Publication ethics and malpractice statement

The Croatian Sports Medicine Journal (HSMV) is a peer-reviewed international scientific journal dedicated to promoting the highest ethical standards in the publication of scientific and professional papers. HSMV follows the codes of conduct adopted by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) and the European Association of Scientific Editors (EASE).

Journal editors, reviewers and authors participate in the publication process. What is expected of participants in the publishing process:

1. **Responsibility of editor/editorial board**

The journal editor is the person in charge of communication with authors and reviewers, as well as with members of the Editorial Board in accordance with COPE recommendations. A more detailed explanation can be found at: [https://publicationethics.org/files/Full%20set%20 of%20flowcharts%20%28CRO%29.pdf](https://publicationethics.org/files/Full%20set%20%20of%20flowcharts%20%28CRO%29.pdf).

The editor conveys instructions to the reviewers, that is, they are expected to take into account the importance and originality of the topic, the reliability of the results and the clarity of the presentation.

Furthermore, the editor conveys the instructions of the reviewers to the authors and monitors their implementation, as well as informs them about the acceptance or rejection of the paper.

The editor implements and supervises other procedures provided for in the recommendations (plagiarism, redundancy, false data, change or problems of authorship, conflicts of interest).

The editor must ensure the anonymity of both authors and reviewers.

The duty of the editor is to exclude members of the Editorial Board from the editorial process if they have a conflict of interests (for example some form of connection with the authors, authorship, or activity in the review process).

1. **Responsibility of authors**

Authors are primarily responsible for the originality and authorship of their manuscript and should behave in accordance with the ethical principles and rules of scientific honesty for authors of the European Association of Scientific Editors (EASE): <http://www.ease.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/EASE-Guidelines-2017-Croatian.pdf>.

Authorship should be limited to those who have made a significant contribution to the research and writing of the paper.

When authors use other people's findings, as well as their own previously published findings in their paper, they should state and cite them in an appropriate manner.

When using other people's images and other materials, they must obtain written permission to print from the copyright holder.

In case the authors received financial support for the research discussed in the author's article, they should state the organizations, scientific projects or institutions that provided this support.

If the Editorial Board suspects unethical behavior (plagiarism, self-plagiarism, redundancy, data manipulation, change of authorship, etc.), it will act in accordance with the COPE recommendations (the text of the recommendations can be found on the website: https://publicationethics.org/files/Full %20set%20of%20flowcharts%20%28CRO%29.pdf).

When submitting a manuscript, the authors are required to submit the names of all the authors who participated in the creation of the paper, as well as the name of the institution where they worked during the research, and the electronic address of all the authors. The order, deletion or rearrangement of names can be carried out before the acceptance of the manuscript, but in addition to a written consent of all the authors, according to the EASE guidelines. Exceptionally, this change can also be carried out after the manuscript has been accepted.

1. **Responsibility of reviewers**

The reviewers are obliged to deal with the submitted manuscripts confidentially.

They should approach the evaluation of the paper objectively and warn the editor if they feel that they are not qualified in terms of the topic of the paper or if they suspect the identity of the author.

They should express their opinion clearly and with arguments, without derogatory and malicious comments.

The reviewers should alert the authors of relevant published papers that have not been cited.

The reviewers should adhere to the timelines suggested by the editorial board.