

Publication Ethics

DNA Editrice is actively involved in the dissemination of scientific culture and knowledge. We believe in and promote the dissemination of knowledge, because we are convinced that every person should have equal access to the results of scientific research. To serve the specific needs of scientific publications, with a focus on the transparency and integrity they require, DNA Editrice embraces the ethical standards set by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE).

We are aware that these do not represent a true normative reference and that there are no courts to judge their adherence. But, precisely for this reason, we ask our partners in scientific journals (editorial boards, reviewers, authors) for an even more resolute effort to apply and thus protect the Ethics described in this document and based on the COPE Core Practices and the Principles of Transparency and Best Practice for Scholarly Publications, signed by COPE and DOAJ.

1. Composition of the journal, conflict of interest and competing interests

The scientific journals published by DNA Editrice explicitly state the composition of their internal board. Each appoints at least one scientific editor and lists the members of its editorial board and scientific committee. Depending on the periodicity of the journal, the publication of the names of those who collaborated as reviewers in the peer review is also provided on an annual/biennial/triennial basis. The list may be published online or in the printed issue, depending on the preference of the journal.

Conflicts of interest (or competing interests) of editors, reviewers, authors, or the publisher are avoided as far as possible; if this is not feasible for some reason, our commitment is to declare them openly. Editors and members of the editorial board are free to submit their own work to the journal with which they collaborate, but they are explicitly forbidden from taking part in any decisions or assignments concerning their papers.

In the case of sponsored publications, the review of articles will be based solely on their scientific merit.

2. Reporting Misconduct, Complaints and Appeals

DNA Editrice, as publisher and third party in the review process, stands guarantor and supervisor with respect to the conduct of the published journals. We will not support any misconduct in the conduct of publications by individual editors, nor will we knowingly allow alterations in normal processes to occur. Should a suspicion of conduct not in accordance with the ethics stated herein arise, we ask anyone to contact our Magazine Section at: journal@dnaeditrice.it. The complaint received will be treated with due confidentiality to protect the identity of the whistle-blower. An internal investigation will be launched to ascertain whether procedures have been followed.

Should a complaint concern the behaviour of employees of DNA Editrice, or misconduct by the publishing house itself, please report it to: info@dnaeditrice.it. Messages may be written in Italian or English.

2.1 Intellectual property infringement and post-publication discussions

Any notice of suspected infringement of another's intellectual property, plagiarism, data alteration, inaccuracy or other errors can be notified to the editorial board or DNA Editrice (journal@dnaeditrice.it). We encourage our journals to pay attention to readers' comments, because we believe that in them lies the very heart of any publication. In the case of content

about which uncertainties arise, the designated corresponding author will be consulted to resolve doubts. The journal must withdraw the paper or publish a correction, if necessary.

3. Peer review referencing

DNA Editrice encourages and supervises the use of double-blind peer review as a method of proposal selection and evaluation. As envisaged by the double-blind system, the review only concerns the quality and theoretical consistency of the articles.

The appointed reviewers are professionals specialised in their respective fields. Reviewer lists are not closed but are organic sets that grow and change over time. Any researcher can apply as a reviewer for journals published by DNA Editrice by sending an e-mail to journal@dnaeditrice.it. The editorial board, in consultation with the scientific committee, will evaluate the applications and assign the reviewer positions, avoiding possible conflicts of interest between the parties.

4. Reproducibility of data and research results

DNA Editrice believes in the dissemination of knowledge. We believe that the result of a scientific research is only the starting point of a new and more important study, and so on. For this reason, alongside traditional publications, we offer the possibility of publishing in Open Access from 2018.

Depending on the respective field of study and its history, our publishing house has chosen to publish commercialised or open access issues.

For the open access journal, the relevant Creative Commons licence is indicated on the webpage of each article or in the footer of the article itself.

5. Authorship and ethical conduct

To fulfil the commitments presented here by DNA Editrice, we ask our authors to help us maintain high standards of work. Specifically, you are requested to submit for publication only original unpublished manuscripts, not under consideration by any other Italian or foreign journal.

Furthermore, in the case of multiple authors per paper, the names of all those who contributed to the work must be declared, specifying their academic affiliation and, if applicable, their ORCID. This will mean to us that all authors have participated equally in the research and are therefore equally responsible for it, unless otherwise stated.

Furthermore, if the proposed article concerns individuals or contains information that makes a subject identifiable, we require that it adheres to the [Declaration of Helsinki](#) developed by the World Medical Association (WMA) and updated in 2013.

Finally, we ask authors and editors to take all sensitivities into account and to act with due tact and common sense when working on sensitive material.