

## *Personality and Mental Health*- Authors professional and ethical responsibilities

Submission of a paper to *Personality and Mental Health* will be held to imply that it represents an original contribution not previously published (except in the form of an abstract or preliminary report); that it is not being considered for publication elsewhere; and that, if accepted by the Journal, it will not be published elsewhere in the same form, in any language, without the consent of the Publisher. When submitting a manuscript, authors should state in a covering letter whether they have currently in press, submitted or in preparation any other papers that are based on the same data set, and, if so, provide details for the Editors.

### Ethics

Authors are reminded that the Journal adheres to the ethics of scientific publication as detailed in the in the [Ethical principles of psychologists and code of conduct](#) (American Psychological Association, 2010). These principles also imply that the piecemeal or fragmented publication of small amounts of data from the same study is not acceptable.

### Authorship

Authorship credit should be given only if substantial contribution has been made to the following:

- Conception and design, or collection, analysis and interpretation of data;
- Drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content, and final approval of the version to be published. The corresponding author must ensure that there is no one else who fulfils the criteria who is not included as an author. Each author is required to have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for the content.

### Conflict of interest

All submissions to *Personality and Mental Health* require a declaration of interest. This should list fees and grants from, employment by, consultancy for, shared ownership in, or any close relationship with, an organisation whose interests, financial or otherwise, may be affected by the publication of the paper. This pertains to all authors, and all conflict of interest and all funding sources should be noted on page 1 of the submitted manuscript. Where there is no conflict of interest, this should also be stated.

### Informed consent

Authors must state that the protocol for the research project has been approved by a suitably constituted Ethics Committee of the institution within which the work was undertaken and that it conforms to the provisions of the Declaration of Helsinki (as revised in Tokyo 2004), available at <http://www.wma.net/e/policy/b3.htm>. Within the Methods section, authors should indicate that 'informed consent' has been appropriately obtained. When submitting a manuscript, the manuscript page number where the statement appears should be given. *Personality and Mental Health* retains the right to reject any manuscript on the basis of unethical conduct.

### Randomised controlled trials

The Journal recommends to authors the CONSORT guidelines (1996, Journal of the American Medical Association, 276, 637-639) and their basis (2001, Annals of Internal Medicine, 134, 663-694) in relation to the reporting of randomised controlled clinical trials; also recommended is their extension to cluster randomised controlled trials (2004, British Medical Journal, 328, 702-708). In particular, authors must include in their paper a flow chart illustrating the progress of subjects through the trial (CONSORT diagram) and the CONSORT checklist. The flow diagram should appear in the mainpaper, the checklist in the online Appendix. Trial registry name, registration identification number, and the URL for the registry should also be included at the end of the abstract, and also during online manuscript submission. Trials should be registered in one of the following trial registries: <http://www.controlled-trials.com/isrctn/>  
Australian Clinical Trials Registry <http://actr.ctc.usyd.edu.au>  
Clinical Trials <http://www.clinicaltrials.gov>  
ISRCTN Register <http://isrctn.org>  
Nederlands Trial Register <http://www.trialregister.nl/trialreg/index.asp>  
UMIN Clinical Trials Registry <http://www.umin.ac.jp/ctr>

### Access to data

If the study includes original data, at least one author must confirm that he or she had full access to all the data in the study, and takes responsibility for the integrity of the data and the accuracy of the data analysis.