



## PUBLICATION ETHICS AND MALPRACTICE STATEMENT

The ethics statements for journal *Physiotherapia Croatica* are based to the Code of Conduct and Best Practice Guidelines for Journal Editors and the Code of Conduct for Journal Publishers of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE; <https://publications.org/>). The journal also follow the recommendations of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICJME; <http://www.icmje.org/>) and the World Association of Medical Editors (WAME; <https://wame.org/>).

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Submitted manuscripts are evaluated on the basis of their quality, suitability of a manuscript for the journal without regard to race, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief, ethnic origin, citizenship, institutional affiliation or political philosophy of the authors. The editor-in-chief has full authority over the entire editorial content of the journal and the timing of publication of that content.

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The Editor-in-Chief and editorial staff must not disclose any information about a received manuscript to anyone other except with the corresponding author, reviewers, potential reviewers, other editorial advisers, and the publisher.

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The Editor-in-Chief of the journal is responsible for deciding which of the submitted articles should be published based on the validity of the work, its importance to researchers and readers, the reviewers' comments, including legal requirements currently in force regarding libel, copyright infringement and plagiarism. The Editor-in-Chief may confer with other editors or reviewers in making publication decisions.

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Peer review helps the Editor-in-Chief and his/her team in making editorial decisions and, through the editorial communication with the author, may also assist the author in improving the manuscript.

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Any invited reviewer who feels unqualified to review the research reported in a manuscript or knows that a prompt review will be impossible should notify the Editor so that alternative reviewers can be contacted.

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Reviewers should identify relevant published work that has not been cited by the authors. Any statement that an observation, derivation, or argument had been previously reported should be accompanied by the relevant citation. A reviewer should also call to the Editor's attention any substantial similarity or overlap between the manuscript under consideration and any other data of which they have personal knowledge.

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The authors should ensure that they have written entirely original works, and if the authors have used the work and/or words of others that this has been appropriately cited. The Editors of the journal reserve their right to immediately reject manuscripts without peer-review in obvious cases of intended plagiarism. Plagiarism in all its forms constitutes unethical publishing behaviour and is unacceptable.

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Manuscript describing essentially the same research should not be published in more than one journal or primary publication. Submission of a manuscript concurrently to more than one journal constitutes unethical publishing behaviour and is unacceptable.

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Authorship should be limited to those who have made a significant contribution to the conception, design, analysis, or interpretation of the data for the work. All those who have made significant contributions should be listed as co-authors. Where there are others who have participated in certain substantive aspects of the research, they should be named in an Acknowledgments section. The corresponding author should ensure that all appropriate co-authors (according to the above definition) and no inappropriate co-authors are included in the author list of the manuscript, and 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 any financial or other substantive conflict of interest that might be construed to influence the results or their interpretation in the manuscript. All sources of financial support for the project should be disclosed.

### **Acknowledgement of sources**

Manuscript acknowledgment of the work of others should always be given. Authors should also cite publications that have been influential in determining the nature of the reported work.

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If the work involves chemicals, procedures or equipment that have any unusual hazards inherent in their use, the authors must clearly identify these in the manuscript.

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