Editorial Policies



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Introduction

The Journal was founded in 1851 and holds the record of being the oldest periodical in Italy and among the oldest in Europe, spreading the achievements of medicine in the civil and military fields. It is based at the Inspectorate General of Military Medical Services in Via di Santo Stefano Rotondo, 4 - Rome, Italy.

Aims and Scope

The Italian Journal of Military Medicine (IJMM) is an Italian bimonthly medical-scientific journal owned by the Ministry of Defence and published by Difesa Servizi S.P.A. It is open access and peer-reviewed and can be read online at https://www.difesa.it/GiornaleMedicina/rivista/periodico_archivio/Pagine/default.aspx and in print (by subscription). The IJMM publishes original research articles, case reports, literature and systematic reviews, perspectives and letters to the editor in the field of military health and biomedical sciences; in particular, it publishes articles on epidemiology, prevention, clinical practice, forensic medicine and the history of military medicine.

It aims to promote a culture of best practice in the scientific community. The IJMM considers the publication of scientific papers in many areas of medicine.

These include

- Best practice and its impact on public health
- Epidemiology in civil society and armed forces
- Civilian and military health protection, including control of communicable diseases
- Health promotion and chronic degenerative disease prevention
- Public health governance, audit and quality
- Public and military health law and ethics
- Public health policy
- Public health systems and workforce capacity
- Health professions
- Environmental health
- History of medicine and organisations

Supplements

The Journal of Military Medicine also publishes supplements and inserts on topical issues.

Peer Review

Peer review is the most important part of the scientific publishing process.

Peer review is basically the process by which experts review articles submitted for publication in journals in order to validate research and improve the quality of articles published in the journal.

The peer review process is actually a dividing line that decides what is research and what is just a hypothesis. This process examines articles based on their originality or work, their relevance to previously published work, and whether the work meets the standards required to be published as a research article. The whole point of peer review is to eliminate the possibility that science is just opinion.

The peer review process includes the following steps:

- 1. The process begins with the submission of the article to the Journal.
- 2. The first step is for the journal's editorial board to check whether the article falls within the focus and scope of the Journal. Should this not be the case, the board rejects the article and provides feedback to the author, including the necessary changes. Otherwise, it moves to the next stage of review.
- 3. The reviewer appointed by the editors will review the article for originality, validity, significance, theory, evidence and other parameters based on the editors' guidelines and parameters for measuring the quality of the article using a standard format.
- 4. The reviewer then makes the necessary comments and returns the article to the Editorial Board. A reviewer may accept the article as is, reject it, or suggest changes. The authors are informed about this outcome.
- 5. The editor makes the final decision on the publication of the article based on the reviewers' comments and sets the interval for publication.
- 6. At the end of the process, the Editorial Board sends a letter of acceptance to the authors.

For further details on the review process and the relevant policies, please refer to the <u>*Peer review*</u> *process* section.

Policies on Conflict of Interest, Human and Animal rights, and Informed Consent

This paragraph is about the Journal's formal policy on conflicts of interest of a submitting or publishing author. Conflicts of interest occur when authors, reviewers, or editors have interests that they have not fully disclosed and may influence their decisions about what to publish.

Reviewers

When there is a conflict of interest with an author, editors should select a guest reviewer. Editors should ensure that reviewers do not have conflicts of interest with authors. Before reviewing an article, reviewers are required to contact the Editorial Board and disclose the conflict of interest.

Authors

When submitting an article, all authors and co-authors must disclose any conflicts of interest in their submission. Details on how to submit an article can be found in the **Instructions for Authors** section.

Editor

When handling an article as a member of the editorial board of a journal, the member must be aware of the potential for conflict.

The reviewer may have a conflict of interest if the department or academic institution they work at submits an article. The academic institutions should have explicit policies for dealing with this.

Animal and human rights

An appropriate ethical framework must surround the research. If publishers suspect that this is not the case, they may reject the article and/or contact the author(s)' ethics committee. If the publisher has serious concerns about the ethics of a study, even if ethics committee approval has been obtained, the article may be rejected on ethical grounds. See the *Ethical Policy* section for details.

Informed consent

Images of a specific individual should not be published in the Journal of Military Medicine without the patient's consent. Authors should inform patients if potentially identifiable material will be available on the Internet and in print after publication.

Data sharing Policy

Open Access

The Journal of Military Medicine offers authors the opportunity to make their articles freely available to the public in accordance with an open access policy. Full text will be made available after an embargo period of 6 months from first publication. Open access means that anyone can open and read all articles in electronic format at https://www.difesa.it/GiornaleMedicina/rivista/periodico_archivio/Pagine/default.aspx. The journal is distributed free of charge to authors of published articles.

Languages (usage and editing services)

Articles should be written in either Italian or English (American or British spelling is accepted, but just one must be used). For articles of a non-bibliometric nature, Italian may be accepted. For English-language submissions, articles may be submitted to a free editing service.

Subscription Policy

The annual subscription to the "Italian Journal of Military Medicine" can be purchased by Money Order in favour of Difesa Servizi S.p.A.

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