

Publication Ethics and Malpractice Statement

Revista Emergencias Pediátricas

The Emergencias Pediátricas Journal and its Editor, the Spanish Society of Pediatric Emergency Medicine (SEUP) and the Latin American Society of Pediatric Emergency Medicine (SLEPE), adhere to the Code of Conduct and Best Practice Guidelines for Journal Editors and the Code of Conduct for Journal Editors from COPE. Additionally, they follow the Recommendations of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals. Authors, reviewers, and editors are expected to follow the best practice guidelines on ethical behavior contained in these documents. Below is a selection of key points, but the above-mentioned documents can be consulted for more detailed information.

Duties of Editors

Fair Play and Editorial Independence

Editors evaluate submitted manuscripts exclusively based on their academic merit (importance, originality, study validity, clarity) and their relevance to the journal's scope and specialization, regardless of the authors' race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic origin, citizenship, religious beliefs, political philosophy, or institutional affiliation. Editorial and publication decisions are not determined by government policies or other agencies outside 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.

Confidentiality

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

Disclosure and Conflicts of Interest

Editors and editorial board members will not use unpublished information disclosed in a submitted manuscript for their own research purposes without the explicit written consent of the authors. Privileged information or ideas obtained through handling the manuscript will be kept confidential and not used for personal advantage. Editors will recuse themselves from considering manuscripts in which they have conflicts of interest resulting from competitive, collaborative, or other relationships with any of the authors, companies, or institutions connected to the articles. They will ask another editor to handle the manuscript.

Publication Decisions

Editors ensure that all submitted manuscripts considered for publication undergo peer review by at least two experts in the field, and where possible, one reviewer appointed by SEUP and another by SLEPE. The Editor-in-Chief and Associate Editors are responsible for deciding which of the submitted manuscripts to the journal will be published, based on the validation of the work in question, its importance to

researchers and readers, and the reviewers' comments. In cases of discrepancy between reviewers, a third reviewer will be consulted, although the final publication decision rests with the editors.

Participation and Cooperation in Investigations

Editors will act when ethical concerns are raised with a submitted manuscript or published article. Each reported act of unethical publishing behavior will be investigated, even if discovered years after publication. Editors follow COPE flowcharts when dealing with cases of suspected misconduct. If, after investigation, the ethical concern is well-founded, a correction, retraction, expression of concern, or another relevant note will be published.

Duties of Reviewers

Contribution to Editorial Decisions

Peer review assists editors in making editorial decisions and, through editorial communications with authors, may assist authors in improving their manuscripts. Peer review is an essential component of formal scholarly communication and lies at the heart of the scientific effort. Emergencias Pediátricas believes that all professionals who wish to contribute to the scientific process are obligated to perform fair reviews. Promptness Any invited reviewer who feels unqualified to review the manuscript or knows that their review timing will not meet the proposed deadlines should immediately notify the editors and decline the invitation so that alternative reviewers can be contacted.

Confidentiality

Any manuscript received for review must be treated as a confidential document. It must not be shown to or discussed with others except as authorized by the Editor-in-Chief. This also applies to invited reviewers who decline the review invitation.

Standards of Objectivity Reviews should be conducted objectively, and observations should be formulated clearly with supporting arguments to help authors improve their manuscripts. Personal criticism of the authors is inappropriate and does not reflect the principles of Emergencias Pediatricas.

Acknowledgment of Sources Reviewers should identify relevant published work that has not been cited by the authors. Any statement that is an observation, derivation, or argument that has been previously reported should be accompanied by the relevant citation. A reviewer should also notify editors of any substantial similarity or overlap between the manuscript under consideration and any other manuscript (published or unpublished).

Disclosure and Conflicts of Interest

Any invited reviewer who has conflicts of interest resulting from competitive, collaborative, or other relationships or connections with any of the authors, companies, or institutions connected to the manuscript and the work described therein should immediately notify the editors to decline the invitation so that alternative reviewers can be contacted. Unpublished material disclosed in a submitted manuscript must not be used in a reviewer's own research without the

express written consent of the authors. Privileged information or ideas obtained through peer review must be kept confidential and not used for personal advantage. This also applies to invited reviewers who decline the review invitation.

Duties of Authors

Reporting Standards

Authors of original research should present an accurate account of the work performed and its results, followed by an objective discussion of its significance. The manuscript should contain sufficient detail and references to allow others to replicate the work. Review articles should be accurate, objective, and comprehensive, while editorials or opinion pieces/letters to the editor should be clearly identified as such. Fraudulent or knowingly inaccurate statements constitute unethical behavior and are unacceptable.

Data Access and Retention

Authors may be asked to provide raw data in connection with a paper for editorial review and should be prepared to make the data publicly available if possible. In any case, authors should ensure that such data are accessible to other competent professionals for at least ten years after publication (preferably via institutional or recognized data repositories), provided that the confidentiality of participants and legal rights concerning proprietary data do not preclude their release.

Originality and Plagiarism

Authors should ensure that they have written and submit only entirely original works, and if they have used the work and/or words of others, this has been appropriately cited. Publications that have been influential in determining the nature of the work reported in the manuscript should also be cited. Plagiarism takes many forms, from "passing off" another's paper as the author's own, to copying or paraphrasing substantial parts of another's paper (without attribution), to claiming results from research conducted by others. Plagiarism in all its forms constitutes unethical publishing behavior and is unacceptable.

Multiple, Duplicate, Redundant, or Concurrent Submission/Publication

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 manuscript that has already been published in another journal. Submission of a manuscript concurrently to more than one journal is unethical publishing behavior and unacceptable. The publication of some kinds of articles (such as clinical guidelines, translations) in more than one journal is sometimes justifiable, provided that certain conditions are met. The authors and editors of the journals concerned must agree to the secondary publication, which must reflect the same data and interpretation of the primary document. The primary reference must be cited in the secondary publication.

Authorship of the Manuscript

Only persons who meet these authorship criteria should be listed as authors in the manuscript, as they must be able to take public responsibility for the content: (i) made significant contributions to the conception, design, execution, data acquisition, or analysis/interpretation of the study; and (ii) drafted the manuscript or revised it critically for important intellectual content; and (iii) have seen and approved the final version of the paper and agreed to its submission for publication. All persons who made substantial contributions to the work reported in the manuscript (such as technical help, writing and editing assistance, general support) but who do not meet the criteria for authorship must not be listed as an author, but should be acknowledged in the "Acknowledgments" section after their written permission to be named has been obtained. The corresponding author should ensure that all appropriate coauthors and no inappropriate coauthors are included in the author list and verify that all coauthors have seen and approved the final version of the manuscript and agreed to its submission.

Disclosure and Conflicts of Interest

Authors should—at the earliest stage possible (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. Examples of potential conflicts of interest that should be disclosed include financial ones such as honoraria, educational grants or other funding, participation in speakers' bureaus, membership, employment, consultancies, stock ownership, or other equity interest, and paid expert testimony or patent-licensing arrangements, as well as non-financial ones such as personal or professional relationships, affiliations, knowledge or beliefs in the subject matter or materials discussed in the manuscript. All sources of financial support for the work should be disclosed (including the grant number or other reference number, if any).

Acknowledgment of Sources

Authors should ensure that they have properly acknowledged the work of others and should also cite publications that have been influential in determining the nature of the reported work. Information obtained privately (from conversation, correspondence, or discussion with third parties) must not be used or reported without explicit, written permission from the source. Authors should not use information obtained while providing confidential services, such as refereeing manuscripts or grant applications, unless they have obtained the explicit written permission of the author(s) of the work involved in these services.

Hazards and Human or Animal Subjects

If the study involves chemicals, procedures, or equipment that have any unusual hazards inherent in their use, the authors must clearly identify these in the manuscript. If the work involves the use of animals or human participants, the authors should ensure that all procedures were performed in compliance with relevant laws and institutional guidelines, and that the appropriate institutional committee(s) approved them; the manuscript should contain a statement to this

effect. Authors should also include a statement in the manuscript that informed consent was obtained for experimentation with human participants. The privacy rights of human participants must always be observed.

Peer Review

Authors are obliged to participate in the peer review process and cooperate fully by promptly responding to editors' requests for raw data, clarifications, and proof of ethical approval, consent from patients, and copyright permissions. In the case of a first decision of "revisions required," authors should respond systematically, point by point, to reviewers' comments, revising and resubmitting their manuscript to the journal by the given deadline.

Fundamental Errors in Published articles

When authors discover significant errors or inaccuracies in their own published work, it is their obligation to promptly notify the editors or the journal editor and cooperate to correct the paper in the form of an erratum or retraction of the paper. If the editors or the editor learn from a third party that a published work contains a significant error, it is the authors' obligation to promptly correct or retract the paper or provide evidence to the editors of the correctness of the original paper.

Duties of the Publisher

Handling of Unethical Publishing Behavior

In cases of alleged or proven scientific misconduct, fraudulent publication, or plagiarism, the editor, in close collaboration with the associated editors, will take all appropriate measures to clarify the situation and amend the affected article. This includes the prompt publication of an erratum, clarification, or in the most severe case, the retraction of the affected work. The editor, together with the associated editors, will take reasonable steps to identify and prevent the publication of papers where research misconduct has occurred.

Access to Journal Content

The Editor is committed to the permanent availability and preservation of scholarly research and ensures accessibility, maintaining digital archives. The content of *Emergencias Pediátricas* is archived in perpetuity in the databases of SEUP and SLEPE.