

Editors' duties

Decision to publish: The editors and members of the Scientific Committee of the journal are responsible for deciding whether to publish any article submitted to the journal. In order to make that decision the editor and the Scientific Committee shall make use of at least two independent reviewers (double-blind peer review).

The Editorial Office shall refer to the editorial policies of the journal and current legislation on defamation, copyright violation and plagiarism.

Fairness: The Scientific Editorial Office shall value all articles on the basis of their scientific content only, without any kind of discrimination.

Confidentiality: The Scientific Editorial Office and editorial staff may communicate information on articles submitted to the authors, reviewers and the editor only. Any unpublished material contained in articles submitted to the journal cannot be used by members of the Scientific Editorial Office without the authors' consent.

Disclosure and conflicts of interests: Editors and members of the Scientific Committee must respect the confidentiality of all information or ideas gleaned from reviewing the manuscripts and shall not use them for personal gain. Reviewers are furthermore obliged to pay attention to ethical issues, to ensure the originality of published contributions, to identify any redundant or plagiarised publications and to highlight any possible conflicts of interest which may arise from any competition, collaboration or other type of relationship with authors, companies and institutions connected to the subject of the manuscript.

Involvement and cooperation in checks: If the editors or Scientific Committee identify or are notified of an issue regarding an error, conflict of interest or plagiarism in a published article, they must deal with it by notifying the authors and taking all necessary measures in order to settle any issues arising.

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Contribution to editorial decisions: reviewers actively participate in the decision to publish contributions in the journal, even if the final decision remains with the editors.

Willingness: reviewers who do not deem themselves qualified or capable of carrying out the review in the required timeframe must withdraw from the review process, giving timely notification to the editorial office.

Confidentiality: The confidentiality of any information and ideas gleaned from the review of the manuscripts must be respected and shall not be used for personal gain.

Objectivity standards: reviewers should encourage clarity, thoroughness and accuracy of any research submitted, providing authors with suggestions and comments in reference to objective parameters.

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Disclosure and conflicts of interest: reviewers are obliged to pay attention to ethical issues, to ensure the originality of published contributions, to identify any redundant or plagiarised publications and to highlight any possible conflicts of interest which may arise from any competition, collaboration or other type of relationship with authors, companies and institutions connected to the subject of the manuscript.

Authors' duties

Accuracy in presenting manuscripts: Authors must present their work with clarity and precision and objectively discuss its meaning. Data must be presented accurately. Manuscripts must be sufficiently detailed to enable responses to the research carried out. Presenting false or deliberately inaccurate claims is considered unethical and therefore unacceptable.

Data access and storage: Authors of manuscripts may be asked to present any data gathered in order to help the editorial process. Data must be kept by authors for a reasonable period of time even after publication of the article.

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Contribution authors: All those who physically and effectively contributed to the conception, design, realisation or interpretation of the research shall be named as authors of the work. All co-authors must contribute to the drafting of the manuscript, agree on its publication and approve the final version. The names of those who carried out part of the research should be cited in the thanks section.

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