

## Publication ethics and malpractice statement

### A) Authors

#### 1. Publication and authorship:

- The research being reported should have been conducted in an ethical and responsible manner and should comply with all relevant legislation.
- Authors should present their results clearly, honestly, and without fabrication, falsification or inappropriate data manipulation.
- Authors should strive to describe their methods clearly and unambiguously so that their findings can be confirmed by others.
- Authors should adhere to publication requirements that submitted work is original, is not plagiarized<sup>1</sup>, and has not been published elsewhere.
- Authors should take collective responsibility for submitted and published work.
- The authorship of research publications should accurately reflect individuals' contributions to the work and its reporting.
- Authors must list all references used in/for the article and should not copy references from other publications if they have not read the cited work.
- Funding sources and relevant conflicts of interest<sup>2</sup> should be disclosed.

#### 2. Author's responsibility:

- Only people who contributed significantly to the research and/or article can be listed as 'author'. People who contributed in a lesser role must be acknowledged as 'contributor'.
- Authors are obliged to participate in peer review process and should follow publisher's requirements.
- Authors should inform the editor if they withdraw their work from review or choose not to respond to reviewers comment after receiving a conditional acceptance.
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- Authors should respond appropriately to post-publication comments and published correspondence. They should attempt to answer correspondents' questions and supply clarification or additional details where needed.
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- Authors should work with the editor or publisher to correct their work promptly if errors or omissions are discovered after publication.

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