

## **ETHICS**

### **Policies on Ethics, Conflict of Interest, Human and Animal Rights, and Informed Consent**

#### **Ethics**

The publication of an article in a peer-reviewed journal is an essential building block in the development of a coherent and respected network of knowledge. It is a direct reflection of the quality of the work of the authors and the institutions that support them. Peer-reviewed articles support and embody the scientific method. It is therefore important to agree upon standards of expected ethical behaviour for all parties involved in the act of publishing: the author, the journal editor, the peer reviewer, the publisher and the society of society-owned or sponsored journals.

#### **Conflict of Interest**

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Reports of randomized clinical trials should present information on all major study elements, including the protocol, assignment of interventions (methods of randomization, concealment of allocation to treatment groups), and the method of masking (blinding), based on the CONSORT statement (Moher D, Schulz KF, Altman DG: The CONSORT Statement: Revised Recommendations for Improving the Quality of Reports of Parallel-Group Randomized Trials.

Consent for Identifying Information if any identifying information is included in any part of the manuscript, you must obtain a written, informed consent from the patient and submit a copy of the document to the concerned Journal's Editorial Office.