PUBLICATION ETHICS AND MALPRACTICE STATEMENT


Obligations of Editors

Fair play and editorial independence

Editors evaluate submitted manuscripts exclusively on the basis of their academic merit (importance, originality, a study’s validity, and clarity) and its relevance to the journal’s scope, without regard to the authors’ race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic origin, citizenship, religious belief, political philosophy or institutional affiliation. The decisions to edit and publish are not determined by the policies of governments or any other agencies outside of the journal itself. 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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Editors and editorial board members will not use unpublished information disclosed in a submitted manuscript for their own research purposes without the authors’ explicit written consent. Editors will exclude themselves from considering manuscripts in which they have conflicts of interest resulting from competitive, collaborative, or other relationships/connections with any of the authors; instead, they will ask another member of the editorial board to handle the manuscript.

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The editors ensure that all submitted manuscripts being considered for publication undergo peer review by at least two reviewers who are expert in the field. The Editor-in-Chief is responsible for deciding which of the manuscripts submitted to the journal will be published, based on the validation of the work in question, its importance to researchers and readers, the reviewers’ comments, and such legal requirements as are currently in force regarding libel, copyright infringement and plagiarism. The Editor-in-Chief may confer with other editors or reviewers in making the decision on which of the manuscripts submitted to the journal will be published.

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Obligations of Reviewers

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A peer review assists editors in making editorial decisions and, through editorial communications with authors, may assist authors in improving their manuscripts. All scholars who wish to contribute to the scientific process have an obligation to do impartial reviews.

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Any reviewer who feels unqualified to review the research reported in a manuscript or knows that its prompt review will be impossible should immediately notify the editors and decline the invitation to review it so that alternative reviewers can be contacted.

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Papers describing essentially the same research should not be published in more than one journal or primary publication. Hence, authors should not submit for consideration a
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Authors should (generally by submitting a disclosure form at the time of submission and including a statement in the manuscript) disclose any conflicts of interest that might be construed to influence the results or their interpretation in the manuscript.

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Obligations of the Publisher

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