**BioScientific Review (BSR)**

***Policy Document***

**Table of Contents**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Sr. No.** | **Items** | **Page No.** |
| 1 | Basic Information | 1 |
| 2 | Guidelines for submission of research articles | 2 |
| 3 | Peer-review Policy | 8 |
| 4 | Originality and Plagiarism Policy | 8 |
| 5 | Subscription Details | 10 |
| 6 | Ethical Guidelines | 11 |
| 7 | Privacy Statement | 11 |
| 8 | Author Agreement Form | 13 |
| 10 | Article Processing/Publication Fee | 15 |
| 11 | Disclosure and Conflict of Interest | 15 |
| 12 | Correction and Retraction of Research Articles | 16 |
| 13 | Contribution and Consent of each Author | 16 |
| 14 | Another National and International Guidelines | 17 |
| 15 | Publication Process Map | 19 |
| 16 | Detailed Timeline of Publication Process | 20 |

**Basic Information**

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| --- | --- |
| **Frequency of Journal** | Quarterly (Four issues annually |
| **Review Type** | Double-blind peer-reviewed |
| **Journal Type** | Open access |
| **Publication Fee** | Free of cost |
| **Publication Portal** | OJS |
| **Average Publication Time** | 20-24 Weeks |
| **Timeliness of Publication** (mention the month/date of publication of relevant volume/issue). | Issue1, March  Issue2, June  Issue 3, September,  Issue 4, December |
| **ISSN (E)**  **ISSN (P)** | 2663-4201  2663-4198 |
| **No. of Volume/ Issues Published** | 3 Volumes, 12 issues |
| **HEC-Recognized** | Y-Category |

1. **Guidelines for submission of research articles**

### ****a. Manuscript Submission****

Manuscripts submitted to BioScientific Review (BSR) shouldn’t be under consideration or being reviewed for publication in any other journal in any form. Duplicate submissions and submission of plagiarized content is not acceptable because it stands in blatant violation of publication ethics.

### ****b. Submission Checklist****

The authors are requested to familiarize themselves with author guidelines and submission requirements of BSR before submitting their papers. There are no restrictions on the number of figures, word count and length of manuscripts but the text should be kept comprehensive and concise.

#### c. Article Type Specifications

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Article** **Description** | **Abstract** | **Word** **Limit** | **Tables/** **Figures** | **References** |
| **Articles**(Please see ‘Preparation of Articles’ below for further details)  **Full length articles**  Articles report significant original basic research | Unstructured abstract | Abstract: 250 words  Article: 5,000 –  6000 words excluding abstract, references, figures and tables. | Max of Wo10 | Max of 60. Please use as recent as possible. |
| **Short communication**  Articles report significant original basic research | Unstructured abstract | Abstract: 250 words  Article: 1500 –  2000 words excluding abstract, references, figures and tables. | Max of 05 | Max of 25. Please use as recent as possible. |
| **Letter to editor**  Letters provide rapid and concise report of a novel finding that is brief in nature but is of general interest to the field. There should be no more than 10 authors. | Abstract | Abstract: 250 words  Article: 1500 –  2000 words excluding abstract, references, figures and tables. | Max of 5 | Max of 20 |
| **Reviews Articles**  Review Articles aim to provide accessible, authoritative overviews of a field or topic. Reviews should communicate a sense of enthusiasm, weaving background information with the latest advances, and placing both of these elements in the context of the rest of the field. | Unstructured abstract  Submission of graphical abstract of manuscript is mandatory | Abstract: 250 words  Article: 6,000 words max excluding abstract, references, figures and tables. | Max of 8 | Max of 100 |
| **Case Reports**  Case Reports should provide unique insight into disease mechanisms or diagnostic applications | Unstructured abstract | Abstract: 250 words  Article: 2000 words max excluding abstract, references, figures and tables. | Max of 3 | Max of 25 |
| **Commentary/opinion/perspective/Obituary** | No abstract | 2000 words including references | 01 | 10 |
| **Editorials (Invited only)**  Proposals for Editorials may be submitted. | No abstract required | 2,000 words | Max 1 | Max 15 |

Word limits are provided for guidance only. The Editors will consider submissions that exceed the recommended limit, subject to feedback received during peer review. No more than 3 co-corresponding authors, no more than 6 co-first authors for each paper.

**d. Preparation of Articles**

Please note that **Articles** must contain the following components. Please see below for further details. Other Article Types needn’t following the order. Please see below for further details.

* Cover letter
* Title page
* Abstract
* Introduction
* Methodology
* Results
* Discussion
* Conclusion
* Acknowledgements
* Author Contributions
* Conflict of Interest
* References
* Figure legends
* Tables
* Figures

**Cover** **Letter:**

All manuscripts submitted to BSR, must be accompanied by a cover letter declaring that

* This manuscript is original, is not published, in press, or submitted elsewhere in English or any other language, and is not currently being considered for publication elsewhere.
* It should declare that all authors have approved the content of the manuscript and have contributed significantly to the work.
* It should declare that all authors agree with submission of this manuscript to BSR.
* Affiliations, email addresses, postal addresses of all contributing authors. One author should be designated as the corresponding author.

**Abstract:** The abstract should briefly (no more than 250 words) describe in complete sentences the scope of the investigation, the results obtained and the major conclusions.

**Introduction:** The introduction should give a brief background knowledge related to the research and should be as concise as possible.

**Methodology:**The section should be described clearly and referenced in adequate detail, so that all experimental procedures can be reproduced. Authors should provide the name of the manufacturer and their location for any specifically named medical equipment and instruments.

**Results:** The results should present the experimental data in tables and figures with suitable descriptions.

**Discussion:** The discussion should focus on the interpretation and significance of the findings with concise objective comments.

**Conclusion:**Discussion should be followed by a paragraph (Max 6-7 lines) of conclusion of your study.

**Acknowledgements:** The acknowledgments should be brief and include financial supports along with the numbers of grants.

**Author** **Contributions:** The contributions of each author should be listed in general terms, for example, M, Ali designed experiments and helped write the manuscript.

**Conflict** **of Interest:**Authors must declare whether or not there are any competing financial or non-financial interests in relation to the work described. This information must be included at this stage and will be published as part of the paper. For further details please visit **policies and guidelines on journal’s website.**

**References**: The journal follows [AMA manual of style](https://journals.umt.edu.pk/index.php/BSR/libraryFiles/downloadPublic/41) (11th Edition) but the intext citations are arranged with a slight modification. The reference should be cited in the text by number only in square brackets, e.g. “Thompson et al [2] reported ...” or “... as previously described [2, 5–7]”, and list them in REFERENCES section, in the order of citation in the text, Tables and Figures (not alphabetically). If the same work is again need to cite in the same article then author should assign the same number. Only published (and accepted for publication) journal articles, books, and book chapters qualify for REFERENCES.  Name of journal should be abbreviated according to the [PubMed Journals Database](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/nlmcatalog/journals) (NLM, NIH).

List of REFERENCES must be prepared as under:

1. **Journals**

**Print Journal Articles**

General format:

Author(s). Article title. Abbreviated Journal Title. Year; vol(issue):pages.

**Online Journal Articles**

The same general format is followed for an online journal article, but with the addition of either a DOI (digital object identifier) or URL/accessed date (only if no DOI is available) at the end.

**General format with DOI:**

Author. Article title. Abbreviated Journal Title. Year;vol(issue):pages. doi:xx.xx.

 General format without DOI:

Author. Article title. Abbreviated Journal Title. Year;vol(issue);pages. URL. Published date. Updated date. Accessed date.

* The accessed date will often be the only date available.

 For all reference entries, list all authors if six or less, otherwise list first three followed by “et al”

* 1-6 authors: Smith IS, Hanson JP, Adams.
* 7 or more authors: Wormser GP, Ramanathan R, Nowakowski J, et al.

1. Ogedegbe ABO, Eloka EV. Biodiversity of termites on farmlands in Ugoniyekorhionmwon, Orhionwmon local government area, Edo State, Nigeria. Int J Pure Appl Sci Technol. 2015;27(2): 65-762.
2. Abd-Elmonem AM, Elhady HS. Effect of rebound exercises on balance in children with spastic diplegia. Int J Ther Rehabil. 2018;25(9):467-474. <https://doi.org/10.12968/ijtr.2018.25.9.467>
3. **Books**

**Print Books**

General format:

Author(s). Chapter title. In: Editor(s). Book Title. Edition number (if applicable). City, State (or country) of publisher: Publisher’s name; copyright year:pages (if chapter of book).

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* 1-6 authors: Smith IS, Hanson JP, Adams WE.
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1. Blair E, Cans C. The Definition of Cerebral Palsy. In: Panteliadis CP, ed. Cerebral Palsy A Multidisciplinary Approach. Cham: Springer International Publishing; 2018:13-17.c.
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Government and organization reports are generally treated like electronic journal or book references, depending on the type of report.

* Provide the published, updated, and accessed dates if however, the accessed date will often be the only date available.

1. World Health Organization. Equitable access to essential medicines: a framework for collective action.[http://whqlibdoc.who.int/hq/2004/WHO\_EDM\_2004.4.pdf.](http://whqlibdoc.who.int/hq/2004/WHO_EDM_2004.4.pdf) Published March 2004. Accessed December 6, 2005.

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Please make sure each table is cited within the text and in the correct order, e.g. (Table 3).

**Figures:**Figures and images should be labelled sequentially and cited in the text. Figures should not be embedded within the text but rather appear on a separate manuscript page after the References section

**Please note**: All parts of a figure should be grouped together. Where possible large figures and tables should be included as supplementary material.

##### ****Graphs, Histograms, Statistics****

* Plotting individual data points is preferred to just showing means, especially where N<10
* If error bars are shown, they must be described in the figure legend
* Axes on graphs should extend to zero, except for log axes
* Statistical analyses (including error bars and p values) should only be shown for independently repeated experiments, and must not be shown for replicates of a single experiment
* The number of times an experiment was repeated
* (N) must be stated in the legend

**Standard abbreviations:**Abbreviations should be defined in full at their first usage in the body of the manuscript, in the conventional manner. Terms used less than four times should not be abbreviated.

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Include a text summary (no more than 50 words) to describe the contents of each file.

Identify the types of files (file formats) submitted.

Include the text “Supplementary information is available at (journal name)’s website” at the end of the article and after the references.

**Formatting style**

Text should be single spaced on A4 (7" × 9") paper size with 1 inch margins. All pages and lines are to be numbered.

Use a coarse hatching pattern rather than shading for tints in graphs. Use Times New Roman with font size12 for text and 14 for headings

Colour should be distinct when being used as an identifying tool.

At first mention of a manufacturer country name should be provided.

**Statistical methods**: For normally distributed data, mean (SD) is the preferred summary statistic. Relative risks should be expressed as odds ratios with 95% confidence interval. To compare two methods for measuring a variable the method of Bland & Altman (1986, Lancet 1, 307–310) should be used; for this, calculation of P only is not appropriate.

Units: Use metric units (SI units) as fully as possible. Preferably give measurements of energy in kiloJoules or MegaJoules with kilocalories in parentheses (1 kcal

= 4.186kJ). Use % throughout.

Abbreviations: On first using an abbreviation place it in parentheses after the full item. Very common abbreviations such as FFA, RNA, need not be defined. Note these abbreviations: gram g; litre l;

milligram mg; kilogram kg; kilojoule kJ; megajoule MJ; weight wt; seconds s; minutes min; hours h. Do not add s for plural units.

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Authors who are not native speakers of English sometimes receive negative comments from referees or editors about the language and grammar usage in their manuscripts, which can contribute to a paper being rejected. To reduce the possibility of such problems, we strongly encourage such authors to have their manuscript reviewed for clarity by a colleague whose native language is English or using a professional language editing service where editors will improve the English to ensure that your meaning is clear and identify problems that require your review. Language editing does not guarantee that the article will be selected for peer review or accepted.

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Current Issue

1. **Peer-review Policy**

All submitted manuscripts are reviewed through a 'double-blind' peer review process that means the identities of the authors are kept confidential from the reviewers, and vice versa.

To make this possible, anonymized versions of the manuscript are sent to referees. Submitted papers are first considered by the editor after submission. Papers that do not fall within the scope of the journal are 'desk-rejected'. In addition, papers that fail to meet a minimum threshold for quality and originality are also rejected without being sent out to the reviewers.

Papers passing through this initial editorial scrutiny are then typically sent out to minimum of two referees (one national and one international). ". If one or more of these turn down the invitation to provide a review, other referees will subsequently be appointed. Normally, at least two authoritative reviews are needed before the respective editor can make a decision as to whether to accept, reject, or ask for a 'revise and resubmit' of the submitted paper.

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1. **Ethical Guidelines**

* **Ethical Policy for the Editors and Referees**

Our editors and referees are required to declare any conflicts of interest related to the manuscript they are requested to evaluate. To ensure transparent double-blind peer-review, the identities of authors are not disclosed to referees, and vice versa. Manuscript submission by the editor/associate editor or by any member of the editorial board is not allowed as per HEC policy guidelines for the research journals.

* **Ethical Policy for the Authors**

Authors are expected to adopt the general ethical standards in their research and writing, ensuring that:

* The submitted work or any of its essential content has not been previously published in a refereed journal and is not being considered for publication elsewhere. To ensure this, the editors screen out the submissions using the anti-plagiarism software, i.e. Turnitin.com.
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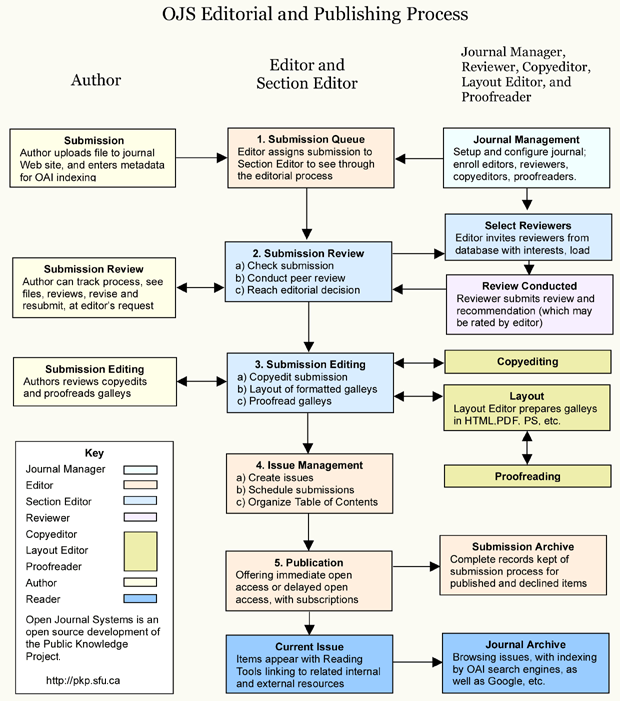
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**Publication Process Map**

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**Detailed Timeline of Publication Process:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Operational activity** | **To be Sent** | **Editorial Assistant** | **Editor-in-Chief’s Decision** | **Time Duration (in days)** |
| **Article Submission by Author** | Acknowledgement paper ID  Consent form to be signed by author(s) |  |  | 2-3 days |
| **Desk Review Process** |  | Extracting Turnitin report | Initial Screening  Decision whether the article is worth publishing and within scope | 5-7 days |
| **Peer Review (Round 2)** | Anonymous Research Paper is sent to one foreign reviewer |  |  | 30-40 days |
|  | Anonymous Research Paper is sent to one local reviewer |  |  |
| **Intimation to Author (if accepted/rejected)** | Anonymous text file for blind peer review | Author is intimated via email on OJS  Forwarded to Review stage | 2 international and 1 local Reviewers are | 1 day |
| **Intimation to Author (if accepted/rejected)** |  | Author is intimated via email on OJS  Reviewers’ comments/ suggestion are posted anonymously |  | 1-2 days |
| **Revisions By the author** |  | The author submits the revised manuscript after intimation in minimum 14 to maximum 20 days |  | 14-20 |
| **Initiation of round 2 of peer review** |  |  |  |  |
| **Peer Review (Round 2)** |  | Depending on the decision of the Reviewers, the revised manuscript is sent back to the reviewers for comments |  | 1-7 days |
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