Guidelines for **Publication Ethics** following recommendations of COPE (Committee on Publication Ethics) – Core Practices.

Author Responsibilities

Reporting standards: authors reporting results of original research should present an accurate account of the work performed as well as an objective discussion of its significance. The underlying data should be represented accurately in the manuscript. The paper should contain sufficient details and references to permit others to replicate the work. Fraudulent or knowingly inaccurate statements constitute unethical behaviour and are unacceptable.

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Acknowledgement of sources: appropriate acknowledgement of the work of others must be given at all times. Authors should also cite publications that have been influential in determining the nature of the reported work.

Authorship of the manuscript: authorship should be limited to those who have made a significant contribution to the conception, design, execution, or interpretation of the reported study. All those who have made significant contributions should be listed as co-authors. Where there are others who have participated in certain substantive aspects of the research project, they should be named in the "Acknowledgements" section.

The corresponding author should ensure that all appropriate co-authors (according to the above definition) and no inappropriate co-authors are included in the author's list of the manuscript, and that all co-authors have seen and approved of the final version of the paper and have agreed to its submission for publication.

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