COPE | COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION ETHICS

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR JOURNAL PUBLISHERS

Publishers who are Committee on Publication Ethics members and who support COPE membership for journal editors should:

- Follow this code, and encourage the editors they work with to follow the COPE Code of Conduct for Journal Editors (http://publicationethics.org/files/u2/New_Code.pdf)

- Ensure the editors and journals they work with are aware of what their membership of COPE provides and entails

- Provide reasonable practical support to editors so that they can follow the COPE Code of Conduct for Journal Editors (http://publicationethics.org/files/u2/New_Code.pdf)

Publishers should:

- Define the relationship between publisher, editor and other parties in a contract

- Respect privacy (for example, for research participants, for authors, for peer reviewers)

- Protect intellectual property and copyright

- Foster editorial independence

Publishers should work with journal editors to:

- Set journal policies appropriately and aim to meet those policies, particularly with respect to:
    - Editorial independence
    - Research ethics, including confidentiality, consent, and the special requirements for human and animal research
    - Authorship
    - Transparency and integrity (for example, conflicts of interest, research funding, reporting standards
    - Peer review and the role of the editorial team beyond that of the journal editor
    - Appeals and complaints
- Communicate journal policies (for example, to authors, readers, peer wreviewers)

- Review journal policies periodically, particularly with respect to new recommendations from the COPE Code of Conduct for Editors and the COPE Best Practice Guidelines

- Maintain the integrity of the academic record

- Assist the parties (for example, institutions, grant funders, governing bodies) responsible for the investigation of suspected research and publication misconduct and, where possible, facilitate in the resolution of these cases

- Publish corrections, clarifications, and retractions

- Publish content on a timely basis

WWW.PUBLICATIONETHICS.ORG