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Replication

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Replication refers to the attempt by an investigator to repeat a study purely to determine whether the original findings can be repeated. Essentially, the researcher wants to know whether the original findings are reliable or whether they have been produced by some combination of chance or spurious factors. If study findings can be replicated, then they can be accepted as reliable and valuable to knowledge and understanding. However, if the findings of a study cannot be replicated, then the findings cannot be accepted as a genuine contribution to knowledge.