

Reviewer Guidelines

Peer review is done to improve the quality of the manuscript under review. Though peer review is a time-consuming task, it is very essential to ensure the quality of scientific journals and manuscripts published therein. The journal is very grateful and acknowledges the time and efforts invested by Reviewers in the review process.

The reviewer is bestowed with the responsibility of critically reading and evaluating the manuscript in hand. They are encouraged to provide respectful, constructive, and honest feedback to authors about their manuscripts. In the process of peer reviewing, Reviewers are requested to comment in a way that encourages authors to improve the strength and quality of the work.

The journal uses a wide range of sources to identify potential reviewers. The sources include the members of the editorial board, their contacts, scientific work available in public domains, personal contacts, bibliographic databases, and potential reviewers as suggested by the Authors. Reviewers' assessment and their comments play a major role in the decision regarding the acceptance or rejection of manuscripts

Reviewers must consider the following points while accepting and reviewing the manuscript

- Reviews must be conducted fairly and objectively
- Reviewers must always avoid personal criticism of the author.
- Criticism should always be objective and a possible way out should be suggested by the Reviewer.
- Reviewer must always hide their identity. They must avoid any clue that can reveal their identity.
- Reviewer must decline the offer to peer review if any conflicting interest arises.
- They must maintain the confidentiality of the manuscript and the process as a whole.
- The reviewer needs to fill out a form during peer review of the manuscript.
- The reviewer can also comment or write to the editor.

Reviewers are requested to consider following points in reviewing any manuscript

- Is the topic of the manuscript significant and appropriate for the Journal?
- Does the manuscript comply with the Instructions for Authors?
- Do the title, abstract, keywords, introduction, and conclusions reflect the core issues of the manuscript?
- Is the manuscript well-written and free of major grammatical errors?
- Is the aim clearly stated and whether the methodologies were followed accordingly?
- Is the research ethical and is having appropriate consent from patients, boards or governments whichever is applicable?
- Are the results obtained in social science analysed and conclusions drawn as per social science principles and interpretation?
- Is there any clue about the manipulation of data or biases in concluding?
- Are all tables and figures clearly labelled, self-descriptive, and understandable by users?
- Are conclusions supported with facts and data?
- Are the references cited appropriate to support the manuscript? Are references cited follow the reference style of the Journal? Is any landmark work or citation missing in the manuscript?

COPE Guidelines for Peer Reviewers

<https://publicationethics.org/resources/guidelines/cope-ethical-guidelines-peer-reviewers>