



Publication Ethics

Derna University Journal of Medical Sciences (DUJMS) is committed to meet and uphold standards of ethical behavior at all stages of the publication process. We follow closely the Committee of Publication Ethics (COPE), International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) and World Association of Medical Editors (WAME), that set standards and provide guidelines for best publication. Ethical standards for publications exist to ensure high-quality scientific publications and public trust in scientific findings, so that people receive credit for their work and ideas. Scientific research is completed with the participation of the scientific community and the dissemination of all the information to allow the accumulation of knowledge and avoid repetition of research. The aim of ethical and legal principles of scientific publication is to:

- Ensure the credibility of the information and the accuracy of scientific knowledge.
- Protect the intellectual property.
- Respect for the rights of authors.
- Ensure and protect the rights of research participants.

1. Securing the Information Credibility and the Accuracy of Scientific Knowledge

One of the principles of scientific research is that the researcher presents the methodology used in his study. So that other researchers can repeat the experiment in the same way and verify the results validity. The researcher has to be careful in editing and preparing his study for publication to avoid mistakes.



2. Share Information

It is recommended that the researcher work is available to other researchers whom share the primary collected data through his research field and keep it for at least five years after publication to verify the results. Researcher must remove all personal information that may identify the participants before publication.

3. Frequency of Posting

It is not permissible to publish the study results in two independent sources but it is permissible to republish the results of a previous research in a new study for scientific necessity, which provides a small volume of the repeated material in relation to the new text. As well as, the researcher clearly cites his first study and accurately identifies the information he gathered from it.

4. Intellectual Property Laws

Intellectual property belongs to the people who have participated primarily in an intellectual author, and are ready to take responsibility for what has been published. Authors have moral and material rights over their intellectual production, which are protected by national laws and international agreements, in what is known as intellectual property protection laws. One of the most important conditions for protection is that the work must be innovative and contains new original ideas regardless to its value, type, method expressing those ideas or its purpose of authorship. It should be noted that laws do not protect ideas themselves instead protect their expression. In general, the categories not covered by protection include:

1. Laws, regulations, judicial rulings, decisions of administrative bodies, international agreements and other official documents issued by government bodies.
2. Published news, broadcasts and public reports.

Intellectual property laws protect the moral and material rights of the author, including: moral rights, the author's right to attribute his work, the right to decide whether or not to publish it, the right to object to any distortion,



modification or prejudice to his work that would harm his standing, the right to withdraw his work from circulation if any distortion or modification occurs. Therefore, if the researcher borrows a section or idea from another researcher's work, he attributes it to its owner without any distort of the original meaning. Derna University Journal of Medical Sciences is committed to protect the author's intellectual rights. For material rights, the scientific work published in the journal becomes the journal's right under a deed of assignment signed by the author, the copyright, the printing right and the one right to grant permission to reprint or translate or republish it.

5. Plagiarism

Derna University Journal of Medical Sciences respects academic property and defends the author's original work. Typically, the journal publication ethics are inconsistent with scientific articles containing stolen materials and are not bounded to the standards of research quality and innovation. Applicants must adhere to ethical standards and refrain from plagiarism in any way. Scientific plagiarism is the use and presentation of original ideas, opinions and outputs for the effort of another person without mentioning it, whether it happened intentionally or unintentionally (such as incorrect citation). Therefore, it should be noted that other research used as a model for a new study should be attributed to its owner. Also, it is not permissible for the researcher to present one of his previous works as new. The researcher may need to cite the previous work to clarify the idea of the new work. In case that any plagiarism or scientific theft of an article submitted for publication is found, the journal will make contact with the author to provide the explanation within two weeks to take strict measures. Generally, the journal's license allows the citation of the content published on its website and the download of all files.

6. Citation Reference

Citation is the most important exception to the law of intellectual property protection. It is recognized in international and national laws that a limited part of the work can be used without the consent of the author and without paying



any material compensation, if the purpose of the use is to criticize the work or support a point of view or for a purpose. All works used to write the study must be mentioned in the reference list. The correct textual citation is through:

- a) Literal quotation, i.e. borrowing one sentence or a few words, using quotation marks (or double “ ”) and mentioning the author’s name, publication date and page.
- b) Non-literal quotation, i.e. paraphrasing a section in the researcher’s own style and including it in the text, mentioning the author’s name, publication date and page.
- c) Summarizing, if the passage used is long and can be brief without modification in meaning, with the author's name, date of publication and pages.

7. Ensuring and Protecting the Rights of Research Participants

This section includes:

1. Obtaining the consent of the research participants

The researcher must inform those involved in the research field (institutions under study, participants in interviews, etc.) about research methods and ways to use the expected results to obtain their consent.

2. Ensuring privacy and avoiding abuse

If the researcher uses the case study method, he shall not disclose confidential or personal information that may be known to the individuals or the institution. Researcher can hide some information that is unnecessary, to understand the phenomenon being studied and he is not permissible to publish information that may offend the research participants.

3. Impartiality and avoidance of conflict of interest

The author should not have a personal relationship with those concerned with the results that may prejudice the objective of the study. Therefore, it is assumed that any relationship of the researcher to the subject of the study should be declared impartiality in addressing the topic.