**Editorial ethics**

The Editorial Board of the RMJ Clinical Ophthalmology follows the conventional ethical principles for scientific periodicals and guidelines of the Publication Ethics Code developed and approved by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) and demands that all those involved in publishing operation should obey these principles.

**Professional conduct of the editor and publisher**

The publisher and Editorial Board are responsible for the disclosure of copyrighted materials. The Editor makes an unbiased conclusion as to the publication on the base of reliability of provided data and academic significance of a work under consideration. In making the decision of publication, the Editor may consult other editors or experts. Editorial decisions should not be influenced by the origins of the manuscript, including the nationality, ethnicity, political beliefs, race, or religion of the authors. Decisions to edit and publish should not be determined by the policies of governments or other agencies outside of the journal itself. Unpublished data obtained from submitted manuscripts should not be traded on or transmitted to third persons without written consent of the author(s). Information obtained in the reviewing process should be handled as confidential. The Editor should not accept a manuscript for publication where there are sufficient grounds to suspect plagiarism. The Editor and Publisher should not disregard claims concerning reviewed manuscripts or published materials. In case of conflicts, they should make reasonable best efforts for restoration of violated rights.

**Reviewers' ethics**

Peer reviewers make an expert review of a manuscript, and their conduct should be impartial, according to the following principles. The manuscript received for reviewing should be considered confidential. It may not be given for information or discussion to third persons not authorized by the Editor. Reviewers must provide an unbiased and substantiated estimation of results presented in the manuscript. Personal criticism of the author(s) is not allowed. Unpublished data obtained from submitted manuscripts should not be traded on. Reviewers should notify the Editor if they find they do not have the expertise to assess all aspects of the manuscript or cannot be impartial because of conflict of interest. They should ask the Editor to dispense him/her from the reviewing of the manuscript.

**Authors' conduct**

Author(s) are aware that they bear primary responsibility for the novelty and validity of research results and for the abidance by biological and medical ethic standards in doing experiments presented in the manuscript. Authors should provide reliable data of their study. Misleading or falsified statements are unacceptable. Authors should ensure that the research results presented in their manuscript are fully original. Borrowed quotations or statements should be accompanied by references to their authors and sources. Overquoting and plagiarism of any kind are unethical and unacceptable. The contributions of all persons involved in the study to any extent should be acknowledged. In particular, all publications significant for the study should be referred to. Submission of a paper implies that the results reported have not been published and are not being considered for publication elsewhere. The cover letter should contain the statement that the work is published for the first time. If some fragments of the manuscript have been published, the authors should refer to the earlier paper and indicate differences between the new and earlier papers. Intentional submission or re-submission of a work for duplicate publication is considered a breach of publishing ethics. All persons who made significant contributions to the work should be included to the list of authors. It is unacceptable to indicate persons not participating in the study as co-authors. All co-authors should confirm the consent to the publication by signing either the license to publish or the manuscript itself. The Editor is not liable to responsibility before third persons for the breach of warranties provided by authors. If an author finds significant errors or inaccuracies in the manuscript in the course of its reviewing or after publication, he/she should immediately notify the Editor.

**Conflict of interests**

To avoid publication misconduct, conflicts of interests of all participants of the editorial process should be eliminated. A conflict of interests may arise if an author, reviewer, or member of the Editorial Board is involved in financial, scientific, or personal relationships that may affect their actions. Authors are obliged to settle all claims on their own account. In cases of suspected publication misconduct by any participant of the editorial process, public investigation must be pursued. If a paper containing significant inaccuracies has been published, it should be revised so that the revisions should be accessible for readers and indexing systems.