

## **Publication ethics and malpractice statement**

IJACS follow the COPE Best Practice guidelines and this statement is based on the guidelines and standards developed by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE).

### **DUTIES OF EDITORS**

**Decision on the Publication of Articles:** The Editor-in-chief of IJACS is responsible to make the decision regarding publication of submitted articles. The Editor-in-chief may be guided by the policies of the journal's editorial board and subjected to such legal requirements. The Editor is authorized to carry out the decision in consultation with reviewers and editorial board members.

**Fair play:** The manuscripts should be evaluated solely on their intellectual merit without regard to authors' race, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief, ethnic origin, citizenship, or political philosophy.

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**Contribution of Peer Review:** Peer review assists the Editor in making editorial decisions and editorial communications helps the author to improve his paper.

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**Confidentiality:** Information or ideas obtained through peer review must be kept confidential and not used for personal advantage.

**Conflict of Interest:** Reviewers should not review manuscripts in which they have conflicts of interest resulting from competitive, collaborative, or other relationships or connections with any of the authors, companies, or institutions connected to the papers.

## **DUTIES OF AUTHORS**

**Reporting standards:** Authors of the original research article must present the accurate data of work performed during their research. Authors are also expected to discuss the objective of their work and the significance of their results. An article should contain the sufficient information and references to ensure the reproducibility of the work. Fraudulent or knowingly inaccurate statements considered as unethical behavior and are unacceptable.

**Data Access and Retention:** Authors may be asked to provide the raw/supplementary data for a paper that is under editorial review. The authors should be prepared to provide the public access to these data (if practicable) and to retain such data for a reasonable time after the publication.

**Originality and Plagiarism:** Authors should ensure the originality of their contents, while preparing a manuscript draft. In case the authors have used the work and/or words of others this must be appropriately cited or quoted. All the articles submitted to IJACS shall be screened for plagiarism using iThenticate (online plagiarism detection software). In case, plagiarism is detected during review/editorial process, such manuscript(s) will be rejected immediately. If the plagiarism is proven after publication, such manuscript(s) will be retracted from the journal and appropriate announcement will be placed in this regards. We can also consider appropriate action against authors depending upon the seriousness of the case which includes;

Debarring the authors from publication in future.

Such incidents shall be bring to the notice of author's funding agencies, author's institutes (where they works) and to the original authors whose work has been plagiarized.

COPE flow charts will also be considered while dealing with plagiarism complaints.

Suspected plagiarism in a submitted manuscript

Suspected plagiarism in a published manuscript

Redundant or duplicate submission/publication

Duplicate or redundant submission is the same manuscript (or the same data) that is submitted to different journals at the same time. International copyright laws, ethical conduct, and cost effective use of resources require that readers can be assured that what they are reading is original (Read ICMJE recommendations)

An author should not publish manuscripts that describe the same concept or present the similar data, in more than one journal. Submitting the same manuscript to multiple journals constitutes unethical publishing behavior and is unacceptable. If the editor was not aware of the violation and the article has been published, a notice of duplicate submission and the ethical violation will be published.

**Acknowledgement of Sources:** Authors should provide the proper acknowledgment for the work of others. Authors should cite publications that have been influential in determining the nature of the reported work.

**Authorship of the Paper and corresponding author:** Only the contributors who have made a significant contribution in the conception, design, execution, or interpretation of the reported study should be titled as author. All those who have made significant contributions should be listed as co-authors. Corresponding author is the author responsible for communicating with the journal for publication. The corresponding author should ensure that no inappropriate contributors are listed as co-authors in the paper. All the co-authors should check the final draft of the manuscript before submitting it to the journal.

**Acknowledgment of Funding Sources:** All the funding sources must be properly acknowledged.

**Disclosure and Conflicts of Interest:** All the authors should disclose the possible financial or other substantive conflict of interest that might be influence the results or interpretation of their manuscript.

**Fundamental errors in published works:** When an author discovers a significant error or inaccuracy in his/her own published work, he should promptly notify the journal editor or publisher and cooperate with the editor to retract or correct the paper.

## **DUTIES OF THE PUBLISHER**

The publisher is supposed to protect the intellectual property and copyright of the contents submitted by the authors. We respect the privacy and personal data, especially for authors and peer reviewers. We works in close co-operation with the editors and peer reviewers in to maintain the editorial independence, and to guarantee transparency and integrity in peer-review process.

In cases of alleged or proven scientific misconduct, fraudulent publication or plagiarism the publisher, in close collaboration with the editors, will take all appropriate measures to clarify the situation and to amend the article in question.

## **PUBLISHING ETHICS ISSUES**

**Monitoring:** The EIC must ensure to establish the mechanism for monitoring and safeguarding of publishing ethics. All the complaint received from the reviewers or the authors or anybody else should be taken into the proper consideration and an appropriate action should be taken promptly for such complaints.

**Retraction & Corrections:** The published articles will be retracted if there is clear evidence that the findings are unreliable. The retraction can be a result of scientific misconduct or

honest error. To maintain the integrity of the scientific record, the retracted article will not be removed from the journal's website, however a notice of retraction will be posted and is made freely available to all readers. Retraction can be published by the authors or the editor or the publisher. In rare cases involving legal infringement, the Publisher may remove an article. Bibliographic information about the article will be retained to ensure the integrity of the scientific record. We follow the COPE guidelines in such case. Sometimes it may be necessary to publish corrections/erratum in an article published in the Journal to maintain the integrity of the academic record. An appropriate notice regarding the correction will be placed and made freely available to the readers. We are always willing to publish corrections, clarifications, retractions and apologies when needed.

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If an article found to violate the ethical publishing guidelines of the journal such as duplicate submission, fraudulent data, plagiarism, false claim of authorship etc. the article will be withdrawn by the journal. In case the article is under 'Online first' stage the journal will remove the article from website and an appropriate note for article withdrawal will be posted.

No response from the authors to journal communication after review and provisional acceptance is also considered as withdrawal of article.

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