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The publisher allows the author to store (deposit) the final version of the article (Author’s Accepted Manuscript (AAM)) in an institutional or thematic repository, where it is available in the open access, which ensures maximum visibility and impact of the publication.

Principles and ethical standards

- The editorial policy of the collection is based on the principles of objectivity and impartiality in the selection of articles for the purpose of their publication; high demands on the quality of scientific research; mandatory double “blind” review of articles; adherence to collegiality in making decisions on the publication of articles; preservation of copyright and related rights.

- The editorial board works in compliance with the policy of obtaining a mandatory conclusion in studies conducted with the involvement of people, animals or their biological materials, personal or confidential data, and is subject to the relevant legislation of Ukraine

In this regard, all materials submitted to the editorial board must comply with the requirements of current legislation of Ukraine, in particular the Law of Ukraine “On the Protection of Human Rights in the Sphere of Biomedical Research”, the Law

of Ukraine “On the Protection of Personal Data”, the Law of Ukraine “On the Protection of Animals from Cruelty”, as well as international ethical guidelines (Declaration of Helsinki, ARRIVE, CIOMS, etc.).

Authors are required to provide confirmation of receipt of a positive opinion from an authorized ethics committee in cases where the research:

- involves the participation of a person as a research subject (including observational, interviewing and experimental methods);
- involves work with human biomaterials (blood, tissues, DNA, biobanks, etc.);
- uses animals or their bioobjects;
- involves the processing of personal, sensitive or confidential data;
- falls under special provisions of Ukrainian law or international regulations on bioethics and biosafety.

The opinion must clearly indicate:

- the full name of the institution that issued the permit;
- date and number of the protocol;
- forms of the informed consent received consent (for studies involving humans).

Informed consent of participants

Authors must confirm that informed consent was obtained voluntarily, without pressure, and in a form understandable to the participants.

It is prohibited to publish personal data or visual materials that allow the identification of a person without their written consent.

Research involving animals

Animal studies must comply with the 3R principles (Replacement, Reduction, Refinement).

Authors must provide information about the conditions of detention, the protocols used and measures to minimize animal suffering.

Confidential and personal data

The processing of personal data must comply with the requirements of the Law of Ukraine “On the Protection of Personal Data” and the GDPR, if applicable.

The data must be depersonalized or anonymized.

Authors must describe the mechanisms for protecting information and the procedures for accessing it.

The right of the editor to request additional materials

The editorial board reserves the right to request copies of ethical conclusions, informed consent forms, research protocols or other documents to confirm compliance with ethical standards. The editorial board may refuse to publish the material if ethical requirements are violated or information on compliance with the standards is incomplete.

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If a violation of ethical standards is discovered after publication, the collection may take appropriate editorial action – from making corrections to withdrawing the article. The decision is made in accordance with the recommendations of COPE.

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1. The author must submit only the original manuscript to the collection. Do not submit an article to the collection that has been sent to another journal and is under consideration at the same time, as well as an article previously published in another journal. Failure to comply with this principle is regarded as a gross violation of publication ethics and gives grounds for removing the article from review. If elements of the manuscript have previously been published in another article, the authors are obliged to refer to their earlier work and indicate what is the significant difference between the new work and the previous one. Verbatim copying of their own works and their paraphrasing are unacceptable; they can be used only as a basis for new conclusions.

2. The main obligation of the author is to provide an accurate report on the research conducted, as well as an objective discussion of its scientific, theoretical and practical significance. The author must present his results clearly and unambiguously so that the conclusions obtained can be confirmed by other scientists, without falsifying the data or improperly manipulating them.

3. Authors of articles bear full responsibility for the content of the articles and for the very fact of their publication. They must be aware that the author(s) bear primary responsibility for the novelty and reliability of the results of scientific research, and guarantee that the research results presented in the manuscript are independent and original work. In the case of using fragments of other people's works and/or borrowing statements from other authors, the article must include appropriate bibliographic references with the obligatory indication of the author and the original source. Excessive borrowing, as well as plagiarism in any form, including unformatted quotes, paraphrasing or assigning rights to the results of other people's research, are unethical and unacceptable actions. Articles that are a compilation of materials published by other authors without their creative processing and their own author's interpretation by the editorial board of the collection are not accepted.

4. The author must cite those publications that have significantly influenced the content of the submitted work, as well as those that can quickly introduce the reader to earlier works that are important for understanding this research. It is also necessary to properly indicate the sources of fundamentally important materials used in this work, if these materials were not obtained by the author himself.

5. The co-authors of the article must be persons who have made significant scientific and research efforts to create the submitted work and who share responsibility for the results obtained. The author who submits the manuscript for publication is responsible for ensuring that only those persons who meet the

authorship criteria are included in the list of co-authors, and assumes responsibility for the consent of other authors of the article to its publication in the collection.

6. Authors must inform the editor of any potential conflict of interest that could affect the publication of the results contained in this manuscript.

7. Authors must clearly indicate the sources of all cited or presented information and must properly cite the literary sources used in the work in accordance with the requirements of DSTU 8302:2015 “Information and documentation. Bibliographic reference. General provisions and rules of compilation”.

8. Authors must submit a manuscript that meets the standards of modern Ukrainian literary and English languages.

9. The editorial board has the right to refuse publication of the article if the editorial requirements are not met.

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1. Manuscripts are processed by at least two experts in order to form an objective decision as soon as possible. Reviewers are asked to report any conflicts of interest (see “Policy on conflict of interest” for more details).

2. Reviewers are not expected to carefully edit the manuscript for structural or linguistic reasons, but to focus on its scientific quality and the general style, which should be in line with current practices of clear and concise academic writing. If reviewers recognize that the manuscript requires editing, they should inform the authors and editor in a report (Manuscript Reviews).

3. Reviewers are asked to check whether the manuscript is scientifically sound and clear, how interesting it is for the audience, and whether the quality of writing is acceptable. The criteria for evaluating the manuscript are described in detail in the Guidelines for Reviewers.

4. In the event of serious disagreements between reviews or between authors and reviewers, editors may assess them according to their experience or seek advice from a member of the collection's editorial board.

5. During the second round of review (after the authors' corrections), the subject editor may ask the reviewer to evaluate the revised version of the manuscript in light of the reviewer's recommendations made during the first round of review.

6. Reviewers are asked to be polite and constructive in their reports. Reports that may be offensive or uninformative will be removed.

7. Reviewers should not review manuscripts in which they have a conflict of interest, which is the result of competitive, collaborative or other relationships, connections with any authors, companies or institutions related to the authors of the manuscript.

8. Review of original author manuscripts is carried out confidentially.

9. Reviewers should keep manuscripts, related materials and all details related to the review strictly confidential and not share them with third parties.

10. Reviewers should clearly express their point of view and argue for it.

11. Reviewers should identify relevant published work that the authors have not cited.

12. Reviewers should refrain from using any ideas of the authors before publication of the article.

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2. Literary editors are responsible for the structural and linguistic-stylistic editing of articles.

3. Responsible editors must ensure that all research articles comply with international ethical principles and the Publication Ethics of the publication, and also avoid any conflicts of interest between authors, reviewers and members of the editorial board.

4. Responsible editors should not reject articles based on suspicions, without evidence of improper behavior of the author(s).

5. Editors should maintain the anonymity of reviewers, unless the latter decide to reveal their identity in the manner established by this policy.

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