Publication Ethics and Malpractice Statement
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1. ABSTRACT

The ethics publication and malpractice statement publication of the Frontiers in Bioscience is primarily based on the Code of Conduct and Best-Practice Guidelines for Journal Editors (1). Editors are accountable for everything published in Frontiers in Bioscience meaning that the editors follow the guideline below

1.2. Strive to meet the needs of readers and authors;
1.3. Strive to constantly improve the journal;
1.4. Have processes in place to assure the quality of the material that are published;
1.5. Support freedom of expression;
1.6. Maintain the integrity of the academic record by highest standard of review;
1.7. Put aside business needs from compromising intellectual and ethical standards;
1.8. Publish corrections, clarifications, retractions and apologies when needed;
1.9. Actively seeking the views of authors, readers, reviewers and editorial board members about ways of improving journal’s processes;
2.0. Encouraging and being aware of research into peer review and publishing and reassessing Journal’s processes in the light of new findings
2.1. Persuade publisher to provide appropriate resources, and guidance from experts (e.g. Designers, lawyers);
2.2. Support initiatives designed to reduce research and publication misconduct;
2.2. Support initiatives to educate researchers about publication ethics;
2.3. Assess the effects of journal policies on author and reviewer behaviour and revising policies, as required, to encourage responsible behaviour and discourage misconduct;
2.4. Ensure that any press releases issued by journal reflect the message of the reported article and put it into context ensuring that all published reports and reviews of research have been reviewed by suitably qualified reviewers (including statistical review where appropriate)

2.5. Ensure that non-peer-reviewed sections of journal are clearly identified

2.6. Adopt processes that encourage accuracy, completeness and clarity of research reporting including technical edit and support the use of appropriate guidelines;

2.7. Consider to develop a transparency policy to encourage maximum disclosure about the provenance of non-research articles;

2.8. Adopting authorship or contributorship systems that promote good practice;

2.1. Inform readers about steps taken to ensure that submissions from members of the journal staff or editorial board receive an objective and unbiased evaluation

2. EDITORS’ RESPONSIBILITIES

2.2. Publication decisions

Frontiers in Bioscience has two tiers of editors; Managing editors and Editor-in-Chief. The managing editor makes a special issue in the Encyclopedia of Bioscience and the articles for that issue is submitted to managing editor by the corresponding author who arranges the peer review of the articles of his or her own issue. Prior to peer review, at the discretion of managing editor, the article may be submitted to the Frontiers in Bioscience for determination of scientific impact, and English writing. This process takes one day and only high impact articles that are scientifically sound and are well written will be subjected to the review process. Managing editors arrange the peer review of the papers by two and if necessary more reviewers. When the reviewers disagree on suitability of paper for publication, additional reviewers may be assigned by the editor so that the majority of reviewers believe that the paper should be published. Based on such reviews, the managing editor decides to reject, accept or provisionally accept the paper with revisions. If revisions are required, then, the paper is submitted to the corresponding author to make the necessary changes. Managing editor reviews the revised paper submitted by corresponding author and again makes a decision to accept or reject the paper. The editors evaluate manuscripts irrespective of the authors' geographic location, native language, race, gender, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, ethnic origin, citizenship, or political or other personal philosophies. The decision to consider a paper for publication is based purely on the scientific value of each paper in respect to its importance, originality and clarity, and the validity of study and its relevance to the scope of the journal. Also considered as part of the publication are legal requirements regarding false statements, copyright infringement, and plagiarism. Managing editor, upon acceptance, send the paper to the editorial office of the Frontiers in Bioscience. Each paper is reviewed by Editor-in-Chief and if required request will be made from the author to revise the paper in response to revision requests. Frontiers in Bioscience considers such issues as copyright infringement, false statements and plagiarism and other legal issues very important and when such issues are raised and can not be resolved by contacting the corresponding author, the university ethics committee is contacted to examine these issues in detail and determine the suitable remedy, publishing an erratum and when required retraction of the paper.

2.3. Confidentiality

The managing editor or their editorial staff should not disclose any information about a submitted manuscript to anyone or entity other than the corresponding author, potential reviewers, reviewers, other editorial advisers, and the publisher, as appropriate.
2.4. Disclosure and conflicts of interest

Unpublished materials disclosed in a submitted paper are not to be used by the editor or the members of the editorial board for their own personal gain or research purposes without the author’s explicit written consent.

3. REVIEWERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

3.2. Contribution to editorial decisions

The peer-reviewing process examines the scientific content, merit, originality, clarity, and the validity of the study and its relevance to the scope of the journal. Acceptance is dependent on comments and recommendations and decisions made collectively by the reviewers, editor and subsequently, the Editor-in-Chief. The journal does not prevent the managing editors to submit their own paper or be an author on any paper. However, if managing editor’s name is included in the author’s list of a paper, then, Frontiers in Bioscience requires that the managing editor to submit the paper to the editorial office of the Frontiers in Bioscience to arrange the peer review.

3.3. Promptness

Managing editor requires that the selected referees inform the editor if they feel unqualified to review the research reported in a manuscript or that prompt review will not be possible due to prior commitment.

3.4. Confidentiality

A document reviewed by peer reviewers are to be considered confidential documents and their content may not be disclosed to any entity or be discussed with others unless authorized by the editor.

3.4. Standards of objectivity

Reviews should be conducted objectively. Frontiers in Bioscience requests from reviewers to avoid personal criticism of the author(s) or use generic comment that is objectionable to author(s) who should be encouraged as they have invested their fund, time and efforts to produce a manuscript for publication. Referees are commissioned to examine the scientific content, merit flaws and clarity of a paper with supporting evidence such as references, sample errors, and to provide clear general and specific suggestions for improvement of a paper.

3.6. Acknowledgement of sources

References which are appropriate and are not cited by the authors are included in the reviewer comments. Reviewers request from the authors to include discussion of such references as it relates to the paper under review. Reviewers should include in a comment to the editor whether there is substantial similarity or overlap between the manuscript under review with any other publication.

3.6. Conflict of interest and disclosure

Privileged information or ideas obtained through peer review process are confidential and are not to be used for financial or any other type of personal gains. Reviewers should not review manuscripts, in which they have conflicts of interest, resulting from collaborative,
competitive, or other relationships or connections with any of the authors, companies, or institutions associated with the papers.

4. AUTHORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

4.2. Publication standards

Authors of original research papers include an abstract, an introduction as why the study was carried out, list materials used and details of methods that were conducted during the course of the study. This is followed by detailing an accurate account of the work performed in results section of the paper. In the discussion section, the authors should discuss significance of the data that are presented. In the acknowledgement section, authors should disclose their conflict of interest, if any, record the source of funds for the study, and list collaborations with others in terms of obtaining material. Throughout the manuscripts, references are listed in numerical order and summarized in the reference section of the paper. Then, abbreviations used throughout the manuscript, a minimum number of key words (n=5), and the contact information of the corresponding author including the address, telephone and fax number and Email of the author are listed in sequence. Duplication and/or use of any copyrighted matter is not allowed unless the consent of the copyright holder is obtained and listed in the figure or table legend. Authors must include only original work of their own, and accurate statements of the results analyzed with statistical analysis. Authors of scientific article to be considered for publication in the Frontiers in Bioscience should not include fabricated or changed data in any shape or form. Such acts are considered fraud, plagiarism and if can not be resolved by the authors, will be reported to the ethics committee of the institution(s) where author(s) work. Authors of reviews should follow the principles applicable to the primary research articles, however, there is no need to include materials or methods, results, or discussion. Separate parts of the article can be titled at the discretion of the authors. Inclusion of figures and tables is not required but authors are persuaded to include relevant figures and tables to clarify further the discussion of relevant literature.

4.3. Data access and retention

When required, in case of fraud or plagiarism, or when requested by reviewers or editors, authors should submit the raw data of their study and if required by reviewer, or editors to be prepared to make such data publicly available. All authors should ensure accessibility of raw data to other competent scientists for at least ten years after publication (preferably via cloud storage, an institutional or subject-based data repository or other data centers that are available to users at no cost or cost covered by authors or their institutions). Confidentiality of such submission should exist for each author and because of legal right concerning proprietary data, such information may not be included in the stored data.

4.4. Originality, plagiarism and acknowledgement of sources

Authors will submit only original works, and will appropriately cite or quote the work of others. Publications that are relevant including those influential in determining the nature of the reported work are to be cited with other references.

4.4. Multiple, redundant or concurrent publication

Papers describing essentially the same research or review should not be submitted for publication in the Frontiers in Bioscience unless the reason for such inclusion is clear and
authorized by the copyright or patent owner and publisher. Such consents must be granted in writing or via Email, mail, or other means of communication from the source.

The same paper must not be submitted to more than one journal for peer review a time and if the paper is under review by another publisher, such paper should not be sent for publication in the Frontiers in Bioscience. Copyrighted documents that have been published elsewhere cannot be submitted.

4.5. Authorship of the paper

Authorship should be provided to those who have made a significant contribution to the concept and hypothesis, design, execution, or interpretation of the data or the content of a review article. All those who have made significant contributions are listed as co-authors and those who have not contributed to the hypothesis, execution or writing of the paper should not be included as an author.

The corresponding author is the individual chosen by all authors who ensures that all contributing co-authors are included in the author’s list and includes authors in terms of the extent of their involvement in the work. The corresponding author must also verify that all co-authors have approved the final version of the paper and have agreed to its submission for publication in the Frontiers in Bioscience. Corresponding author is also the author on record that makes the necessary formatting and stylistic changes of the paper or revision of its content as requested by the editor and is the contact person regarding any type of communication by editors.

36. Disclosure and conflicts of interest

All authors include a statement in the acknowledgment section of the paper disclosing any financial or other conflicts of interest that might exist.

4.7. Fundamental errors in published work

if an author identifies errors or inaccuracies in a work, he/she must contact the corresponding author and this author must submit a letter specifying the error(s) and cause of such error(s) to the managing editor if the paper is under review and to editorial office of the Frontiers in Bioscience if the work is already published. If the error is not substantive and does not change the findings of the paper, the change can be made in the paper by the authors or an erratum to be published along with the paper. However, if the Editor-in-Chief determines that the error is intentional reaching to the level of making false statements, fraud or plagiarism, the issue will be reported to the ethics committee of the institution for resolution.

4 REFERENCES