

Proceedings of the Pakistan Academy of Sciences: B. Life and Environmental Sciences

Policies on Peer Review Process, Conflict of Interest, Human and Animal Rights, Informed Consent and Plagiarism

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All submitted manuscripts are reviewed through a 'double-blind' peer review process which means the identities of the reviewers are kept confidential from the authors, and vice versa. To ensure this, anonymized versions of the manuscript are sent to reviewers. Papers are first considered by the editor after submission. Manuscripts that do not fall within the scope of the journal are 'desk-rejected'. In addition, papers that fail to meet a minimum threshold for quality and originality are also rejected without being sent out to the reviewers. Papers passing through this initial editorial scrutiny are then typically sent out to a minimum of four referees (two national and two international). If one or more of these turn down the invitation to provide a review, other referees will subsequently be appointed. Normally, at least two authoritative reviews are needed before the respective editor can make a decision as to whether to accept, reject, or ask for a 'revise and resubmit' of the submitted paper.

Declaration

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All human and animal studies must be approved by an appropriate ethics committee or review board (depending on local arrangements), and a statement to this effect should be included in the methods section or the reasons why it was not necessary if this is the case. All clinical investigations must have been conducted according to the principles expressed in the Declaration of Helsinki (<http://www.wma.net>).

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All authors must read the journal's policy and the manuscript must be read and double-checked by all the contributing authors before submitting it to the journal.

Plagiarism Policy

As per HEC guidelines

(<https://hec.gov.pk/english/services/faculty/Documents/Plagiarism/Plagiarism%20Policy.pdf>).

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