

# Peer Review Policy and Determined Role of Reviewers in the Editorial Process



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Dear Colleagues and Readers,

The Stomatology Education Journal (Stoma Edu J) is an Open Access (OA) journal in the field of dental medicine. It publishes established authors and is equally committed to encouraging early-career researchers and professionals to publish their works, through a rigorous double-blind peer review process. Open Access (OA) means that, as long as the original source is acknowledged and cited, readers are allowed to redistribute, reuse, and adapt the content in new works (in accordance with the selected Creative Commons License).

The meeting convened in Budapest on December 2001, by the Open Society Foundations (OSF) marked a key moment in the development of Open Access as a principle. Subsequent meetings in Bethesda in June 2003 and Berlin in October 2003 shaped the "BBB" definition of Open Access. All these declarations reiterated the ethos of Open Access and increased pressure from within the academic environment for a change in knowledge dissemination.

There are two types of Open Access: Gold Open Access, also known as Open Access Publishing, and Green Open Access, also known as Open Access Archiving.

Understanding the benefits of Open Access (OA): visibility, accessibility, quality, and global impact, Stomatology Education Journal (Stoma Edu J) has consistently adhered to these principles and demonstrated them over time in its evolution.

The Stomatology Education Journal (Stoma Edu J) is a Green Open Access (GOA) journal freely accessible on the internet; therefore, no fees for processing, peer review, or publication are required from the authors. A Green Open Access (GOA) journal means that all content is available free of charge to the user or their institution. Users are allowed to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of the articles in this journal without seeking prior permission from the publisher or author. Our goal is to publish in the shortest possible timeframe and ensure the rapid dissemination of your work through the pages of our journal and our indexing partners.

With his rich experience as an editor, Professor Jean-François Roulet from the University of Florida recommended and supported, as Editor-in-Chief, that Stomatology Education Journal (Stoma Edu J) use the double-blind review policy for all manuscripts submitted to the journal from its inception.

The Stomatology Education Journal (Stoma Edu J) believes in the probity and rectitude of the peer review process and system, which is generated for each issue. According to this policy, both the identities of the reviewers and the identities of the authors are hidden from each other throughout the entire review process. To facilitate this process, the corresponding author is obliged to submit the "Title Page containing complete author details" and the "Manuscript without author details" as two separate files.

Once submitted, all articles undergo an initial examination by the Editors-in-Chief to determine if the articles match the aim of the journal and can be published. Subsequently, the Manuscript Manager platform administrator sends the articles to at least two independent reviewers chosen by the Editors-in-Chief. The reviewers' reports are then analyzed, and the Editor-in-Chief makes the final decision on the manuscript. The decision on the manuscript can be based on the following four options: No changes required / Minor changes / Major changes / Rejection.

Of course, the selection of a reviewer for an article constitutes a moral reward for their research and scientific site, besides putting them in contact with the latest scientific research conducted in their field of study.

Reviewers will have the privilege of being in direct contact with the latest research results of the authors, enhancing their communication skills, generating clear evidence for evaluation, and helping authors clarify and achieve their research objectives.

Peer Review is a proven system for evaluating the quality of research and how it is presented before publication. Anonymous reviewers, with vast experience in the related field, examine the received manuscripts through

the Manuscript Manager platform. The primary aim is to publish a quality article in the research field for knowledgeable readers worldwide. The peer review system judges the validity, significance, and originality of the work rather than those who performed it.

The peer review process relies on the triumvirate of three well-defined entities: Authors, Editors-in-Chief, and Reviewers.

Authors are those who research and write an original manuscript, review, or case report submitted preferably to a chosen journal. The Editors-in-Chief are those who conduct the initial and final screening of the submitted work. They are responsible for verifying the overall fit of the manuscript with the aim of the journal. Additionally, they check the format according to the author's guide, the clarity of the discussion, and the research methods used to prepare the received manuscript. Reviewers, anonymous experts in the subject, are those who provide opinions and expert advice on the quality coefficient of the manuscript. Following their evaluation, they help the Editors-in-Chief make a decision regarding the publication of the submitted manuscript.

We have a moral obligation to our readers to signal now that our editorial process has encountered some stumbling blocks in recent times. The disruptions were due, on the one hand, to the cyber-attack on the platform of the journal and the time needed by the two IT teams to recover all issues since 2014, and on the other hand, to the lack of response from invited reviewers, which significantly exceeded the peer-review process duration, delaying the regular and timely publication of the Stoma Edu J. Thus, as to the current issue, the authors of a retrospective study on "Crack Teeth and Vertical Root Fractures in Pandemic Crisis" have withdrawn their manuscript, directing it to a journal that does not practice a double-blind review policy.

At this point, analyzing the ten years of uninterrupted activity of the Stomatology Education Journal (Stoma Edu J), we owe our respectful thanks to Prof. Constantinus Politis, who, retiring from his exceptional responsibility as head of the OMF Surgery clinic at Leuven University, has also retired from his responsibility as EiC. He contributed magnificently to editorial life, both as an author but especially as an efficient and responsible editor for the last six years!


Fully adhering to the editorial management principles of the Stomatology Education Journal (Stoma Edu J) at the beginning of each year in the extraordinary working session of the Executive Board, we analyze the activity of the editors and invite new editors willing to support the journal.

This year distinguished colleagues from all over the world have graciously responded the invitation to join the Editorial Board. Thus, the position of Editor-in-Chief is held by Associate Professor William Papaioannou, DDS, MScD, PhD from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece. The position of Co-Editor-in-Chief (Europe) is held by Professor Eitan Mijiritsky, DMD, Dipl. in Prosth., International Academic Affairs at Tel-Aviv University, Israel and President Elected & Board of Directors - European Prosthodontic Society (EPA). In the position of: Section Editor-in-Chief at Basic Research / Dental Materials / Dental Technology is Professor Julio Suay Antón, Eng, PhD, Chair at Jaume I University, Castellón de la Plana, Spain, Section Editor-in-Chief at Aesthetic Dentistry / Dental Photography is Professor Feng Liu, DDS, MSc, PhD, Deputy Director at School of Stomatology (PKUSS) Peking University, Beijing, P. R. China, Editor in the Section of Periodontology / Oral Microbiology / Dental Hygiene is Professor Gaetano Isola, DDS, DDS, PhD, University of Catania, Catania, Italy, Section Editor-in-Chief of Oral Medicine / Oral Pathology is Professor Ramya Ramadoss, MDS, PhD & Head, Associate Dean at Saveetha University, Velappanchavadi, Chennai, India, Section Editor-in-Chief at Anesthesiology / Dentoalveolar Surgery / Maxillofacial Surgery / Oral Implantology / Emergencies is Professor Kenneth Lee, BDS, MSc, MDSc at the International Academy of Advanced Dentistry - IAADent, Sydney, Australia, Section Editor-in-Chief of Restorative Dentistry / Computerized Dental Prosthetics is Dr. Ricardo Recena Orlando, DT, DDS, Medical Director, XmileStudio, Málaga, Spain.

Well known fellow dentists have joined the Editorial Advisory Board Sections, as follows: Section Editor-in-Chief of Cariology / Pedodontics / Oro-Dental Prevention, Professor Lazar Yessayan, DDS, PhD, Dean at Yerevan State Medical University, Yerevan, Armenia, Section Editor-in-Chief at Aesthetic Dentistry / Dental Photography, Professor Irfan Ahmad, BDS, BDS, FCGDent at the University of Otago, Wellington, New Zealand, Section Editor-in-Chief of Oral Medicine / Oral Pathology, Professor Ingrida Čēma, DDS, PhD from Riga Stradins University, Riga, Latvia, Section Editor-in-Chief at Prosthetic Dentistry / Oral Rehabilitation / Gerodontology, Professor Asja Čelebić, DDS, MSc, PhD from the University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia.

We graciously welcome these well-known colleagues from all over the world and hope that through their enthusiastic involvement in the editorial life, they shall revitalize the work of the entire Editorial Board in the honorable task of stepping decisively on the quotation track of the Stomatology Education Journal.

Sincerely,

M-V CONSTANTINESCU   
Stomatology Edu Journal  
Editor-in-Chief

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