

Role of Authors

A. Author Definition and Criteria for Authorship

The term "Author" or "Authorship" holds various interpretations depending on the context. At KNOWLEDGE EMPOWERMENT FOUNDATION Journal, an "Author" or "Co-author" is defined as any individual who has contributed significantly to the research, including the design, data collection, analysis, and interpretation of the study. The title is granted to those who take primary or shared responsibility for the manuscript and its intellectual content.

Individuals who have not made substantial contributions to the intellectual development of the work-whether in data gathering, writing, or conceptualizing the study-shall not be considered authors, regardless of other roles they may have played.

To qualify as an author, one must contribute meaningfully to shaping the research objectives, sourcing credible data, and interpreting findings in a structured manner. The author is also accountable for overseeing the manuscript through the entire submission process, ensuring that all necessary information, including intellectual property rights, is properly documented and submitted.

In case of any disagreement about authorship, it is essential that the authors notify the journal's editor immediately. KNOWLEDGE EMPOWERMENT FOUNDATION Journal encourages collaborative resolution of such issues, but the journal is not responsible for intervening in disputes unless they are raised in a clear and timely manner.

B. Ethical Responsibilities of Authors

Authors bear the primary responsibility for ensuring their work adheres to the highest ethical standards. This includes safeguarding the accuracy, authenticity, and originality of the research. Key ethical guidelines for authors include:

- **Originality**: Authors must confirm that their research is original and has not been previously published elsewhere. Any prior use of others' ideas or research should be properly cited.
- **Avoiding Plagiarism**: All forms of plagiarism-whether direct, paraphrased, or based on unacknowledged ideas-are strictly prohibited. Authors are encouraged to use plagiarism detection tools to verify the originality of their submission.
- **Data Integrity**: Fabrication or manipulation of data is absolutely forbidden. Authors are expected to ensure their research is conducted according to established scientific principles, with accurate representation of data.
- **Authorship and Contribution**: Only those who have made a genuine intellectual contribution to the research should be listed as authors. All listed authors must have reviewed and approved the final manuscript.
- **Conflicts of Interest**: Authors are obligated to disclose any personal, financial, or professional conflicts that could influence the research process or its outcomes. Such disclosures include funding sources, intellectual property interests, or any relationships that could bias the work.
- **Sharing Data**: Authors are encouraged to make their research data available to others for verification or further study, provided it is presented in a clear and understandable format.

- **Reporting and Accuracy**: Authors must report results accurately, without manipulation or distortion of findings. Inaccurate or incomplete data reporting is considered unethical.
- **Visualizing Data**: Authors are responsible for presenting their data and results clearly and accurately, ensuring that any visual aids, charts, or statistical analyses are appropriately constructed.
- **Privacy and Data Security**: It is the authors' responsibility to ensure that all data, particularly sensitive information from research participants, is kept confidential and secure in line with relevant laws and regulations.
- **Protocol Adherence**: Following established research protocols is essential. Any deviation from agreed-upon research methodologies, or refusal to share findings within the research community, may be seen as negligent behaviour.
- **Authenticity of Submission**: Authors must ensure their submitted work is authentic and free from any form of plagiarism, falsification, or ethical breaches. The editor, reviewer, and readers rely on authors to uphold the integrity of the scientific process.
- **Professionalism**: Authors must conduct themselves professionally in all interactions related to the journal, particularly in meeting deadlines and addressing any issues promptly. Professional communication is essential throughout the publication process.
- **Funding Transparency**: Authors are required to disclose all sources of funding for their research. This includes both direct and indirect financial support, as well as any involvement by funding organizations in the research process.

C. The Author's Obligations Toward the Editor

The author holds significant responsibilities toward the journal's editor throughout the submission and review process. After submitting the manuscript, the author must be prepared to collaborate closely with the editor, promptly providing any supplementary materials or clarifications as needed.

The author must submit all requested documents, such as additional proofs or revisions, in a timely manner. If conflicts of interest arise, these must be communicated to the editor promptly.

Moreover, the author must disclose any prior publications related to the current research. It is essential that the author ensure no part of the manuscript has been published elsewhere without appropriate acknowledgment. If certain sections of the research have appeared in other publications, the author is expected to inform the editor prior to submission.

D. Addressing and Resolving Authorship Conflicts

Conflicts over authorship may arise for various reasons, such as dual authorship, multi-authorship, or group authorship scenarios. These issues can emerge at any stage of the research or submission process, and it is the responsibility of the authors to address them.

KNOWLEDGE EMPOWERMENT FOUNDATION Journal does not engage in mediating authorship disputes or deciding who qualifies for authorship. The responsibility rests with the authors to resolve any issues, and they are required to provide a signed statement confirming the authorship order before submission.

In cases of post-publication disputes, authors should resolve the issue among themselves. While conflicts can be complex, particularly where institutions, funding bodies, or academic hierarchies are involved, external mediation may be pursued if necessary. The journal does not intervene in such matters but encourages authors to seek appropriate resolution through institutional channels or arbitration.