

## ***Ethical issues***

### Authorship and contributorship

Authorship should be based on the criteria defined by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors recommendations (<http://www.icmje.org/icmje-recommendations.pdf>).

## **Complaints and appeals**

The Editorial Board (EB) will discuss in detail all the complaints and appeals on the decision of rejection of a submitted manuscript or any concerns or allegations regarding misconduct, and will decide accordingly. An independent panel of international experts, including renowned journal editors and directors of academic departments, may be consulted if these issues arise.

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It is the authors' responsibility to fully disclose in the cover letter any financial interests (shareholding or employment by industry, etc.) relative to the work under consideration. Any conflict should be stated in the manuscript before the Reference section. Authors should acknowledge any source of funding provided for the submitted subject matter (i.e. grants, financial support for presentations at meetings, etc). For clinical trials, the registration number, if available, should be included. Authors should state that the submitted manuscript has not been previously published and is not currently under consideration by another journal. Previous publication of an abstract as an oral presentation or scientific exhibit, either in print or electronically, does not preclude submission of an original article for publication. Any potential overlap with prior publications should be clearly stated by the authors to avoid redundant publications. Advertisements will be kept out of the main text body of the journal and it is the Editor's responsibility that the editorial decisions will not be influenced by advertisers and sponsors. Special issues follow the routine editorial process and are by no means influenced by advertisers. The EB retains the right to refuse any advertisement for any reason.

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## **Patient data**

It is the authors' responsibility to protect patient anonymity. All identifying data (name, identification numbers, initials) must be removed from text, images and tables. If it is mandatory for a patient's face to be included in the manuscript, the eyes should be sufficiently masked. If there is a possibility that a patient may be identified from a photograph or relevant legend and text, the patient's written consent should be submitted.

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The HJR follows the guidelines of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors ([www.icmje.org](http://www.icmje.org)). It is the authors' responsibility to confirm that any experimental investigation on human subjects reported in a submitted manuscript has been performed with the subjects' informed consent and following the approval of the appropriate institution review board. For prospective clinical studies with human subjects, the authors are required to confirm that both an appropriate institution review board approval and informed consent have been obtained. For retrospective clinical studies, the authors are required to confirm that an institution review board waiver of informed consent has been obtained. For clinical studies involving human subjects with no access to ethics review committees, the authors should confirm that they followed the principles outlined in the Helsinki Declaration (World Medical Association Declaration of Helsinki: ethical principles for medical research involving human subjects. JAMA 2013; 310(20): 2191-2194). Authors may be asked to document the above at any time point.

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For studies involving animals, the authors should indicate whether the procedures followed the local regulatory principles on animal experimentation. In this case, the following statement needs to be added in the text: "All applicable international, national, and/or institutional guidelines for the care and use of animals were followed".

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