Blinded assessment of potential of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAl) to generate plain language summaries

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Survey questions

Comparing styles of plain language summaries (PLS) for academic papers

This questionnaire is seeking your opinion on the understandability and your preferences in writing style for three plain language summaries (PLS) of the same academic paper. To ensure a realistic response please do not research this study externally before completing the below.

PLS A (respondents were unaware that this was the first ChatGPT option)

1. How understandable do you think this style would be to someone with a reading age of 16 years (1 poor; 4 high)?

PLS B (respondents were unaware that this was the abstract from the PLS manuscript¹).

2. How understandable do you think this style would be to someone with a reading age of 16 years (1 poor; 4 high)?

PLS C (respondents were unaware that this was the human-assisted ChatGPT option)

- 3. How understandable do you think this style would be to someone with a reading age of 16 years (1 poor; 4 high)
- 4. Rank the three PLS's in the order of which you believe would be the most appropriate for a plain language summary by dragging them to put your favourite at the top and least favourite at the bottom. Note these are usually aimed at a 16-year old's reading level and can be about more than just its understandability.
- 5. Please describe why you preferred your top choice.

- 6. Did you notice anything in any of the examples that you believe are a cause for concern? Please enter details below. Again please do not look up the full paper to answer this.
- 7. What is your job role?
- 8. Do you have any experience in writing plain language summaries?