

NATIONAL RESEARCH & JOURNAL PUBLICATION

ETHICS AND INTEGRITY

Publishing ethics & Malpractice Statement

NRJP Journals is committed to upholding ethical standards and publisher's integrity towards the journals' authors, editors and the members of academic community.

In the stride to maintain these high standards, we list down few essential guidelines for academic authors, reviewers and journal editors. The publication of a research paper, case study, short communication in a peer-reviewed journal is an important building entity in the development of a knowledge repository. In an age of information abundance, it is very important and vital to help readers and research scholars to segregate quality information. It is mirror reflection of the quality work of the authors and the publishers who support them. NRJP Journals understand the importance of publication ethics and we had established standards of ethical behavior for all parties involved such as the authors, the peer review experts, the editors, and the publisher. NRJP Journals is committed to ensuring robust peer review and ethical standards in publication and quality of articles. Strict adherence to standards of ethical practices as defined by Code of Conduct of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) is expected from all the parties involved: Editors, Authors, Expert Reviewers and the Publisher. We work to educate researchers, authors, contributors, reviewers, and editors on understanding and delivering those standards, in partnership with others. NRJP Journals is committed to supporting stringent peer review process, scientific, ethical and quality standards in publishing and as such we work hard to educate researchers, authors, board members, editors and reviewers on understanding and meeting those standards, as a team. NRJP Journals ensures that all the publications are refereed and complied with Peer Review Process. The guidelines are given below to help authors, peer reviewers and editors in keeping a check on the areas like work integrity, conflict of interest, plagiarism, validity of science, adaptations of the existing material, adequacy of context, avoidance of unethical experimentation, and authorship disputes.

Role & responsibility of Publishers:

- Editorial autonomy
- Intellectual property and copyright
- Scientific misconduct

ETHICAL GUIDELINES FOR AUTHORS

We expect authors, submitting their manuscripts to NRJP Journals, to agree upon the expected ethical guidelines:

- Authors must adhere to the fact that their work is original and does not infringe the intellectual property rights of any party, person or entity. Scientific articles are deemed to be free of plagiarism and therefore, cannot be construed on existing publications, including their own previously published work.
- All authors, associated with the development of the manuscript with significant scientific contribution, must be mentioned on the title page since each of them holds equal rights regarding accountability for the content. One of the authors must represent as the corresponding author, who will be in contact till the publication process is completed.

- All co-authors consent to publication and being named as co-author must be presented through the Copyright Transfer Agreement by the Corresponding author.
- The manuscript, submitted to any of the NRJP Journals, should not be the sole submission. The same should not be submitted simultaneously to any other journal.
- Authors should clearly declare that the work is not published before and it is not based in substance on any previously published material, either in whole or in part.
- Authors must ensure to cite all relevant references appropriately in the Vancouver format. Any information, useful to the manuscript, which is obtained from sources such as conversations, correspondence, or discussion with some third party, should be reported or cited in the reference section. Prior permission must be taken from that third party before citing the same.
- Manuscripts must include all appropriate and necessary instructions and warnings, relating to the specific experiment conducted in the study. It is advisable to provide any safety guidelines or prevalent code of practice as reference in the manuscript.
- The data sets or databases described in the article must be facilitated with access details for the readers to refer, if needed.
- Authors should describe any potential conflict of interest which could be held to arise with respect to the article content. The same can be declared in a cover letter and shall be submitted to the journal.
- Authors must disclose information of all funders or sources of funding for the research conducted in the article.

Duties of Authors

Reporting standards

Authors of reports of original research should present an accurate account of the work performed as well as an objective discussion of its significance. Underlying data should be represented accurately in the paper. A paper should contain sufficient detail and references to permit others to replicate the work. Fraudulent or knowingly inaccurate statements constitute unethical behavior and are unacceptable.

Data Access and Retention

Authors are asked to provide the raw data in connection with a paper for editorial review, and should be prepared to provide public access to such data, if practicable, and should in any event be prepared to retain such data for a reasonable time after publication.

Originality of work to be publish

The authors should ensure that they have written entirely original works, and if the authors have used the work of others that this has been appropriately cited or quoted.

Multiple, Redundant or Concurrent Publication

An author should not in general publish manuscripts describing essentially the same research in more than one journal or primary publication. Submitting the same manuscript to more than one journal concurrently constitutes unethical publishing behavior and is unacceptable.

Acknowledgement of Sources

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

Authorship of the Paper

Authorship should be limited to those who have made a significant contribution to the conception, design, execution, or interpretation of the reported study. 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 project, they should be acknowledged or listed as contributors. The corresponding author should ensure that all appropriate co-

authors and no inappropriate co-authors are included on the paper, 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 in their manuscript any financial or other substantive conflict of interest that might be construed to influence the results or interpretation of their manuscript. All sources of financial support for the project should be disclosed. Fundamental errors in published works. When an author discovers a significant error or inaccuracy in own published work, it is the author's obligation to promptly notify the journal editor or publisher and cooperate with the editor to retract or correct the paper.

Handling Publication Misconduct:

We have Advisory Board members which advises editors and publishers on all aspects of publication ethics and, in particular, how to handle cases of research and publication misconduct. It also provides a platform for its stakeholders to discuss such misconduct cases and encourages journal editors to ensure that cases are investigated by the appropriate expert's teams.

Plagiarism:

All our journals are committed to publishing only original contents, i.e., contents that have neither been published in other journals, nor are under review elsewhere. Plagiarism in any form is not accepted and if found, it is notified to all the stakeholders and necessary actions will be taken and will incur plagiarism penalty. Corrected articles will be verified once again to ensure that it does not have plagiarism issues.

Duplicate Submission or redundant publication:

Multiple submissions are considered to be a serious academic misbehavior. Even when a publication fee is paid, it wastes the time and work of the editors and other stakeholders, and contributes to the problem it is intended to solve, the slow speed of editorial review. Scientific articles that are found to have been under review in other journal publishers, or to be published elsewhere, will incur duplicate submission penalties. The penalty will be decided by the Advisory board members. If contributors have used their already published work, or work that is currently under review, as the basis for a submitted work, they are required to quote or cite the previous work and indicate how their submitted work offers novel contributions beyond those of the previous work.

Improper Author Attribution:

All listed authors are expected to make significant scientific contributions to the research in the article and authenticated all its claims. It is important to list everyone who made a significant scientific contribution, including students, lecturers, professors, laboratory assistants & technicians.

Data Falsification:

Submitted research materials that are found to have falsified experimental outcomes will incur falsification penalty. The penalty will be decided by the Advisory board members.

Citation Manipulation:

Citation Manipulated articles are those articles that are found to include citations whose objective is to increase the number of citations to a given author's work, or to articles published in a particular journal. These Citation Manipulated manuscripts will incur penalty. The penalty will be decided by the Advisory board members.

ETHICAL GUIDELINES FOR PEER REVIEWERS

All peer reviewers must make every reasonable effort to adhere to enlisted ethical guidelines for reviewing articles submitted to NRJP Journals:

- Reviewers must give unbiased consideration to the manuscript solely on the basis of its merits.
- Reviewers should bring to the journal editor's notice any potential conflict of interest with regards to the content of the research article, prior to reviewing the same.
- Reviewers must maintain confidentiality with reference to the manuscript, its research information and correspondence cited in the reference, if any. The manuscript should, in no case, be shared with a third party, external to the peer review process.
- Referees should develop a comprehensive and appropriately evidenced peer review report, with constructive feedback for the author to work on.
- Any statement, which might be impugning to any person's reputation, should be avoided.
- Reviewers should strive to stand up to the specified deadlines to ensure submission and publication in a timely manner.
- Reviewers should declare any significant similarity, if found between the article under consideration and any published paper of which they are aware.

Duties of Reviewers

Contribution to Editorial Decisions

Peer review assists the editor in making editorial decisions and through the editorial communications with the author may also assist the author in improving the paper.

Promptness

Any selected referee who feels unqualified to review the research reported in a manuscript or knows that its prompt review will be impossible should notify the editor and excuse himself from the review process.

Confidentiality

Any manuscripts received for review must be treated as confidential documents. They must not be shown to or discussed with others except as authorized by the editor.

Standards of Objectivity

Reviews should be conducted objectively. Personal criticism of the author is inappropriate. Referees should express their views clearly with supporting arguments.

Acknowledgement of Sources

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 published paper of which they have personal knowledge.

Disclosure and Conflict of Interest

Privileged information or ideas obtained through peer review must be kept confidential and not used for personal advantage. Reviewers should not consider 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.

ETHICAL GUIDELINES FOR JOURNAL EDITORS

Significant ethical guidelines that all journal editors must comply with are as given below:

- Editors must give unbiased consideration to the manuscript solely on the basis of its merits.

- Editors must maintain confidentiality with reference to the manuscript, research information and correspondence cited in the reference, if any. The manuscript should, in no case, be shared with a third party, external to the peer review process.
- Any claim received against the submitted article that the same is being under consideration elsewhere or has already been published, should be called to the journal editor's attention for the latter to investigate further.
- Editors hold the authority to accept or reject a submitted manuscript without resort to formal peer review if the manuscript is found inappropriate to the journal's scope or entails plagiarized content.
- Editors should strive to stand up to the specified deadlines to ensure submission and publication in a timely manner.

NRJP Journals recommend authors, peer reviewers and editors to comply with the aforementioned ethical code of conduct.

Duties of Editor

Publication decisions

The editor of the journal is responsible for deciding which of the articles submitted to the journal should be published. The editor may be guided by the policies of the journal's editorial board and constrained by such legal requirements as shall then be in force regarding libel, copyright infringement and plagiarism. The editor may confer with other editors or reviewers in making this decision.

Fair play

An editor will at any time evaluate manuscripts for their intellectual content without regard to race, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief, ethnic origin, citizenship, or political philosophy of the authors.

Confidentiality

The editor and any editorial staff must not disclose any information about a submitted manuscript to anyone other than the corresponding author, reviewers, potential reviewers, other editorial advisers, and the publisher, as appropriate.

Disclosure and conflicts of interest

Unpublished materials disclosed in a submitted manuscript must not be used in an editor's own research without the express written consent of the author.

NRJP Journals follows strict Code of Conduct and aims to adhere to its Best Practice Guidelines