

DECLARATION OF
EDITORIAL ETHICS AND
BEST PRACTICES

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In order to achieve the highest international ethical standards, this journal adheres to the international standards published by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), and the Publishing Ethics Resource Kit (PERK), developed by the Elsevier publishing group.

The central objective of this declaration of ethics and editorial best practices, in addition to ensuring the scientific and/or academic quality of the manuscripts published, is to guarantee clarity and transparency in the editorial processes. For this reason, it is necessary that all participants—members of the Editorial Committee and the Editorial Support Committee, authors, and peer reviewers—fully and consistently comply with the established ethical guidelines. In addition to ensuring quality and reliability, this will prevent the emergence of conflicts or, in case of occurrence, will facilitate their resolution.

The members of the Editorial Committee and Editorial Support Committee must ensure:

- Knowledge and application of the guidelines established in the Code of Conduct and Best Practice Guidelines for Journal Editors¹, approved by the COPE Council in 2011, based on the original guidelines from 1999, the Code of Conduct developed in 2003, and the Best Practice Guidelines developed in 2007.
- Compliance with current legal aspects regarding defamation, copyright infringement, and plagiarism.
- Transparency in the selection of manuscripts and in the processes of evaluation and publication.
- Effective, timely, and confidential communication mechanisms between their members, as well as with authors and reviewers.

¹Committee on Publication Ethics - COPE (2011). Code of Conduct and Best Practice Guidelines for Journal Editors. Available at: <https://cutt.ly/xbavSa2>

- Adherence to international ethics standards in research and publishing in all scientific and editorial processes related to the journal.

Authors must ensure:

- The absence of any type or level of fraud, plagiarism, or self-plagiarism in the information contained in the manuscripts.
- The existence and legality of ethical approvals and other regulatory requirements in the publication of research involving human subjects, the use of live animals, or biological diversity resources.
- Timely execution of tasks derived from the peer review and publication process.
- Exclusivity in manuscript submission, meaning that simultaneous submissions of the same manuscript to other journals or already published manuscripts are not allowed.
- The legality of manuscript authorship and designation of the corresponding author, as well as the absence of conflicts of interest with any party involved in the process.

Peer reviewers must ensure:

- Knowledge and application of the guidelines established in the Code of Conduct and Best Practice Guidelines for Journal Editors², approved by the COPE Council in 2011, based on the original guidelines from 1999, the Code of Conduct developed in 2003, and the Best Practice Guidelines developed in 2007.
- The absence of disqualifications or conflicts of interest with any party involved in the process.
- Timely responses to review requests and submission of sufficiently structured assessments.
- The execution of independent, objective, scientific, methodical, and rigorous review processes.
- The confidentiality of all information.

²Committee on Publication Ethics - COPE (2011). Code of Conduct and Best Practice Guidelines for Journal Editors. Available at: <https://cutt.ly/xbavSa2>