



# Annals of Forest Science

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## 1. AIMS AND SCOPE

Please find the journal Aims and Scope [here](#).

## 2. SUBMIT ONLINE

To submit a manuscript, log in [here](#) and follow the online procedure.

Alternatively, you may also submit via the [website of Peerage of Science](#); in this case, indicate that you intend to be published in Annals of Forest Science after the peer review process by Peerage of Science. We will then be informed of any submission.

It is highly recommended to use an [ORCID identifier](#) for each author.

For any question or query, contact us at [annforsci@inrae.fr](mailto:annforsci@inrae.fr)

## 3. ARTICLE TYPES

Annals of Forest Science publishes several types of paper: *Research papers*, *Review papers*, *Opinion papers*, and *Data papers*.

Any article type can be part of a [topical collection](#) (electronic special issue).

Article Type	Scope	Standards for publication
Research paper (double-blind peer-reviewed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Novel findings around an experimental approach;</li><li>• New tools, methods or techniques for research or forestry practice;</li><li>• Development or novel applications of tools including the parameterisation of existing models;</li><li>• Case studies of regional or local interest as well as purely confirmative studies are not considered.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Explicit statement of addressed question(s) and/or working hypotheses;</li><li>• Quality of science (no logical flaw in the demonstration, appropriate experimental design, and relevant statistics);</li><li>• New tools must be tested against known standards.</li></ul>
Review paper (double-blind peer-reviewed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A comprehensive analysis of the literature, sometimes through a meta-analysis of published information dealing with up-to-date advances in forest research and important debates in the scope of the journal.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Novelty and relevance of the topic addressed;</li><li>• Coverage of the existing information and literature;</li><li>• Quality of the writing and of the synthesis.</li></ul>
Opinion paper (Peer-reviewed upon editorial decision)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Novel view on a given topic without necessarily original research results;</li><li>• Comment on important issues and scientific debate;</li><li>• Response to a published paper.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Novelty and relevance of the topic addressed;</li><li>• Quality of the arguments provided;</li><li>• Quality of the writing and of the synthesis.</li></ul>
Data paper (single-blind peer-reviewed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A description of a dataset: clear and exhaustive description of the dataset, its content, its potential use, and all the metadata required to access the dataset.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Data are hosted in a repository and the dataset is identified with a DOI (Digital Object Identifier);</li><li>• Accessibility of the dataset;</li><li>• Quality and accuracy of the provided information;</li><li>• Reusability of the dataset.</li></ul>

## 4. FILES TO UPLOAD AT SUBMISSION

### 4.1. Cover letter

The cover letter must include:

- the article type
- the main aim(s) of the manuscript
- the arguments for publication in *Annals of Forest Science* (*i.e.* how it fits within the scope of the journal and the novelty of the content)
- the name of the topical collection (if any), with the Guest editor name

For Opinion paper, provide a few clues about the topic addressed and the debate underlying the letter.

In case of a resubmission of a manuscript previously submitted to AFS, please provide the previous manuscript identifier AFSC-17-00XXX. Do not hesitate to tell us whether your manuscript was submitted to another journal prior to AFS or as a preprint.

### 4.2. Title page

The title page contains the authors' identities and will not be available to the referees. A template for the title page is available for guidance.

[Template – Title Page \(docx, 18kb\)](#)

The title page must include the following items:

1. Title of the article
2. Author list (first name, middle initial(s) and surname of each author (format: "Albert EINSTEIN"))<sup>1</sup>, identify the corresponding author by an asterisk<sup>2</sup>
3. Authors affiliations
4. Email address of all the authors
5. ORCID identifier of authors (recommended for non-ambiguous identification of authors)
6. Short title
7. Keywords
8. Declarations (Funding, Conflicts of interest/Competing interests, Ethics approval, Consent to participate, Consent for publication, Data availability, Code availability (whether relevant), Authors' contributions)
9. Acknowledgements
10. Total number of characters (including spaces, references and captions); number of tables and figures
11. DOI of the preprint as appropriate

### 4.3. Manuscript (excluding authors' names and affiliations)

The body of the manuscript contains all the information required for external reviews.

AFS encourages authors to read the [EASE Guidelines for Authors and Translators](#) and seek English language revision by professional editors as appropriate. See the formatting instructions below.

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<sup>1</sup> Upon submission in Editorial Manager, ensure to enter the co-authors in the same order

<sup>2</sup> Articles with a corresponding author affiliated to an institution part of a Compact Agreement with Springer will be Open Access at no charge for the authors. More information on <https://www.springer.com/gp/open-access/springer-open-choice/springer-compact>

#### 4.3.1. Research paper

No longer than 40,000 characters (including spaces, figures, and tables); concise, focused on new data and results. A template for research article is available and will help you structure your manuscript.

[Template – Research paper \(docx, 22kb\)](#)

1. Title
2. Key message (max. 60 words): informative and self-standing for stakeholders and a broader readership; it will be used on the website and for external communication purposes
3. Abstract (max. 200 words): should provide a clear view of the content of the manuscript with a brief description of the main results and conclusions. The abstract should be understandable by any person with a background in forestry, in particular forest managers. Avoid **acronyms**, footnotes, references, cross-references to figures and tables and abbreviations. It must be presented as successive small sections providing:
  - Context: introduction into the broader context of the study
  - Aim(s): clear statement of the research questions
  - Methods: brief overview of the methods used
  - Results: the most important results
  - Conclusion
4. Keywords: provide 4 to 6 keywords that are not in the title and will be used for indexing purposes.
5. The following sections:
  - a. Introduction\*
  - b. Material and methods
  - c. Results
  - d. Discussion (do not combine results and discussion)
  - e. Conclusion
  - f. Abbreviations (optional)
  - g. Glossary (optional)
  - h. Appendix (optional)\*\*
  - [i. Compliance with ethical standards (as appropriate)\*\*\*]
  - j. References
  - k. Tables
  - l. Captions of figures

\*The introduction must open to a few explicit working hypotheses or at least a few explicit research questions; if none is available, the manuscript may be directly returned to the authors.

\*\* Any development, detailed protocol, or supporting tables or figures not available in a repository.

\*\*\* Filled-in Items from Title Page will be automatically placed here during the production of the article. Provide a statement specifying the appropriate permissions and/or licenses for using endangered species or conducting research in a protected area.

#### 4.3.2. Review paper

The abstract is mandatory. It should contain at least the key message, context, aims and conclusion subsections.

The sections of the manuscript are relatively free. “Material and methods”, “Results” and “Discussion” sections are optional. The template available can be adapted for Review paper.

#### 4.3.3. Opinion paper

The key message is mandatory.

The sections of the manuscript are relatively free. Please keep the opinion paper as short as possible.

#### 4.3.4. Data paper

The mandatory files are the cover letter, the title page, the manuscript and the “AFS\_Template\_Dataset-metadata.xlsx” Excel file. Download and use the specific templates, available at <https://metadata-afs.nancy.inra.fr/ressources/>

For an example of a data paper, see Heym, M., Ruíz-Peinado, R., Del Río, M. et al. Annals of Forest Science (2017) 74: 63. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13595-017-0660-z> (the read-only version is available [here](#))

#### 4.4. Additional files as appropriate

Authors' Response to Reviewers' Comments (Authors' information must <b>Not</b> be included)	Point by point response to reviewers in the cases of resubmission and revision.
Table	As many as appropriate. See the formatting instructions below.
Line figure	As many as appropriate. Name your figure files with "Fig" and the figure number, e.g., Fig1.eps. See the formatting instructions below.
Color figure	As many as appropriate. See the formatting instructions below.
Attachment to manuscript	To guarantee the double-blind peer-review procedure of datasets, you may upload the dataset(s) as “Attachment to manuscript” in Editorial Manager before depositing in a repository. See the formatting instructions below (5.7).
Authorship change form	Must be provided if changes in authorship (addition, removal, re-ordering) occur after the first submission or if there are inconsistencies in the author list between the Editorial Manager system and the Title page.

## 5. GENERAL FORMATTING

Object	Formatting
<b>5.1. Text</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use a Word compatible software or LaTeX.</li> <li>• Define abbreviations at first occurrence and use consistently thereafter.</li> <li>• Use italics for scientific names or Latin expressions (<i>in vivo</i>, ...).</li> <li>• Add the author name at first citation (i.e., <i>Quercus robur</i> L.) (see <a href="http://www.ipni.org/">http://www.ipni.org/</a>).</li> <li>• Number pages and lines with a continuous numbering procedure from the start of the manuscript.</li> <li>• Use tab stops or other commands for indents, not the space bar.</li> <li>• Use the equation editor or MathType for equations. If you use Word 2007, do not create the equations with the default equation editor but use the Microsoft equation editor or MathType instead.</li> <li>• Do not use footnotes.</li> <li>• Do not use field functions.</li> <li>• Send all LaTeX support files (e.g., .cls; .sty; .bst; .bib; etc.) along with the main LaTeX file(s) and figure file(s).</li> <li>• Please use Springer’s LaTeX package and choose the reference style for AFSC: <a href="#">LaTeX Macro Package (zip, 182 kB)</a></li> <li>• When submitting to Editorial Manager®, please, select item type 'Manuscript' for all LaTeX related files (tex, bbl, bst, sty, clo, cls). Otherwise PDF compilation will not work properly.</li> </ul>
<b>5.2. References</b>	<p>Citations of preprints are accepted, provided they underwent peer-review and/or scientific validation.</p> <p><u>Citation in the main text</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cite references in the text by name and year in parentheses:  Negotiation research spans many disciplines (Thompson 1990).  This result was later contradicted by Petre and Kamoun (2014).  This effect has been widely studied (Abbott 1991; Barakat et al. 1995; Kelso and Smith 1998; Medvec et al. 1993).</li> </ul> <p><u>Reference list</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include all references cited in the text, <b>including reference for a dataset in a public repository provided a permanent link (DOI) is attributed.</b></li> <li>• Mention personal communications and unpublished work in the text only.</li> <li>• Alphabetize the reference list entries by the last names of the first author of each work. Always use the standard abbreviation of a journal’s name according to the ISSN List of Title Word Abbreviations (<a href="http://www.issn.org">www.issn.org</a>).</li> <li>• Indicate the DOI when available.</li> <li>• For authors using EndNote, we provide an output style that supports the formatting of in-text citations and reference list.  <a href="#">EndNote style (zip,3 kB)</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Journal article</i> (provide the names of all co-authors):  Kebbi-Benkeder Z, Colin F, Dumarçay S, Gérardin P (2015) Quantification and characterization of knotwood extractives of 12 European softwood and hardwood species. <i>Ann For Sci</i> 72: 277-284. doi.org/10.1007/s13595-014-0428-7</li> <li>▪ <i>Dataset</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>Cantiani P, Marchi M (2017) A spatial dataset of forest mensuration collected in black pine plantations in central Italy. V1. CREA. [Dataset]. <a href="http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.438681">http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.438681</a>. Accessed 28 March 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Article by DOI</i></li> </ul> <p>Slifka MK, Whitton JL (2000) Clinical implications of dysregulated cytokine production. J Mol Med. doi:10.1007/s001090000086</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Book</i></li> </ul> <p>South J, Blass B (2001) The future of modern genomics. Blackwell, London</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Book chapter</i></li> </ul> <p>Brown B, Aaron M (2001) The politics of nature. In: Smith J (ed) The rise of modern genomics, 3rd edn. Wiley, New York, pp 230-257</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Online document</i></li> </ul> <p>Cartwright J (2007) Big stars have weather too. IOP Publishing PhysicsWeb. <a href="http://physicsweb.org/articles/news/11/6/16/1">http://physicsweb.org/articles/news/11/6/16/1</a>. Accessed 26 June 2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Dissertation</i></li> </ul> <p>Trent JW (1975) Experimental acute renal failure. Dissertation, University of California</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Preprints</i></li> </ul> <p>Bar DZ, Atkash K, Tavarez U, Erdos MR, Gruenbaum Y, Collins FS. Biotinylation by antibody recognition- A novel method for proximity labeling. BioRxiv. [Preprint]. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1101/069187">https://doi.org/10.1101/069187</a>. Accessed 12 January 2017.</p>
<b>5.3. Table</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number all tables using Arabic numerals.</li> <li>• Cite tables in the text in consecutive numerical order.</li> <li>• Supply a table caption (title) explaining the components of the table, for each table.</li> <li>• Identify any previously published material by giving the original source in the form of a reference at the end of the table caption.</li> </ul>
<b>5.4. Figure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supply high resolution figures as separate files.</li> <li>• Provide figures containing vector/editable objects rather than embedded images.</li> <li>• Preferred file formats are EPS, AI, TIFF, and PDF. MS Office files are also acceptable.</li> <li>• Do not include titles or captions within your illustrations.</li> <li>• Vector graphics containing fonts must have the fonts embedded in the files.</li> <li>• Name your figure files with "Fig" and the figure number, e.g., Fig1.eps.</li> </ul> <p><u>Figure numbering</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number all figures using Arabic numerals.</li> <li>• Cite figures in the text in consecutive numerical order.</li> <li>• Denote figure parts by lowercase letters (a, b, c, etc.).</li> </ul> <p><u>Figure lettering</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use Helvetica or Arial (sans serif fonts), preferentially.</li> <li>• Keep lettering consistently sized throughout your final-sized artwork (8–12 pts).</li> <li>• Keep the variation of type size within an illustration to a minimum.</li> <li>• Avoid shading, outlining letters, etc...</li> </ul> <p><u>Figure caption</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supply a concise caption for each figure. Include the captions in the text file of the manuscript, not in the figure file.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Figure captions begin with the term <b>Fig.</b> in bold type, followed by the figure number, also in bold type.</li> <li>• Describe all elements of the figure in the figure caption (e.g. boxes, circles, etc.).</li> <li>• Identify previously published material by giving the original source in the form of a reference citation at the end of the figure caption.</li> </ul> <p><u>Figure size</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Figures should be 39 mm, 84 mm, 129 mm, or 174 mm wide and no more than 234 mm high.</li> </ul> <p><u>Permissions</u></p> <p>If you include figures that have already been published elsewhere, you must obtain permission from the copyright owner(s) for both the print and online format. Please be aware that some publishers do not grant electronic rights for free and that Springer will not be able to refund any costs that may have occurred to receive these permissions. In such cases, material from other sources should be used.</p>
<p><b>5.5. Color art</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide black &amp; white figures with clear patterns. The use of color figures should be restricted to cases where colors bring an added value.</li> <li>• Color art is free of charge for online and printed publication.</li> <li>• Do not refer to color in the captions in case readers print in black and white.</li> <li>• Make sure that the main information remains visible if printed in black and white. Many colors are not distinguishable from one another when converted to black and white.</li> <li>• Color illustrations should be submitted as RGB (8 bits per channel).</li> </ul>
<p><b>5.6. Appendix</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annals of Forest Science does not accept Electronic supplementary material anymore. Please provide supplementary material as one or several appendices whenever possible. For large tables and voluminous material, prefer deposit in an appropriate public repository (see 5.7 below).</li> <li>• Provide the Appendix as a section in the body of the manuscript (between Conclusion and References).</li> <li>• For the figures and tables in the appendix, <b>continue the consecutive numbering of the main text</b>, even if cited first in the main text. In this case, please use (<b>Appendix Fig. X</b>) for citation. Do not number the appendix figures or tables, “A1, A2, A3, etc.”. Keep their captions in this section.</li> </ul>
<p><b>5.7 Dataset in a repository</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deposit dataset preferentially in an appropriate repository that can be searched through <a href="https://re3data.org">re3data.org</a></li> <li>• Note that the deposition of dataset in a public repository does not guarantee the double-blind peer-review procedure.</li> <li>• Alternatively, upload the dataset(s) as “Attachment to manuscript” in Editorial Manager to allow for the double-blind peer-review procedure before depositing in a repository.</li> <li>• Data should be the raw/primary data supporting the results and conclusions.</li> <li>• Data should be reusable and interoperable. Please <b>avoid using proprietary formats</b> to ensure that the files will be accessible to every user. For instance, excel spreadsheets should be converted to a plain text format (.csv or .txt). Please refer to <a href="https://ist.blogs.inrae.fr/afs/2019/07/24/guidelines-for-authors-how-to-share-your-datasets/">https://ist.blogs.inrae.fr/afs/2019/07/24/guidelines-for-authors-how-to-share-your-datasets/</a></li> <li>• Cite the dataset in the reference list of the manuscript if it has a permanent identifier (DOI), and cite this reference in the main text.</li> <li>• Note that embargo and restricted access are possible for some repositories.</li> </ul>



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## 6. DECISION MAKING

The Editorial Board maintains the option of returning manuscripts that do not fit within the scope of the journal, display major flaws, do not comply with the instructions to authors, or do not display sufficient novelty, to the authors, before any further evaluation. This decision may be made by the Chief-editor or the Associate Editor handling the manuscript.

Annals of Forest Science uses a double-blind review process (reviewers do not access authors identity and vice-versa) for *Research* and *Review papers*. The refereeing process aims at checking the scientific quality and originality as well as the interest to the journal's international readership. First, all the manuscripts are screened by Springer Editorial Assistant, who checks the compliance with ethical (plagiarism, research conducted on endangered species ...) and language (English) standards, and the compliance to Instructions for Authors. Manuscripts may be sent back to Authors for revision. Then, the Chief-editor checks whether the manuscript fits within the scope and meets the quality requirements of the journal (clear hypothesis, soundness of the experimentation ...). Manuscripts may be rejected or sent back to Authors for revision before review. Then, manuscripts are assigned to an Associate Editor with specific expertise in the field. The Editor selects referees (at least two, unless there is a low interest from invited reviewers), and after receiving the advice of the referees, produces a tentative decision. Finally, the decision is reached with the Chief-editor.

After reviewing, a decision is provided to the authors: (i) Accept with minor modifications; (ii) Major revision; the revised version will be analyzed by the editorial board and possibly re-examined by the external referees before a final decision is made; please be aware that publication is not granted at this stage; (iii) Decline with potential resubmission; the revised version may be submitted as a new manuscript and will undergo a complete assessment; and (iv) Decline.

We will provide in any case detailed arguments explaining the decision, and are ready to answer all concerns expressed by the authors after a decision.

## 7. AFTER ACCEPTANCE

Upon acceptance of your article you will receive a link to the special Author Query Application at Springer's web page where you can sign the Copyright Transfer Statement online and indicate whether you wish to order OpenChoice, offprints. Once the Author Query Application has been completed, your article will be processed and you will receive the proofs.

### 7.1. Open Choice

In addition to the normal publication process (whereby an article is submitted to the journal and access to that article is granted to customers who have purchased a subscription), Springer provides an alternative publishing option: Springer Open Choice at the cost of 2200€. A Springer Open Choice article receives all the benefits of a regular subscription-based article, but in addition is made available publicly through Springer's online platform SpringerLink.

### 7.2. Copyright transfer

Authors will be asked to transfer copyright of the article to the Publisher (or grant the Publisher exclusive publication and dissemination rights). This will ensure the widest possible protection and dissemination of information under copyright laws. Open Choice articles do not require transfer of

copyright as the copyright remains with the author. In opting for open access, authors agree to the Springer Open Choice License.

### **7.3. Proof reading**

The purpose of the proof is to check for typesetting or conversion errors and the completeness and accuracy of the text, tables and figures. Substantial changes in content, e.g., new results, corrected values, title and authorship, are not allowed without the approval of the Editor. After online publication, further changes can only be made in the form of an Erratum, which will be hyperlinked to the article.

### **7.4. Continuous Article Publishing**

The article is published online after receipt of the corrected proofs. This is the first official publication citable with the DOI. Manuscripts are immediately assigned to the current issue. As a consequence, the final page and issue numbers are defined immediately. After release of the printed version, the article can also be cited by volume and article number.

### **7.5. Sharing your article**

Upon acceptance, you will be asked to provide ten email addresses of colleagues who will receive a complimentary copy of the PDF of your paper.

We disseminate information about published papers via social networks (blog, twitter, Facebook). We would be pleased to illustrate our blog posts (<http://ist.blogs.inrae.fr/afs>) with any photograph of your experiment. Please send us your pictures with copyright information (to [annforsci@inrae.fr](mailto:annforsci@inrae.fr)).

Authors can post shareable link online on social media or any platform to give everyone access to a read-only version of the full-text article (SharedIt initiative).

### **7.6. Green Open Access**

#### Self-archiving

Authors can deposit the accepted version of their manuscript on their personal webpage on condition that it is not the publisher (Springer) version and that they provide the publisher's web link and the DOI.

#### Institutional archiving

All articles published in Annals of Forest Science are automatically deposited in an open repository (HAL, <https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/ARINRAE-AFS>) 12 months after online publication. The articles are available for free in the publisher version.

Authors can deposit their manuscript on their Institute/University repository 12 months after online publication on condition that it is NOT the publisher (Springer) formatted version and that they provide the publisher's web link and the DOI.

## APPENDIX 1 - RESEARCH DATA POLICY

Following a Springer Nature initiative, Annals of Forest Science (AFS) adopted a standardised research data policy (the Springer Research Data Policy Type 3 (for life sciences)).

Specifically, a submission to AFS implies that materials described in the manuscript, including all relevant raw data, will be freely available to any researcher wishing to use them for non-commercial purposes, without breaching participant confidentiality. AFS strongly encourages that all datasets on which the conclusions of the paper rely should be available to readers. We encourage authors to ensure that their datasets are deposited in appropriate repositories whenever possible. The selection of the repository ([www.re3data.org](http://www.re3data.org)) is the authors' responsibility. Nevertheless, we would like to draw authors' attention to the following points: to comply with FAIR principles (Data must be Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable), authors should take care to 1- provide types of access to data, 2- restrictions to upload data, when choosing repository. Accessibility is sometimes impaired as some repositories require registration fees or institutional membership. Repositories should deliver a permanent identifier (DOI) (not an URL, prone to modifications). Please see our blog: <https://ist.blogs.inrae.fr/afs/2019/07/24/guidelines-for-authors-how-to-share-your-datasets/>

Please see Springer Nature's website for detailed information about

- data policy types (<http://www.springernature.com/gp/authors/research-data-policy/data-policy-types>)
- list of repositories (<http://www.springernature.com/gp/authors/research-data-policy/repositories>)
- examples of statements (<http://www.springernature.com/gp/authors/research-data-policy/data-availability-statements>)

## APPENDIX 2 - DISCLOSURE OF POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Authors must disclose all relationships or interests that could have direct or potential influence or impart bias on the work. Examples of potential conflicts of interests that are directly or indirectly related to the research may include but are not limited to the following:

- Research grants from funding agencies (please give the research funder and the grant number)
- Honoraria for speaking at symposia
- Financial support for attending symposia
- Financial support for educational programs
- Employment or consultation
- Support from a project sponsor
- Position on advisory board or board of directors or other type of management relationships
- Multiple affiliations
- Financial relationships, for example equity ownership or investment interest
- Intellectual property rights (e.g. patents, copyrights and royalties from such rights)
- Holdings of spouse and/or children that may have financial interest in the work

In addition, interests that go beyond financial interests and compensation (non-financial interests) that may be important to readers should be disclosed.

### APPENDIX 3 - ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF AUTHORS

This journal is committed to upholding the integrity of the scientific record. As a member of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) the journal will follow the COPE guidelines on how to deal with potential acts of misconduct.

Authors should refrain from misrepresenting research results which could damage the trust in the journal, the professionalism of scientific authorship, and ultimately the entire scientific endeavour. Maintaining integrity of the research and its presentation is helped by following the rules of good scientific practice, which include\*:

- The manuscript should not be submitted to more than one journal for simultaneous consideration.
- The submitted work should be original and should not have been published elsewhere in any form or language (partially or in full), unless the new work concerns an expansion of previous work. (Please provide transparency on the re-use of material to avoid the concerns about text-recycling ('self-plagiarism').
- A single study should not be split up into several parts to increase the quantity of submissions and submitted to various journals or to one journal over time (i.e. 'salami-slicing/publishing').
- Concurrent or secondary publication is sometimes justifiable, provided certain conditions are met. Examples include: translations or a manuscript that is intended for a different group of readers.
- Results should be presented clearly, honestly, and without fabrication, falsification or inappropriate data manipulation (including image-based manipulation). Authors should adhere to discipline-specific rules for acquiring, selecting and processing data.
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