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EDITORIAL

AI in Medical Manuscripts: Ethical Disclosure and Compliance with ICMJE Recommendations (January 2026 Update)

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Scholarly medical writing and research dissemination have seen a dramatic change due to the quick integration of artificial intelligence (AI) tools, which range from chatbots and large language models (LLMs) to sophisticated picture production systems. Although these technologies provide significant advantages in terms of productivity, language improvement, and data management, their application presents significant ethical, methodological, and authorship-related issues. According to the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors' rules (revised in January 2026), writers must be open about the use of AI-assisted technology in manuscript preparation.

Accountability is ensured and the integrity of scientific communication is maintained by appropriate disclosure in cover letters,

acknowledgments, and methodology sections. Furthermore, even if AI-generated outputs can occasionally be biased, erroneous, or incomplete despite seeming authoritative, human writers are ultimately responsible for the work's validity, uniqueness, and credibility.

In order to maintain complete transparency, authors who use artificial intelligence (AI) techniques must clearly disclose their use in both the cover letter and the text.

AI's contributions to writing should be properly acknowledged, and the methodology should make explicit how it contributes to data collection, analysis, and figure creation.

AI systems do not meet the requirements for authorship and cannot be recognized as authors or co-authors because they are not accountable

for accuracy, integrity, and originality. Given the possibility of bias, inaccuracy, or incompleteness, human authors bear ultimate accountability for any AI-assisted content. They must critically assess and improve such outputs.

Prof. Dr. Yogeshwari Gupta
(Editor-in-Chief)

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