

## **PUBLICATION ETHICS AND MALPRACTICE STATEMENT**

### **Editorial Board Responsibilities**

- The Editorial Board is committed to maintaining the highest standards of publication ethics and takes all possible measures against any publication malpractices.
- The Editorial Board ensures the fair and unbiased review process for all submitted manuscripts, avoiding any conflict of interest.
- The Editorial Board guards the confidentiality of the submitted manuscripts and protects the identity of reviewers.

### **Authors' Responsibilities**

- Authors must ensure that their work is entirely original and has not been submitted elsewhere for publication.
- Authors must properly cite and acknowledge the sources of data used in the research.
- The submission of an individual or co-authored manuscript implies the consent of the author or co-authors with the submitted version of the manuscript as final.
- Authors should notify the editor of any errors found in their submitted manuscript and cooperate with the editorial team to rectify these.

### **Reviewers' Responsibilities**

- Reviewers must conduct the review process objectively and provide constructive feedback to improve the quality of the manuscript.
- Reviewers should disclose any conflicts of interest and report any ethical concerns related to the manuscript.
- Reviewers must keep the content of the manuscript and the review process confidential.

### **Publisher's Responsibilities**

- The publisher is committed to supporting the integrity of the publication process and addressing any ethical concerns promptly.
- The publisher ensures the accessibility of published content to the wider academic community and the public.

### **Adherence to Publication Standards:**

The Editorial Board, authors, and reviewers adhere to the guidelines provided by [COPE](#) to ensure ethical and professional standards throughout the research and publication process. The aim is to support academic honesty, integrity, and transparency in all aspects of the publication process, contributing thus to the credibility and reputation of the journal.

### **Correction and retraction policy**

#### **Data Correction in Published Articles**

- In the process of evaluating papers, the editorial board of the journal adheres to ethical principles and editorial standards.

- All submitted manuscripts undergo a double-blind peer review process.
- Corrections to the papers should be made before the publication of the current issue. The editorial team provides authors with a digital proof for review, allowing them to make any necessary corrections.
- If a significant error is identified by the author in the published paper, a correction is submitted to the editorial board (*erratum*), and readers are informed about it in the next issue.

#### **Retraction of Published Articles**

- If authors discover a deficiency in their published article that affects the accuracy of the results, they may retract the paper, with the online edition indicating that the article has been "withdrawn by the author." The link to the retracted article will remain active, but it will be clearly marked as withdrawn by the author.
- If editors, reviewers, or readers notice that data in the paper (or part of it) is fabricated or the research was not conducted in accordance with ethical principles, the editorial board will consider the report. In the case of ethical violations by the author, the Editorial board will retract the article, marking it as "withdrawn by the Editorial board." The link to the retracted article will remain active, but it will be clearly marked as withdrawn by the Editorial board.
- Each retraction procedure is carried out in accordance with the guidelines of the COPE (<https://publicationethics.org/sites/default/files/retraction-guidelines-cope.pdf>)