

Manuscript Submission Guidelines and Policies for *Facial Plastic Surgery & Aesthetic Medicine*

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Journal Information

- **Manuscript Submission Site:** <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/fpsam>
- Editorial Office Contact: jkgrainger@ucdavis.edu
- Support Contact: prosupport@liebertpub.com
- Journal Model: Hybrid
- Blinding: Single Blind
- File formatting requirement stage: On revision. Format neutral on original submission.
- Instant Online Option (immediate publication of accepted version): No
- Submission Fee: None
- Average time to initial decision: 17.5 days

Manuscript Types and Guidelines

- All manuscripts should be in Word format, and double spaced.
- The word count of the body and abstract must be included on the title page.
- Authorship contribution/confirmation statement and conflicts of interest disclosure is required. Please structure the author contribution statement according to [CRediT guidelines](#). You will also be required to provide that information in the submission form author list.
- Tables and figures must be submitted as individual files.
- If human subjects are being studied as IRB disclosure must be included in the materials and methods section. If please state the exemption.

Original Investigation Papers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maximum 3,000-word limit• Maximum of 5 (five) tables and/or figures• Figures & Tables should be submitted as separate documents• Key Points (include a separate section called "Key Points" before the Abstract – 100 words or fewer)<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Please make the key points succinct and in a common (lay or plain) language in 3 simple sentences. These are difficult to write, but consider explaining to someone who does not practice in our field. Take out the numbers and the abbreviations as not everyone uses the same terminology.◦ This feature provides a quick structured synopsis of the findings of your manuscript (required only for research and review manuscripts), following 3 key points (for example):<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Question: Does wearing a parachute protect you as a sky diver?▪ Findings: Sky divers that do not wear a parachute had poorer outcomes than those that wore them.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meaning: The findings of this study suggest that wearing a parachute should be strongly considered when skydiving. • Structured abstract (maximum of 200 words). The abstract should be as succinct and accurate as possible. The background and objective can be one sentence each. The conclusion for aim to be one sentence of the study results, without extrapolation • Discussion: The discussion could be organized with a first paragraph that tells how the findings of your study extend from and agree/disagree with the current available literature. The vast majority of the new referenced material in the discussion belongs in the introduction, then you can compare to this in the organized discussion. • Reporting guidelines: Equator Reporting Guidelines
Research Letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum 600-word limit • Maximum of 7 authors • Maximum of 2 (two) figures and/or small tables • Maximum of 6 references
Systematic Review (without meta-analysis)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum of 3,500 words • 50-75 references • Maximum of 5 (five) tables and/or figures • A PRISMA-style flow diagram should be included as an online supplement Include a table with ratings of the quality of the studies/evidence • Subtitle should be "A Systematic Review" • Structured abstract. The abstract should be as succinct and accurate as possible. The background and objective can be one sentence each. The conclusion for aim to be one sentence of the study results, without extrapolation • Reporting guidelines: Equator Reporting Guidelines
Narrative Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The focus should be an update on current understanding of the physiology of the disease or condition, diagnostic consideration, and treatment. Subtitle should be "A Review" • These reviews should address a specific question or issue that is relevant for clinical practice. • Maximum of 2,000-3,500 words • No Abstract • 50-75 references • Maximum of 5 (five) tables and/or figures • Narrative Review articles should include a 3-part structured abstract of fewer than 250 words using the headings listed below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Importance: An overview of the topic and discussion of the main objective or reason for this review. ◦ Observations: The principal observations and findings of the review. ◦ Conclusions and Relevance: The conclusions of the review that are supported by the information, along with clinical applications. How the findings are clinically relevant should be specifically stated.
Special Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum 3,000-word limit • Unstructured abstract of a maximum of 200 words • Maximum 4 (four) tables and/or figures • 50 references
Clinical Challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Features "What Would You Do Next?" "What Would You Do Next?" with 4 single-phrase plausible treatment options describing possible courses of action with 1 being preferred • Case presentation: maximum 250 words. Discussion: maximum 500-600 words • Maximum of 10 references

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum of (three) authors • 1-2 small figures • Patient permission may be needed
Surgical Pearls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum of 800 words • 1 video of 2-5 minutes. Please use captions and English-language voiceover where appropriate. • 1-2 figures • Maximum of 7 references • Maximum of 3 authors • Patient photograph consent permission should be submitted
Viewpoint	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum of 1,200 words (or 1,000 words with 1 small table or figure) • Maximum of 7 references at submission • Maximum of 3 authors, with no more than 2 affiliations per author
Letters to the Editor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum 500 words • Maximum of 4 references (1 of which should be to the recent article) • Maximum of 3 authors
Responses to Letters to the Editor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum 500 words • Maximum of 6 references • Maximum of 3 authors
Observation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum of 600 words • Maximum of 7 authors • Maximum of 6 references • No more than 2 (two) small tables and/or figures • No online-only material • Patient permission may be needed

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

Facial Plastic Surgery & Aesthetic Medicine welcomes format-neutral manuscripts for first-time submissions. Newly submitted manuscripts will not be un-submitted for formatting issues. However, after the initial peer review process, revised submissions must follow correct journal formatting and file guidelines

Description of Manuscript Types

- Original Investigation Papers: Clinical Trials; Meta-analysis; Intervention Study; Cohort Study; Case-control Study; Epidemiologic Assessment Survey with High Response Rate; Cost-effectiveness Analysis; Decision Analysis; Study of Screening and Diagnostic Tests; Other observational studies
- Research Letter- Concise, focused reports of original research. Can include any of the study types listed under Original Investigation.
- Systematic Review (without meta-analysis)- Critical assessments of the literature and data sources pertaining to clinical topics, emphasizing factors such as cause, diagnosis, prognosis, therapy, or prevention. Systematic Reviews without meta-analysis are published as Reviews; those with meta-analysis are published as Original Investigations (see Meta-analysis under Original Investigation Papers).
- Advances in Diagnosis and Treatment Review- A complete systematic review of the last 5 years of published literature focusing on the latest information about management of diseases and conditions, emphasizing what is new; typically written by senior experts in the field. These reviews should address a specific question or issue that is relevant for clinical practice.

- Narrative Review- Up-to-date review for clinicians on a topic of general common interest from the perspective of internationally recognized experts in these disciplines.
- Special Communications- This journal publishes very few of these types of articles. These manuscripts describe an important issue in clinical medicine, public health, health policy, or medical research in a scholarly, thorough, well-referenced, systematic, and evidence-based manner.
- Clinical Challenge- Presents an actual patient case with a specific disease or condition with an accompanying clinical image.
- Surgical Pearls- A video snapshot and a short description of a surgical technique
- Viewpoint- May address virtually any important topic in medicine, public health, research, discovery, prevention, ethics, health policy, or health law and generally are not linked to a specific article.
- Letters to the Editor- Letters discussing a recent article in this journal should be submitted within 4 weeks of the article's publication in print.
- Responses to Letters to the Editor- Replies by authors of original articles to letters from readers
- Observation- Short reports of 1 or 2 complicated or unique cases.

References

The reference list must be prepared double-spaced in Word and numbered consecutively as they are cited in the text (using superscript numbers). References appearing for the first time in tables and figures must be numbered in sequence with those cited in the text where the table or figure is mentioned. Use journal abbreviations as provided by PubMed/Medline. List all authors when there are six or less. When there are more than six, list the first three, followed by et al. If references to personal communications or unpublished data are used, they are not to be in the list of references. They should be referred to in the text in parentheses: (A.B. Smith, personal communication). Include among the reference any papers that have been accepted for publication but not yet published; identify the name of publication and add "In Press." The maximum number of references may not exceed 100.

Sample journal article reference styles:

- Journal article with up to six authors:

Rahavi-Ezabadi S, Most SP, Saltychev M, Sazgar AA, Moubayed SP, Saedi B. Validation of the Persian language version of the Standardized Cosmesis and Health Nasal Outcomes Survey (SCHNOS). *JAMA Facial Plast Surg* 2018;20(6):521-523.

- Journal article with more than six authors:

Nellis JC, Ishii M, Bater KL, et al. Association of Rhinoplasty with perceived attractiveness, success, and overall health. *JAMA Facial Plast Surg* 2018;20(2):97-102.

FOR USERS OF ENDNOTE

Currently, *Facial Plastic Surgery & Aesthetic Medicine* is not listed in EndNote, however, you may use this [output style](#).

Other

Manuscript Preparation

Prepare text of manuscripts, double-spaced, in Microsoft Word. The order of items in the manuscript is: title page, key points,** abstract, text, acknowledgments, authorship confirmation statement, author disclosures, references, and correspondence address. Number each page, including the title page, consecutively. (**Key Points are required for only Research and Review submissions.)

Costs

- There is no submission fee for *Facial Plastic Surgery & Aesthetic Medicine*.

- Please contact AuthorBenefits@liebertpub.com for costs for publishing images in color.
- Open Access and Creative Commons (CC-BY / CC-BY-NC) licensing options are available. Contact our [Open Access Manager](#) for more information.
- For pricing and purchasing reprints, contact our [Reprints Manager](#).
- **Any fees collected or payments associated with a submitted and/or published paper that is subsequently withdrawn and/or retracted for any reason are non-refundable.**

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

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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

If applicable, it is incumbent upon the author(s) to obtain permission to reproduce any identifiable images of patients. Any identifying information should not be published in descriptions or photographs unless the information is essential for scientific purposes and the patient (or patients' parent/guardian) gives written informed consent for publication. Informed consent for this purpose requires that an identifiable patient be shown the manuscript to be submitted. Authors should disclose to these patients whether any potential identifiable material might be available via the Internet as well as in print after publication. Nonessential identifying details should be omitted. Informed consent should be obtained if there is any doubt that anonymity cannot be maintained. For example, masking the eye region in photographs of patients is inadequate protection of anonymity. If identifying characteristics are de-identified, the manuscript should contain assurances/statements that such changes do not distort scientific meaning.

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