

Editorial Policy on the Use of Artificial Intelligence and Large Language Models

The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Large Language Models (LLMs) is becoming increasingly common within scientific research and scholarly publication. The Journal of Community Psychosocial Research (JCPR) recognises the role that AI and LLMs may play in the research process and is committed to ensuring that their use is transparent, ethical, and in keeping with international best practices in scholarly publishing.

This policy applies to authors, peer reviewers, and the JCPR Editorial Board. It has been developed in alignment with the guidance of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), and other leading scholarly organisations.

JCPR is committed to publishing research that improves the psychosocial health and well-being of communities. Accordingly, JCPR places high value on ethical conduct, research integrity, and authentic scholarly contribution.

Policy for Authors

Authorship and AI

AI tools and LLMs – including but not limited to ChatGPT, Gemini, Copilot, and similar systems – cannot be listed as authors or co-authors of a submitted manuscript. Authorship requires the ability to take responsibility and be held accountable for the work, which AI tools are unable to do. All authors listed on a manuscript must be human beings who meet the JCPR's authorship criteria as set out in the Author Guidelines.

Disclosure of AI Use

Authors must disclose any use of AI tools or LLMs that contributed to the preparation of a manuscript beyond straightforward grammar correction, spelling checks, or basic formatting assistance. Routine use of built-in proofreading or grammar tools (such as Grammarly, Microsoft Editor, or the spell-check features of word processors) does not require disclosure under this policy.

Disclosure is required for, but not limited to, the following uses of AI:

- Drafting, paraphrasing, or substantially rewriting any portion of the manuscript text;
- Generating or summarising literature, arguments, or background material;
- Producing or cleaning data, code, figures, or tables;
- Translating content into English.

How to Disclose AI Use

AI use must be disclosed in the Acknowledgements section of the manuscript, or in a dedicated AI Disclosure Statement placed after the Acknowledgements. AI tools may not be included in the reference list or cited as a source within the manuscript text.

The disclosure should identify the tool(s) used, describe the nature and extent of their use, and confirm that the author(s) have reviewed and verified all AI-assisted content. See the example below.

Example AI Disclosure Statement

Artificial intelligence tools were used in the preparation of this manuscript. [Name of AI tool(s)] was used to [describe specific use, e.g., assist with language editing of the Discussion section / generate an initial draft of the literature summary, which was subsequently reviewed and rewritten by the authors]. The authors take full responsibility for the accuracy, integrity, and originality of all content presented.

Author Responsibility

The author(s) bear sole responsibility for the accuracy, integrity, and ethical soundness of all content within a submitted manuscript, regardless of whether AI tools were used in its preparation. This includes the factual correctness of all claims, the validity of all data, the appropriate attribution of all sources, and the absence of plagiarism. AI-generated content is not exempt from these requirements.

The JCPR takes a strong stance against the use of AI tools to generate, fabricate, or falsify research data, datasets, or any other content that misrepresents the actual conduct of research. Submissions in which AI has been used in this manner will be rejected and, if detected post-publication, will be subject to retraction proceedings.

Data Availability

In line with the JCPR's commitment to research transparency, all submitted manuscripts must include a Data Availability Statement. One or more of the following statements, or a combination thereof, may be used:

1. *Data are freely available via the following [repository name] at [URL or DOI], with reference number [insert].*
2. *The data for this article can be made available to readers upon reasonable request by contacting [author details].*
3. *Data sharing is not applicable to this article as no new data were collected or analysed.*
4. *Data cannot be shared due to ethical or privacy constraints or other applicable restrictions. Data availability requests may be directed to [author details].*

Policy for Authors

Members of the JCPR Editorial Board — including the Editor-in-Chief and all associate and section editors — must not use AI tools or LLMs to assist in making editorial decisions, writing decision letters, or any other aspect of the editorial review and publication process.

The JCPR uses plagiarism detection software and AI-detection tools during the screening of submitted manuscripts prior to peer review. All outputs from these automated tools are reviewed and interpreted by a human editor before any action is taken. Final decisions regarding integrity issues — including text similarity, undeclared AI use, and suspected data fabrication — rest with the responsible editor and are not delegated to automated systems.

Any routine use of automated tools by the editorial office will be disclosed to authors when relevant.

Policy for Peer Reviewers

The JCPR is dedicated to identifying at least two independent peer reviewers for each submitted manuscript, in line with the double-blind review process described in the Author Guidelines and Editorial Policies.

Peer reviewers should not use AI tools or LLMs to write, draft, or substantially generate their review reports. This restriction is in place to protect the confidentiality of submitted manuscripts, to ensure the specificity and depth of feedback, and to uphold the integrity of the peer review process. Concerns associated with the use of AI in peer review include – but are not limited to – breaches of manuscript confidentiality, superficial or non-specific feedback, hidden prompt injection, and the generation of false or hallucinated references and citations.

Minor use of AI tools for language editing or readability improvement of a completed review may be permitted, provided that: (a) the review content itself was written by the reviewer; (b) no manuscript content was uploaded to or shared with the AI tool; and (c) the reviewer discloses the use of such tools in their review submission.

The JCPR provides all reviewers with a structured review feedback form. The Editorial Office oversees the adequacy and completeness of all reviews before feedback is communicated to authors.