

IJCA Ethical Guidelines

Preface

The International Journal of Conformity Assessment (IJCA) helps contribute to the conformity assessment profession and society, by producing publications that present scientific and technical research results. When it comes to choosing and accepting articles for publication in journals, it is the duty of every editor to thoroughly review articles according to a set of guidelines. These guidelines are mostly derived from the IJCA journal's scope, and from the editor's view of high standards for scientific work and its presentation.

The ethical guidelines are for individuals engaged in the publication of conformity assessment research; including editors, authors, and submission reviewers. As a result of the importance of high ethical standards, these guidelines are offered to all parties concerned.

We believe that the majority of experienced researchers have already understood and followed similar ethical guidelines in the past. These guidelines may however be of significant assistance to those who are new to research.

Guidelines

A. Ethical Guidelines for Authors

1. It is the author's primary responsibility to give a truthful and full description of the study done, including the data collected or used, as well as an impartial evaluation of the research's importance. Data may be described as information gathered or used for the purpose of drawing conclusions in scientific inquiry. In order for a qualified expert to repeat the experimental findings, the study report and the data collected should be sufficiently detailed and referenced to public sources of information.
2. An author should reference publications that have had a significant impact on determining the nature of the reported study, and that will direct the reader quickly to the previous work that is crucial for comprehending the present inquiry. Other than in a review, the citation of work that will not be referred to in the presented study should be minimized. Researchers are required to conduct literature searches for closely related articles and cite them when they are found. It's also important to properly cite non-author-supplied key elements in the work.
3. Researchers should clearly identify any unusual risks associated with the chemicals, equipment, or procedures used in their research. As such, authors should notify the editor when they believe a manuscript might contain information or products or technologies that

could pose a direct threat to the public's health and safety, agricultural crops and other plants, animals, the environment, or materiel, based on current understanding of the research.

4. Only common knowledge should be used as a source. Private material, such as conversations, correspondence, or discussions with third parties, should not be utilized or published in the author's work without the explicit permission of the investigator from whom the information originated. Information received during confidential services, such as reviewing manuscripts or grant applications, should be protected in the same manner as any confidential information.
5. Everyone who has made a substantial scientific contribution to the research reported should be included as co-authors of a publication. They also should be considered accountable for the results. The efforts of technical personnel and data specialists should be appropriately acknowledged by the authors. A footnote or "Acknowledgements" section should include any further contributions. A person's involvement in the paper does not automatically qualify them as a co-author (but occasionally it may be appropriate to acknowledge major administrative assistance). Any author or collaborator who uses a fake name should not be included. It is the author's obligation to include as co-authors only those people who are suitable. The submitting author should have provided a draft copy of the work to each living co-author and obtained their assent to co-authorship.
6. Plagiarism is not acceptable in IJCA journals.
7. Images should not be manipulated in a way that misleads the reader. Pictures used in research reports or data gathering should have an accurate description of how the pictures were created and produced.