

CODE OF ETHICS AND MALPRACTICE IN PUBLICATION

The **Asociación Paleontológica Argentina (APA)**, as responsible publisher of *Ameghiniana* and *Publicación Electrónica de la APA (PE-APA)*, stands by the following **Code of Ethics and Malpractice in Publication** (based on the *Committee on Publication Ethics COPE's Best Practice Guidelines*; <https://publicationethics.org>), and it is expected of authors, reviewers and editors to follow these guidelines on ethical behaviour.

Editors

Editor-in-Chief of each journal has full authority over the entire content of the journal and is responsible for it. Journals of APA follow a double peer review process and the editors will ensure that all manuscripts considered for publication will undergo this process.

Editor-in-Chief decides which manuscripts will be published based on the journal scope, the reviewers' comments, the clarity and originality of the work in question, the study's validity and its scientific relevance. Editor-in-Chief may seek advice of other editors or reviewers in making this decision.

Editors have the following duties:

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- ***Confidentiality***: editors and editorial staff must not disclose any information about a submitted manuscript to anyone other than the corresponding author, reviewers, potential reviewers, other editorial advisers, and the publisher, as appropriate; the journals of APA do not disclose reviewers' identities unless requested by them.
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Authors

Authorship should be limited to those who have made significant contributions to the conception, design, execution, data acquisition, or interpretation of the study, have drafted the manuscript or revised it critically for important intellectual content, and have seen and approved the final version of the paper and agreed to its submission for publication. All authors in the manuscript must be able to take public responsibility for the content. All those who have participated in certain substantive aspects of the research project (such as technical help, writing and editing assistance, general support) but do not meet the criteria for authorship, should be acknowledged in the "Acknowledgments" section.

The corresponding author should ensure that all appropriate coauthors (according to the above definition) and no inappropriate coauthors are included in the author list, and should verify that all coauthors have seen and approved the final version of the manuscript and agreed to its submission for publication.

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- **Conflicts of interest:** all sources of financial support for the project should be disclosed and any conflict of interest which might be considered to influence the results or interpretation of their research should be expressed on the manuscript.

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If the error renders the work or substantial parts of it invalid, the paper should be retracted with an explanation of the reason for retraction. Retracted papers will be retained online, and they will be prominently marked as a retraction in all online versions, including the PDF, for the benefit of future readers.

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