Ethical Guidelines for Peer Reviewers

A peer reviewer should be a subject matter expert in the topic covered by the manuscript but must not have contributed to its development.

A peer reviewer should not have a conflict of interest regarding the manuscript. If you are unsure about a potential competing interest that may prevent you from reviewing, please raise this with the author.

Only agree to be a peer reviewer if you can return a review within the proposed or mutually agreed upon time frame.

Refrain from using information obtained during the peer review process for your own or another’s advantage or to discredit others.

If you encounter irregularities with respect to research, please let the author(s) know.

The manuscript and all supporting documentation must be kept confidential and not shared or discussed with others outside of the peer review group.

Any discussion among the peer reviewers is confidential in nature and will not be discussed outside of the peer review group.

Peer reviewers must ensure that all authors will not be discriminated against based on the content provided to improve worker health and safety. We understand some topics may be more sensitive than others. However, the fact remains, if the topic is relevant, then feedback should be crafted to focus on the science rather than any political, economic, or social gain.