Journal of Regulatory Science

Frequently Asked Questions

What topics are the JRS interested in publishing?

The scope of the JRS is comprehensive and includes the regulation of food and feed, the environment, drugs, transportation, communications, and other related fields. Topics addressed by the JRS include:

- Regulation, standardization, and codes practices;
- Harmonization and equivalency;
- Product testing, method development, monitoring and surveillance, researches and technologies for product safety, environment protection, and energy reservation;
- Food contamination and adulteration;
- Consumer, markets, and cost benefit analysis;
- Hazard analysis, HACCP, HARPC, and product safety;
- Risk analysis and communication;
- Quality assurance and control;
- Good manufacturing practices, good laboratory practices, and good clinic practices;
- Gap analysis, implementation, and evaluation of regulatory practices and improvement;
- Environmental control; and
- Education, training, and outreach.

What if I have a paper on a topic that is not included in the list above?

The JRS welcomes original scientific articles, reviews, rapid communications, policy commentaries, and letters to the editors that deal with every aspect of regulatory science. Please contact our editorial team at JRSorg@otsc.tamu.edu if you have any questions regarding a submission.

Do I have to be with a regulatory agency to get published in the JRS?

No. All regulatory scientists, managers, technologists and legislators working in the food and feed, environmental, pharmaceutical, transportation, and communications industries are invited to participate as readers, authors and reviewers.

What are the criteria for publication in the JRS?

The key criteria for acceptance for publication are:
- Originality, novelty, and appropriateness within the scope of the JRS;
- Broad interest to the regulatory science community;
- Scientific quality and evidence-supported conclusions; and
- Clarity, organization, and completeness.

Journal of Regulatory Science

What format does my paper need to be in to submit?

Submissions must be made in English, in a common word processing file format (e.g., .doc), and include the use of line numbering. The manuscript should be reviewed closely for spelling and grammar prior to submission. Contact information for all authors should be included in the title page, to include full name, affiliation and address, and email address. All articles should include an abstract and a maximum of eight keywords for indexing and search purposes. Citations should follow the referencing style used by the American Psychological Association, and the list of references should be in alphabetical order. Examples of APA formatting can be found here. Failure to follow submission format guidelines may result in publication delays or rejection of the paper for resubmission. Additional information can be found in our Author Guidelines.

Is there a page limit?

- Scientific Articles: up to 10,000 words
- Policy Commentaries: up to 8,000
- Rapid Communications: up to 4,000 words
- Review Articles: Varies based on content being reviewed
- Letters to Editor: Considered on a case by case basis

Word limits include table and figures, but do not include the abstract or references. Please contact the editorial team for submissions longer than the lengths provided above.

How do I submit a paper?

The submission process is entirely online, and you must be registered as an author to submit articles. To register:

1. Complete the registration form here: https://journals.tdl.org/regsci/index.php/regsci/user/register
2. Select the "Author" checkbox
3. Click "Register" to return to the user home page
4. Follow the onscreen instructions for the 5-step submission process

To submit an article for consideration:

1. Login here: https://journals.tdl.org/regsci/index.php/regsci/login
2. Start your submission here: https://journals.tdl.org/regsci/index.php/regsci/about/submissions
3. Follow the onscreen instructions for the 5-step submission process

You can save your progress at any time during the submission process and return to complete the submission at a later date by selecting "Active Submissions" from the Author Home page. A more detailed outline of the submission process can be found in our Author Guidelines.

Journal of Regulatory Science

What happens after I submit my paper?

Once you have finished the submission process, the submission's principal contact will receive an acknowledgement by email and will be able to view the submission's progress through the editorial process by logging in to the journal website. Once an article has been submitted to the JRS, it is first reviewed by the Editor-in-Chief to determine its suitability for publication in the JRS. The Journal Manager then assigns a minimum of two reviewers identified by the Editor-in-Chief as appropriate. All submitted manuscripts undergo a single-blind peer review process prior to publication. In a single-blind review system, reviewers are kept anonymous from the authors. Once a minimum of two reviews have been completed, you will be contacted with review recommendations. The Editor-in-Chief makes the final decision of acceptance, revision, or rejection based on the reviewer's comments. External referees may be consulted when necessary.

How long does the review process take?

The typical period of time allowed for reviews is 4 weeks from the initial review request. However, length of review times can vary by topic and the availability and willingness of potential reviews in that area of expertise. We aim to return reviewer recommendations and an editor's decision within 6 months.

Who will be contacting me throughout the publication process?

Our journal manager, Shireen Jahedkar (JRSorg@otsc.tamu.edu or sej@otsc.tamu.edu), will be the primary point of contact. You may also be in contact with our Editor-in-Chief, Ricardo Molins.

If my paper was rejected by JRS, can I revise and resubmit it?

The most common reason a submission may be rejected for publication is if the topic is not within the scope of JRS. If your submission has been rejected, feedback will be provided. If you have additional questions, please contact our editorial team.

Can I post my article on the internet?

Yes. Authors are permitted and encouraged to post their work online (e.g., in institutional repositories or on their website) prior to and during the submission process. Authors retain copyright, patent, trademark, and other intellectual property rights (including research data). The JRS is an open access journal and, as a result, articles are free to use with proper acknowledgment of the work's authorship and initial publication in this journal.