**Publication Ethics and Malpractice Statement requirements:**

June 2015

**1. Editorial Board**

- Journals should have editorial boards or other governing bodies whose members are recognized experts in the field. The full names and affiliations of the members should be provided on the journal’s Web site.

- Journals shall provide contact information for the editorial office on the journal’s Web site.

**2. Authors and Authors responsibilities**

- Any fees or charges that are required for manuscript processing and/or publishing materials in the journal shall be clearly stated in a place before authors begin preparing their manuscript for submission.

- Authors are obliged to participate in peer review process.

- All authors have significantly contributed to the research.

- All authors are obliged to provide retractions or corrections of mistakes.

- List of references, financial support.

- Forbidden to publish same research in more than one journal.

**3. Peer-review process**

- All of a journal’s content should be subjected to peer-review.

- Peer-review is defined as obtaining advice on individual manuscripts from reviewers’ expert in the field.

- It should be clearly described on the journal’s Web site.

- Judgments should be objective.

- Reviewers should have no conflict of interest.

- Reviewers should point out relevant published work which is not yet cited.

- Reviewed articles should be treated confidentially.

**4. Publication ethics**

- Publishers and editors shall take reasonable steps to identify and prevent the publication of papers where research misconduct has occurred.

- In no case shall a journal or its editors encourage such misconduct, or knowingly allow such misconduct to take place.

- In the event that a journal’s publisher or editors are made aware of any allegation of research misconduct the publisher or editor shall deal with allegations appropriately.

- The journal should have guidelines for retracting or correcting articles when needed.

- Publishers and editors should always be willing to publish corrections, clarifications, retractions and apologies when needed.

- All research studies on humans (individuals, samples or data) must have been performed in accordance with the principles stated in the Malpractice Statement. Prior to starting the study, ethical approval must have been obtained for all protocols ((e.g., ethical approval, consent, participant anonymity, etc) from the local Institutional Review Board (IRB).

**5. Copyright and Access**

- Copyright and licensing information shall be clearly described on the journal’s Web site.

- The way(s) in which the journal and individual articles are available to readers and whether there are associated subscriptions, or pay-per-view fees should be stated.

**6. Archiving**

- A journal’s plan for electronic backup and preservation of access to the journal content in the event a journal is no longer published shall be clearly indicated.

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Further principles of transparency and best practice:

**7. Ownership and management**

- Information about the ownership and/or management of a journal shall be clearly indicated on the journal’s Web site.

- Publishers shall not use organizational names that would mislead potential authors and editors about the nature of the journal’s owner.

**8. Web site**

- A journal’s Web site, including the text that it contains, shall demonstrate that care has been taken to ensure high ethical and professional standards.

**9. Publishing schedule**

- For serial publications, the periodicity at which a journal publishes should be clearly indicated.

**10. Name of journal**

- The Journal name shall be unique and not be one that is easily confused with another journal or that might mislead potential authors and readers about the Journal’s origin or association with other journals