

## **Ethics & Norms**

It is mandatory to agree upon standards of expected ethical practice for all those involved in journal publishing: the author, the journal editor, the peer reviewer and the publisher too. We follow ethical standards, based on **Committee on Publication Ethics** ([COPE's Guidelines](#)) for Journal Editors.

## **Authors**

### **Standards**

Authors of original research article should present an accurate account of the actual work performed as well as an objective discussion with its significance. A paper should contain sufficient detail and references for other researchers to replicate the research. All the data should be reported accurately and appropriately in the paper. Fraudulent or intentionally mentioned inaccurate or false statements or plagiarism are not acceptable and amounts to unethical behaviour.

### **Data Access and Retention**

Authors should be ready to provide the relevant raw data for concerned paper for review, and should also be prepared to provide public access to such data (consistent with the ALPSP-STM Statement on Data and Databases), and should be prepared to retain such data for a reasonable time after publication.

### **Originality and Plagiarism**

The authors should take care and assure that they have mentioned entirely original works, and if the authors have used the work and/or words of others that this has been appropriately cited, referred or quoted.

### **Multiple, Redundant or Concurrent Publication**

An author must not in general publish the same research article in more than one journal. Submitting or publishing the same manuscript/article to more than one journal concurrently constitutes unethical practice.

### **Acknowledgement of Sources**

Proper acknowledgment of the work/publication of others must always be given.

### **Authorship of the Paper**

Authorship should be restricted to those who have significant contribution to research in form of the conception, design, formatting, execution, or interpretation of the reported study. All those who have made significant contributions in research should be listed as co-authors. Others who have participated in certain substantive aspects of the research project, they should be acknowledged or listed as contributors. The corresponding author should ensure that all co-authors have seen and approved the final version of the paper and have agreed to its submission for publication.

### **Disclosure and Conflicts of Interest**

All authors should disclose in their manuscript any financial or other substantive conflict of interest that might be construed to influence the results or interpretation of their manuscript. All sources of financial support for the project should be mentioned.

## **Fundamental errors in published works**

When an author discovers a significant error or inaccuracy in his/her own published work, it is the author's obligation to promptly notify the journal editor or publisher and cooperate with the editor to retract or correct the paper.

## **For Editors**

The editorial team of the journal will decide which of the articles submitted should be published. Decision for the same will be guided by the policies and norms of the journal's editorial board and constrained by such legal requirements as shall then be in force regarding libel, copyright infringement and plagiarism. The editor may confer with other editors or reviewers in making this decision.

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The editor(s) and any editorial staff or publisher must not disclose any information about a submitted manuscript of any article to anyone but the corresponding author, reviewers as appropriate.

## **Fair evaluation**

An editorial team will evaluate manuscripts for their intellectual content without regard to race, gender, ethnicity, citizenship, or political/religious philosophy of the authors.

## **Disclosure and conflicts of interest**

Unpublished materials disclosed in a submitted manuscript must not be used in an editor's own research, partly or completely, without the written consent of the author.

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3. Any manuscripts received for review must be always treated as confidential documents. They must not be shown to or discussed with any unauthorised directly or indirectly.
4. Reviews should be conducted objectively without personal criticism. Reviewer should express their opinions clearly with appropriate comments.
5. Reviewers should identify relevant published work in respect to citation. Any reference mentioned in article must be accompanied by the relevant citation. References must be in the style suggested.
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