

Publication Ethics and Publication Malpractice Statement

The *Advancements of Microbiology (Postępy Mikrobiologii)* Editorial Policy is based on Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals (ICMJE) and guidelines and standards developed by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE). The key issues of the recommendations for Authors, Editors, Reviewers and Publisher are presented below.

Authorship of the manuscript

Only persons who meet all mentioned below criteria should be listed as authors in the manuscript:

1. Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work
2. Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content
3. Approval of the manuscript final version to be published

A person who does not meet all three criteria but made relevant contribution should be acknowledged in appropriate manuscript section. List of examples of contributions that alone (without other requirements) do not qualify a contributor for authorship are: acquisition of funding; general supervision of a research group or general administrative support; writing assistance, technical editing, language editing and proofreading.

Article standards

Review articles should be accurate, objective and comprehensive, while opinion' or perspective pieces should be clearly identified as such. Fraudulent or knowingly inaccurate statements constitute unethical behavior and are unacceptable.

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, that 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). Plagiarism in all its forms constitutes unethical publishing behavior and is unacceptable.

Redundant or concurrent submission/publication

Papers with the same content should not be published in more than one journal. Therefore, authors should not submit for consideration a manuscript that has already been submitted (until it’s rejected) or published in another journal. Submission of a manuscript concurrently to more than one journal is unethical publishing behavior and unacceptable.

Conflicts of interest

Authors, Reviewers and Editors are responsible for disclosing all financial and personal relationships that might bias or be seen to bias their duties. 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, competitive, collaborative, or other relationships of Reviewer with any of the Authors 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). During submission stage Authors are requested to report any conflict of interest in a cover letter. Upon acceptance of a manuscript, Authors sign Statement of Conflict of Interest.

Acknowledgement 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. Authors should not use information obtained in the course of providing confidential services, such as refereeing manuscripts or grant applications. Reviewers should identify relevant published work that has not been cited by the authors. A reviewer should also notify the editors of any substantial similarity or overlap between the manuscript under consideration and any other manuscript (published or unpublished) of which they have personal knowledge.

Fundamental errors in published works

When Authors, Editors or Publisher discover significant errors or inaccuracies in published work, it is their obligation to promptly notify the other parties and cooperate with them to either correct the paper in the form of an erratum or to retract the paper.

Editorial policy and standards

Editors evaluate submitted manuscripts exclusively on the basis of their academic merit (importance, originality, study's validity, clarity) and its relevance to the journal's scope, without regard to the authors' race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic origin, citizenship, religious belief, political philosophy or institutional affiliation. All manuscripts received for evaluation are treated as confidential documents. The editors ensure that all submitted manuscripts being considered for publication undergo peer-review by at least two reviewers who are expert in the field. Reviewer assists editors in making editorial decisions and, through editorial communications with authors, may assist authors in improving their manuscripts. Reviews should be conducted objectively and observations formulated clearly with supporting arguments so that authors can use them for improving the manuscript. Personal criticism of the authors is inappropriate. The Editor-in-Chief is responsible for deciding which of the manuscripts submitted to the journal will be published, based on the validation of the work in question, its importance to researchers and readers, the reviewers' comments, and such legal requirements as are currently in force regarding libel, copyright infringement and plagiarism. The Editor-in-Chief may confer with other editors or reviewers in making this decision.

Advertising policy

Advertising does not influence Editors decisions. Advertisements are clearly visible to be advertisements. The Journal does not advertise products proven to be seriously harmful to health.