

Manuscript Submission Guidelines and Policies for *Environmental Justice*

Last updated 4/17/2023 3:00:19 PM

Journal Information

- Manuscript Submission Site: <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/environmentaljustice>
- Editorial Office Contact: env_eo@liebertpub.com
- Support Contact: prosupport@liebertpub.com
- Journal Model: Hybrid
- Blinding: Double Blind: Do not include identifying information in the manuscript file. Upload a separate title page
- File formatting requirement stage: Upon submission
- Instant Online Option (immediate publication of accepted version): No
- Submission Fee: None
- Average time to initial decision: 50 days

About the Journal

Environmental Justice is a peer-reviewed journal that provides a central forum for the research, debate, and discussion of the equitable treatment and involvement of all people, especially minority and low-income populations, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. The Journal explores the adverse and disparate environmental burden impacting marginalized populations and communities all over the world. The Journal draws upon the expertise and perspectives of all parties involved in environmental justice struggles: communities, industry, academia, government, and nonprofit organizations.

Manuscript Types and Guidelines

Research Articles/Original Articles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4,000-word limit• Structured abstract of no more than 250 words• Reporting requirements: CONSORT and TREND
Methods Papers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3,000-word limit• Unstructured abstract of no more than 200 words
Review Papers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4,000-word limit• Structured abstract of no more than 250 words• Reporting and registration requirements: PRISMA and PROSPERO
Policy Briefs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2,000-word limit• Unstructured abstract of no more than 200 words

Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,500-word limit • Structured abstract of no more than 200 words
Community Voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,500-word limit • Unstructured abstract of no more than 200 words
Tools for Education, Empowerment, and Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3,000-word limit • Unstructured abstract of no more than 200 words
History Essays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4,000-word limit • Unstructured abstract of no more than 250 words
Case Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4,000-word limit • Structured abstract of no more than 250 words
Invited Editorials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,500-word limit • Unstructured abstract of no more than 200 words
Commentaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4,000-word limit • Unstructured abstract of no more than 250 words
Book Reviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,500-word limit • Unstructured abstract of no more than 200 words

Word limits do NOT pertain to the abstract, disclosure statements, author contribution statements, funding information, acknowledgments, tables, figure legends, or references.

Description of Manuscript Types

- **Research Articles/Original Articles-** Research Articles report the results of original environmental justice research that used quantitative, qualitative, or mixed-methods approaches to complete study objectives. The maximum word length for these manuscripts is 4000 words. The abstract should be structured (no more than 250 words) with the following sections: Background, Methods, Results, Discussion and Conclusion. The text of the manuscript must include an Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, and Conclusion. Authors submitting reports of randomized control trials (RCT) are required to follow the [CONSORT Guidelines](#). Authors reporting results of a study that used a non-randomized design are required to use the [Transparent Reporting of Evaluations with Nonrandomized Designs \(TREND\) checklist](#).
- **Methods Papers-** The journal invites authors to submit manuscripts that describe new or innovative methods in environmental justice research. Manuscripts should describe the development and testing of new methods, results, limitations of new methods, and provide recommendations for further improvements or applications of the new or innovative method.
- **Review Articles-** Review Papers, including qualitative and quantitative reviews, have well-developed research questions and use systematic methods to identify, select, and critically evaluate relevant environmental justice research and to collect and examine data from the studies that are included in the reviews. Include: Objectives, Data Sources, Review Methods, Results, and Conclusions. Authors are not required to use statistical methods such as meta-analysis to analyze and summarize results of the included studies. Manuscripts are expected to conform with the [PRISMA guidelines](#) and reviews should be registered in [PROSPERO](#). The text, tables, and figures of the accepted systematic review will be published online. Authors are encouraged to use Appendices only for Review Papers. Appendices will be published online only.
- **Policy Briefs-** Policy Briefs are written in clear and direct language, help to synthesize scientific findings, help relate findings to policy debates on environmental justice, and emphasize applying research outcomes to a specific environmental justice problem. These briefs are meant to inform stakeholders such as government officials, members of non-profit groups, and others who intend to use the briefs for the development of new

policies related to the environmental justice concern described in the brief. Include the following sections: Problem, Findings, Stakeholders of Concern, Policy Alternatives, and Policy Recommendations.

- **Impact-** In the transdisciplinary field of environmental justice, it is expected that research will not only produce new knowledge, but results will also be translated to action and real social change. An impact manuscript should discuss the science of application, action-oriented research efforts. Authors are expected to describe how their research led to action including new interventions, changes in policy, new regulations, changes in permitting, improvements in air and water quality, settlements, consent decrees, new community benefits agreements, exposure and/or hazard reduction, new fines, prosecution of environmental crimes, changes in zoning, elimination of health disparities, etc. Include: The Problem, Purpose of Article, Key Points, and Conclusion. These manuscripts must contain an Introduction that describes the problem and explains the purpose of the paper, describe actions taken, describe the positive impacts of the actions taken, discuss the stakeholders who benefitted from the actions, and provide lessons learned, best practices, and recommendations for replication in other settings.
- **Community Voice-** Community Voice provides an opportunity for community members to discuss their environmental justice work in their own words. These manuscripts will be submitted primarily by community members who are working in some form of community-engaged environmental justice research such as a community-university partnership, crowd science, citizen science, community-based participatory research (CBPR), participatory action research (PAR), or community-driven research (e.g., community-owned and managed research (COMR). Community members can discuss different aspects of their work including outreach efforts, education and training, challenges with partnerships, methodological design, results, evaluation, and translation of the research to action. Additionally, manuscripts from a member of a frontline or fenceline community working to advance environmental justice are encouraged.
- **Tools for Education, Empowerment, and Action-** In these manuscripts, authors will describe tools that they have developed to educate stakeholders on environmental justice issues; empower members of frontline and fenceline communities and other groups impacted by environmental injustice; and tools that can or have led to action and positive improvements for communities and populations impacted by environmental injustice. These tools could include new exposure assessment tools, training guides, geospatial mapping tools, apps, websites, data dashboards, scorecards, qualitative research guides, resource manuals, monitoring tools, partnership manuals, and how to guides. Provide text on the following:
 - Purpose of the tool
 - Rationale for the development of the tool
 - Process used to develop the tool
 - Uses for the tool
 - Relevant research findings
 - Limitations, lessons learned, or best practices related to the use of the tool, and
 - Impact or social change related to the use of the tool.
- **History Essays-** History Essays may be invited or unsolicited. These manuscripts will be primarily written and submitted by scholars who focus on the history of the environmental justice movement and debates in the environmental justice field.
- **Case Studies-** The journal accepts case studies which normally uses qualitative methods to explore a specific topic. It is an appropriate research design when an author would like to gain in-depth contextual knowledge on their environmental justice topic. Include text on the problem, theoretical framework, case study design, case study results, and any conclusions, lessons learned, recommendations that emerged from the case study.
- **Invited Editorials-** Invited Editorials are commissioned by the Editor-in-Chief or another member of the editorial team.
- **Commentaries-** Commentaries provide critical analyses of environmental justice issues.
- **Book Reviews-** The journal will accept invited or unsolicited reviews of books on environmental justice or related topics. A book review is a well-developed description, analysis, and/or evaluation of a book with analysis on the significance, meaning, and quality of the book. The reviews can either be descriptive or critical in the nature.

References

All references must be cited as footnotes. For source citation styles, see the **Chicago Manual of Style, Chapter 15**. Be sure to give complete citations for books and periodicals, including place and date of publication AND name of the publishing company (for books), and volume numbers and publication dates (for periodicals).

Do not use "p." or "pp." with page numbers. Be very specific about citing page ranges. Use full titles, and always provide the full names of authors, even if the author's name is mentioned in the text. Examples of full citations are given below.

Written permission must be obtained from the author of any unpublished material and should accompany the manuscript.

Sample style for references:

Journal article:

Dan Immergluck and Tharunya Balan. "Sustainable for Whom? Green Urban Development, Environmental Gentrification, and the Atlanta Beltline." *Urban Geography* 39 (2018): 546–562.

Note: Do NOT provide the issue number.

Book:

Robert Nixon. *Slow Violence and the Environmentalism of the Poor*. (Cambridge, Harvard University Press, 2013).

Website:

Park Pride. Proctor Creek North Avenue Watershed Basin: A Green Infrastructure Vision.

<https://parkpride.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/2010_pna_overview-1.pdf> (Last accessed on March 22, 2019).

Newspaper articles, especially in older newspapers, may be cited by publication title and date only, although a complete citation is preferable.

Cameron McWhirter. "Atlanta's Growing Pains Are Getting Worse." *Wall Street Journal* (August 31, 2018).

Theses, Dissertations, and Academic Papers:

Jane A. Smith, "Environmental Justice," (Ph.D. diss., Columbia University, 2007), Ch. 2. Jane A. Smith, "Environmental Justice," (paper presented at the bimonthly meeting of the American Academy for Environmental Justice, New Rochelle, NY; December 2007).

Government Documents:

U.S. Congress, House Committee on Environmental Justice, 23rd Cong., 3rd sess., 2007, House Report 97, 17-39.

Oral and Personal Sources:

Lieutenant Lewis, City of Atlanta Police Department. Telephone interview with the author, August 20, 2016 (digital audio file in possession of the author).

PaperPal Preflight

The Paperpal Preflight service is available for this journal. PaperPal Preflight allows authors to check their **Original Research** manuscripts for common errors prior to submitting a manuscript for consideration. Please note that this does not guarantee that your paper will pass all submission or other checks, nor that it will be considered for review.

The checks are configured for Original Research manuscripts only and may not be applicable to other manuscript types. There may be additional requirements for submission. Please review the full instructions for authors for guidelines.

The basic service is free. PaperPal preflight offers an *optional* fee-based service that will provide a report showing tracked changes and potential modifications. Please note that if this service is used, a clean copy of the manuscript must be uploaded to the submission system.

There is no obligation to use either the free or paid service. No editorial, review, nor any other decisions will be dependent on its use.

All manuscripts must be submitted through the journal's ScholarOne Manuscripts site.

General Manuscript Submission Guidelines and Policies for Mary Ann Liebert Journals

Last updated 2/2/2024 2:32:07 PM

Submission Preparation

All manuscripts must be prepared in accordance with the Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals (icmje.org). Please consult your specific journal's requirements for additional information.

All Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. journals follow the standards, guidelines, and best practices set forth by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE; publicationethics.org), the International Committee of Journal Medical Editors (ICJME; www.icmje.org), the World Medical Association (WMA); www.wma.net), and the American Medical Association (www.ama-assn.org).

Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. recommends that submissions follow standard relevant reporting guidelines. Please consult [The Equator Network](#) for more information.

PaperPal Preflight

The Paperpal Preflight service is available for most journals. PaperPal Preflight allows authors to check their **Original Research** manuscripts for common errors prior to submitting a manuscript for consideration. Please note that this does not guarantee that your paper will pass all submission or other checks, nor that it will be considered for review.

There may be additional requirements for submission. Please review the full instructions for authors for guidelines.

The basic service is free. PaperPal preflight offers an *optional* fee-based service that will provide a report showing tracked changes and potential modifications. Please note that if this service is used, a clean copy of the manuscript must be uploaded to the submission system.

There is no obligation to use either the free or paid service. No editorial, review, nor any other decisions will be dependent on its use.

All manuscripts must be submitted through the journal's ScholarOne Manuscripts site. Please refer to the individual journal's instructions for more information and to access the service.

Manuscript Formatting

Please check your journal's requirements for file formatting. Many journals require formatting compliance only on revision; however, unless stated, the file formatting should comply with the following requirements on submission.

Manuscript Files

The main text file, figure legends, and tables should be prepared in Microsoft Word. Some journals may accept LaTeX. Please consult your individual journal instructions for guidance.

File Naming

- All file names should be in English and contain only alphanumeric characters.
- **Do not include spaces, symbols, special characters, dashes, dots, or underscores.**
- Title each file with the type of content contained in the file (e.g., manuscript.doc, tables.doc, FigureLegends.doc, Fig1.tif, SupplementalData.pdf, etc.).

Figures

- Submission of high resolution .TIFF or .EPS figure files is preferred. Please upload as individual files.
- Cite figures consecutively in text within parentheses.
- Images should not reveal the name of a patient or a manufacturer.
- Note: Figures that will not be reproduced in color must be readable and interpretable in black and white.

Figure Legends

- A legend should be provided for each supplied figure.
- All legends should be numbered consecutively.
- Figure legends may be included at the end of the main text file or uploaded as a separate, double-spaced Word file.
- In each legend, provide explanations for any abbreviations or symbols that appear in the figure.
- If the figure is taken from a copyrighted publication, permission must be secured by the author(s) and supplied at the time of submission with appropriate credit listed in the legend. Permissions and associated fees are the responsibility of the author.

Tables

- Tables may be included after the references at the end of the main text file, or uploaded as a single, separate Word file. All tables should be editable.
- Provide a title for each supplied table.
- Cite tables sequentially in text within parentheses.
- Explain abbreviations used in the body of the table in footnotes using superscript letters, not symbols.
- If a table is taken from a copyrighted publication, permission must be secured by the author(s) and supplied at the time of submission with appropriate credit listed in the legend. Permissions and associated fees are the responsibility of the author.

Supplemental Files

- Supplemental files should be uploaded as individual files. Most text, photo, graphic, and video formats are accepted. Ensure that patient identities are not revealed.
- Supplemental Information will not be copyedited or typeset; it will be posted online as supplied.
- For journals that publish accepted versions of papers prior to copyediting and typesetting, supplemental files will not be posted with the paper until after production has been completed.

Manuscript Structure

Specific journal requirements will vary, however the general order of elements in each manuscript should be

- Title page* with full manuscript title, all contributing authors' names and affiliations, a short running title, a denotation of the corresponding author, and a list of 4-6 keywords/search terms,
- Abstract,
- Main text without embedded figures or tables and with appropriate section headings, if applicable. Most research papers should be organized as follows: Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, and Conclusions.
- Acknowledgments,
- Authorship confirmation/contribution statement (CRediT format is preferred)
- Author(s)' disclosure (Conflict of Interest) statement(s), even when not applicable,
- Funding statement, even when not applicable,
- References,
- Tables included in the text or as a separate document,
- Figure legends at the end of the main text or in a separate Word file,
- Figures uploaded as individual high-resolution files,
- Supplemental files uploaded as individual files.

*Double-blinded journals require a separate title page with the title, all contributing authors' names and affiliations, a denotation of the corresponding author, author acknowledgements, disclosures, and related identifying information.

Your individual journal may require

- An Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval (or waiver) statement and statement of patient consent as a separate paragraph after the methods section,
- Other relevant ethics attestations (see icmje.org for further guidance),
- Data sharing statement,
- Specific abstract and content sections, depending on manuscript type,
- Word count limits, tables/figure limits, and reference format requirements.

Please note that paragraphs should be no longer than 15 lines once typeset.

Pre-Publication Policies

Funding

Upon manuscript submission, the submitting agent will have an opportunity to enter funding/grant information. If funding information is entered correctly, the publisher will deposit the funding acknowledgements from the article as part of the standard metadata to Funder Registry. The entered information should include funder names, funder IDs (if available), and associated grant numbers. Special care should be taken when entering this information to ensure total accuracy. Funding information must also be provided within the manuscript.

Government Funded Research / Funder Requirements

Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. publishers adheres to national and international funder requirements.

We comply fully with the open access requirements of [UKRI](#), [Wellcome](#), and [NIHR](#). Where required by their funder, authors retain the right to distribute their author accepted manuscript (AAM), such as via an institutional and/or subject repository (e.g. EuropePMC), under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0) license for release no later than the date of first online publication.?

Other funders, such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI), and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, have specific requirements for depositing the accepted version and/or the article of record version of the author manuscript in a repository after an embargo period. Authors funded by these organizations should follow the self-archiving terms and conditions of these separate agreements based on the policies of the specific funding institutions. If you have questions, please [contact us](#) for more information.

Peer Review

After internal editorial screening for suitability, all manuscript submissions containing original research or that comprise scholarly review are subject to rigorous, independent, external peer review. Editorials, correspondence, news features, and/or Invited opinion or perspective contributions in other sections of the journal are subject to stringent editorial oversight; at need, external, independent review will be arranged to address specialized topics. Final decisions for publication are solely the responsibility of the Editor(s)-in-Chief.

Exclusivity

Manuscripts should be submitted with the understanding that they have neither been published, nor are under consideration for publication elsewhere, in the same form or substantially similar form. Conference abstracts are excluded. If work was presented at a conference, supply the name, date, and location of the meeting as a footnote on the title page of the submission.

Third-party Submissions and Integrity

If a third party is submitting the manuscript, the submitting agent designation must be used, with the identity of the submitting agent disclosed. We reserve the right to reject any manuscript that does not contain this disclosure. The authors are solely responsible for any manuscript submitted on their behalf.

Confidentiality

Editors and reviewers must maintain strict confidentiality of manuscripts during the peer-review process. Sharing a manuscript in whole or in part, outside the scope of what is necessary for assessment, is impermissible prior to an accepted manuscript's official publication date. Reviewers are not permitted to contact authors directly.

Sharing of Materials

Sharing of Materials

Authors must honor any reasonable request for materials, methods, or data necessary to reproduce or validate the research findings during peer review unless it violates the privacy or confidentiality of human research subjects.

Conflicts of Interest by the Editorial Leadership

No member of the Editorial Leadership of a journal (Editor in Chief, Deputy/Associate/Guest Editors or Editorial Board members) is permitted to participate in the review or decision process for submissions where there is a potential or actual competing interest. This includes, but is not limited to research or review papers of their own authorship or co-authorship. In those cases, an independent member of the leadership will have full discretion to manage review and decision on the manuscript.

Plagiarism, Peer Review, and Publication Integrity

Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., is committed to maintaining the integrity of the peer-review process by upholding the highest standards for all published articles. All manuscripts are analyzed and evaluated for plagiarism, peer review integrity, and publication integrity. Manuscript screening may be applied at any point in the process, from submission through post-publication. Plagiarized manuscripts or manuscripts with evidence of publication, image, or peer review misconduct will be rejected immediately. If publication misconduct is identified, we reserve the right to rescind acceptance prior to publication.

Authorship

Authorship is defined by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors in [Roles & Responsibilities](#). Contributors who do not meet all criteria for authorship should not be listed as authors, but they should be acknowledged (**with permission from the named parties**) in the *Acknowledgments* section with a description of their contribution to the work.

ORCID IDs

All submitting authors are required to complete their submissions using an ORCID identifier.

Corresponding Authors

One author should be designated as the corresponding author who will be responsible for communication between the authors and the journal editorial office and publisher. This individual will be responsible for ensuring all authors submit copyright forms, coordinating and responding to page proofs, and managing any other necessary contact during the peer review and production processes.

The submission system permits only one author to be identified as the corresponding author of record. However, we recognize that some submissions call for more than one corresponding author to be noted. In such cases, select one author to be the main point of contact for all communications regarding the peer review process of the paper, and on the title page of the manuscript, designate additional co-corresponding authors by including an asterisk after the authors' names in the byline. Include an accompanying footnote on the title page that reads, "**Co-corresponding authors.*" Please ensure that the title page carries the full affiliation details and email address of any author who should be noted as a corresponding author. If the paper is accepted for publication, the full contact information for all designated co-authors will be listed at the end of the article as per usual journal style.

Authorship Confirmation/Contribution Statement

An authorship contribution statement must be included with the manuscript. We strongly recommend that the authorship contribution statement follow the CRediT Taxonomy guidelines. (<https://credit.niso.org/>)

- Conceptualization (Ideas; formulation or evolution of overarching research goals and aims.)

- Data curation (Management activities to annotate (produce metadata), scrub data and maintain research data (including software code, where it is necessary for interpreting the data itself) for initial use and later re-use.)
- Formal analysis (Application of statistical, mathematical, computational, or other formal techniques to analyze or synthesize study data.)
- Funding acquisition (Acquisition of the financial support for the project leading to this publication.)
- Investigation (Conducting a research and investigation process, specifically performing the experiments, or data/evidence collection.)
- Methodology (Development or design of methodology; creation of models.)
- Project administration (Management and coordination responsibility for the research activity planning and execution.)
- Resources (Provision of study materials, reagents, materials, patients, laboratory samples, animals, instrumentation, computing resources, or other analysis tools.)
- Software (Programming, software development; designing computer programs; implementation of the computer code and supporting algorithms; testing of existing code components.)
- Supervision (Oversight and leadership responsibility for the research activity planning and execution, including mentorship external to the core team.)
- Validation (Verification, whether as a part of the activity or separate, of the overall replication/reproducibility of results/experiments and other research outputs.)
- Visualization (Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualization/data presentation.)
- Writing – original draft (Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically writing the initial draft (including substantive translation).)
- Writing – review & editing (Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work by those from the original research group, specifically critical review, commentary or revision – including pre- or post-publication stages.)>

Example

Author 1: review and editing (equal). **Author 2:** Conceptualization (lead); writing – original draft (lead); formal analysis (lead); writing – review and editing (equal). **Author 3:** Software (lead); writing – review and editing (equal). **Author 4:** Methodology (lead); writing – review and editing (equal). **Author 5:** Conceptualization (supporting); Writing – original draft (supporting); Writing – review and editing (equal).

Changes in Authorship

Changes in authorship after submission, revision, or acceptance of a paper are generally not permitted, but the editorial leadership recognizes that in rare circumstances, it may be required. The policy for such cases is as follows:

- A request to alter authorship must be made in writing from the corresponding author to the Editor-in-Chief, with a detailed explanation for the request, the nature of the changes, and the names and affiliations of all authors.
- Written approval of all authors named on the manuscript, as well as any individual(s) being added to or removed from the author list must be provided. The Publisher can provide a form for this, if needed.
- Upon receipt of the request and all written approvals of all involved parties, the Editor-in-Chief will consider the request, render a decision, and notify the corresponding author.
- Post-publication changes or alterations to conference abstracts are prohibited.

- If authors are added or removed upon revision submission, without accompanying documentation of the request, the manuscript will be unsubmitted.

Name Change Policy

Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. supports the implementation of name changes for reasons including (but not limited to) gender identity, changes to marital status, religious conversion, etc.

Please contact the [Director of Production and Editorial](#) to confidentially update your record. Identification or documentation is not required, apart from confirmation that the change is on behalf of yourself (requests cannot be made for other individuals).

Updates will be made to the online versions of the article, but without a formal correction notice and without coauthors being notified.

We recommend authors update ScholarOne and ORCID records with any name changes.

Author Disclosure Statements

Upon submission, authors are required to fully disclose any interests, funding or employment that may inappropriately influence or affect the integrity of the submission. Authors should disclose

- *Competing Interests.* A competing interest exists when an individual (or the individual's institution) has financial or personal relationships that may inappropriately influence his actions. These competing interests may be potential or actual, financial or other.
- *Personal Financial Interests.* Stocks or shares in a company that may gain or lose financially from publication of the article; consulting fees or other remuneration from an organization that may gain or lose financially from publication of the article; patents or patent applications that are owned by or licensed to companies/institutions that may gain or lose value from publication of the article.
- *Funding.* Research support by organizations that may gain or lose financially from publication of the article. This support includes salary, equipment, supplies, honoraria, reimbursement or prepayment for attending symposia, and other expenses.
- *Employment.* Recent (within the past 5 years), current, or anticipated employment by an organization that may gain or lose financially from publication of the article.
- *Other Competing Interests.* Any personal relationship which may inappropriately affect the integrity of the research reported (by an author) or the objectivity of the review of the manuscript (by a reviewer or Editor), for example, competition between investigators, previous disagreements between investigators, or bias in professional judgment.

Affiliations

Authors should identify as their institution(s) the facility where the work was performed and executed. Changes in an author's affiliation after the work was completed, but prior to the submission or publication of the manuscript should be noted using a superscript asterisk in the author listing and a footnote on the title page indicating "Current Address" and listing the new affiliation. Corrections to affiliations or contact information due to relocation after publication is not permitted.

Permissions

When reproducing copyrighted material such as figures, tables, or excerpted text, the author(s) of the submitted paper

must obtain permission from the original publisher or owner of material and submit it concurrently with the manuscript. The figure or table source must be listed in the reference list. With any copyrighted material, include a footnote with proper attribution (e.g. "Reprinted by permission from Jones et al.") and the appropriate reference. All

permissions must be supplied at the time of submission. Authors are responsible for any fees that may be incurred by securing permission to reproduce or adapt material from other published sources.

Appropriate use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Published Research

Mary Ann Liebert, publishers, Inc. understands that emerging computing methodologies and tools are critical parts of advancing research. The policies below will be reviewed and updated as technologies, best practices and ethical considerations in AI evolve.

Transparency and Disclosure

Liebert Journals require authors to disclose any use of AI systems in their research and manuscript preparation.

Authors are required to provide descriptions of an AI system's use in their Materials and Methods section. Include the name and version of the software, the date of the original use, and all relevant prompts, queries or cues that initiated the AI's response. Potential biases and limitations of the outcomes of AI use should be discussed by the authors when presenting their results.

Authorship and Contributions

AI systems are not authors and should not be used or named as authors on a manuscript.

Authorship of a scholarly work requires responsibility for the conduct of the research and the content of the written work created as a result of that research. The contributions of each author should be stated in the paper, noting their specific roles in the research and writing. An AI system used to generate any part of the content must be stated in the Methods section, as above. The listed authors are expected to review a final text and accept responsibility for its accuracy.

Peer Review

All scholarly works considered for publication undergo thorough and rigorous peer review. Manuscripts with AI-generated content are no exception.

Reviewers will evaluate the rigor, methodology, and significance of the research, considering the involvement of AI systems. Reviewers should consider the appropriateness of the use of AI tools when they assess the work, along with the authors' discussion of their use. If any AI tools were used by the Reviewer in the process of preparing their comments, this must be acknowledged to the Editor as part of your report.

Intellectual Property and Copyright

Ownership and copyright of any work can only be awarded to human authors or human-operated institutions, ensuring compliance with intellectual property laws.

How to report concerns

Authors and readers who wish to identify concerns with a manuscript either before or after publication should contact the journal's editorial office.

Ethics

Institutional Review Board Approvals/Waivers

When reporting research involving human data, authors must document the procedures followed in securing approvals from the responsible institutional and national review committee(s), along with confirmation that the research was completed in accordance with the [Declaration of Helsinki as revised in 2013](#).

An institution without an Institutional Review Board must arrange for an outside/external IRB to be responsible for initial and continuing review of studies conducted at the non-IRB institution. Such arrangements must be documented in writing in the manuscript.

If doubt exists whether the research was conducted in accordance with the Helsinki Declaration, the authors must explain the rationale for their approach and demonstrate that the institutional review body explicitly approved the doubtful aspects of the study. Approval by a responsible review committee does not preclude editors from forming their own judgment whether the conduct of the research was appropriate. Please see <https://www.icmje.org/icmje-recommendations.pdf> for additional information.

The publisher requires a statement from authors in the Materials and Methods section to confirm that the appropriate ethical approval has been received, that appropriate processes have been followed, and the name of the committee.

Informed consent by patients/participants should always be secured. A statement confirming that informed patient/participant consent was obtained is required in the Materials and Methods section. The statement of IRB review is accepted as covering the review of consent documentation.

If the study is judged exempt from review, a statement from the committee is required in the Materials and Methods section, including, if applicable, documentation of institutionally approved waiver of informed consent.

Ethics of Experimentation

See the following resources for studies involving human fetuses, fetal tissue, embryos, and embryonic cells:

- [NIH Grants Policy Statement](#)
- [National Conference of State Legislatures Embryonic and Fetal Research Laws](#)

Ethical Treatment of Animals

All peer-reviewed submissions containing animal experiments must comply with local and national regulatory principles and contain a statement in the **Materials and Methods** section of the main text stating whether national and institutional guidelines for the care and use of laboratory animals were followed.

Human Subjects: Patient Consent and Release

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In keeping with patients' rights of privacy, the Journal does not require the submission of patient consent forms, but instead requires the author(s) to retain and archive all patient consent documentation. Upon submission of a

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