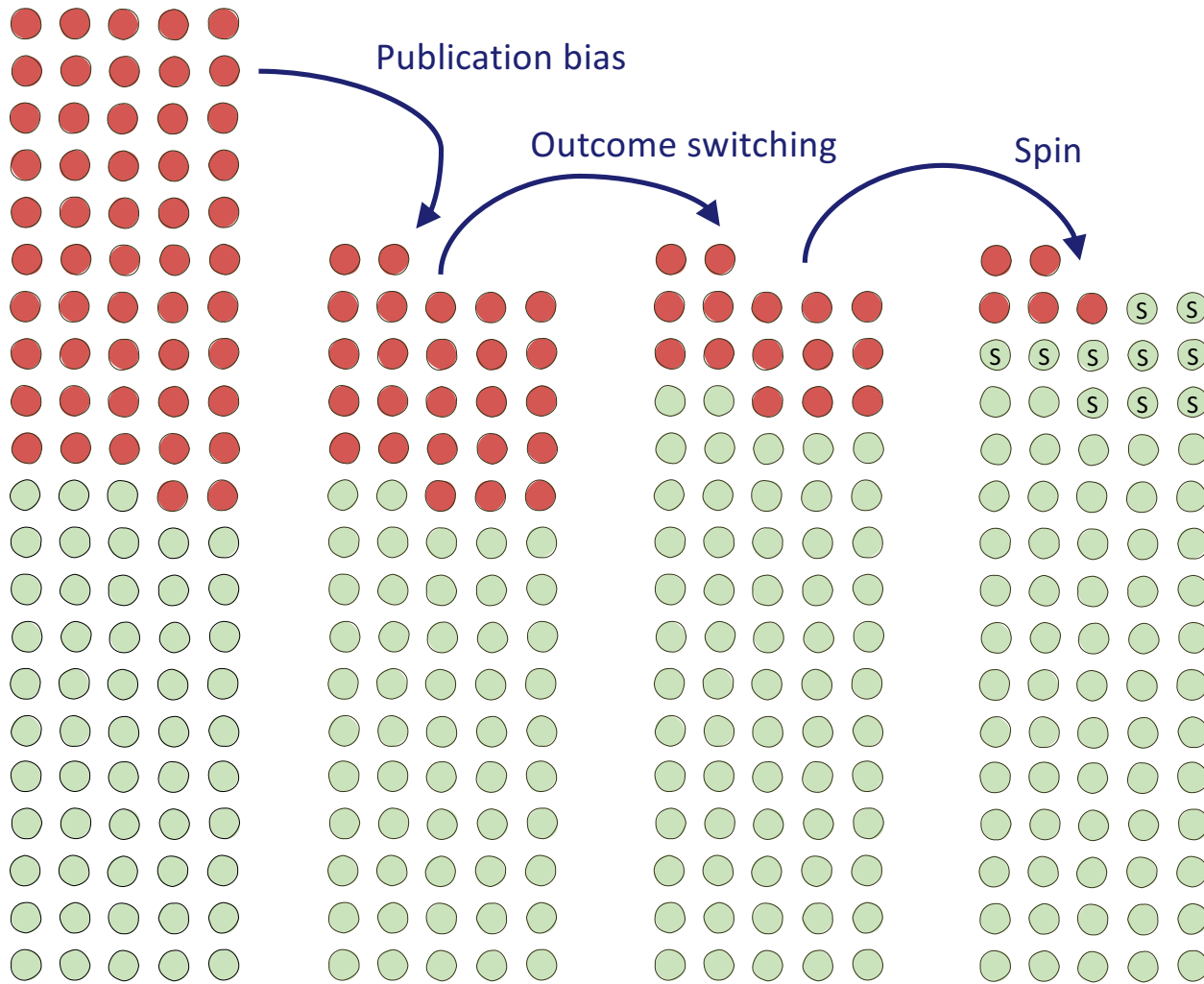






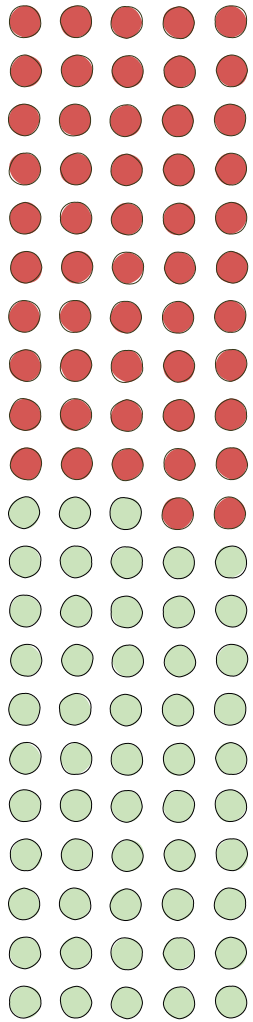
62 vs 15





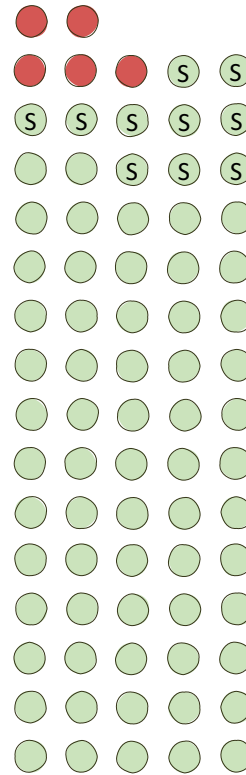
72 vs 5





Reality
53 vs 52

What we see
72 vs 5



Building hypotheses
Driving innovation
Treatment guidelines
Basis for decisions



STIFTELSEN
DAM



What we – as a funder – do

- 1 Demand preregistration and results reporting**
For all projects. Results reporting within 12 months of end of data collection.
- 2 Incentivize the use of “registered reports”**
Applicants are guaranteed a higher chance of success if they use this publication format.
- 3 Push for regulatory changes and public infrastructure**
*No public funding to institutions if results are not shared.
Better systems for tracking research projects.*



Claim

The incentives are the problem

What drives research careers and commercial and institutional interests pushes research away from “good science”



Aftenposten Nyheter Meninger Podcast A-magasinet Vink [Del abonnement](#) Meny

Milliarder av kroner er blitt investert i bortkastet forskning

Jan-Ole Hesselberg Programsjef, Stiftelsen Dam
Ida Svege Leder for programutvikling, Stiftelsen Dam



Forsknings- og høyere utdanningsminister Ola Borten Moes største bekymring burde være knyttet til nytten av de milliardene som deles ut til norsk forskning, mener kronikkforfatterne. Foto: Jovial Purno, NTB

Den publiserte forskningen gir et feilaktig bilde av kunnskapsstatus.

Evidence-based grant-making

BEDRE SØKNADSBEHANDLING

Forskningen, analysene og argumentene som ligger til grunn for hvordan Stiftelsen Dam tar beslutninger



Rapport
2025:3
Jan-Ole Hesselberg




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dam.no/bedre-soknadsbehandling

IMPROVED APPLICATION PROCESSING

The research, analyses and arguments that shape the basis for how Foundation Dam makes decisions



Report
2025:3
Jan-Ole Hesselberg



FOUNDATION
DAM