

# Journal of Regulatory Science

## *Reviewer Guidelines*

### **Focus and Scope**

The focus of the Journal of Regulatory Science (JRS) is comprehensive and includes the regulation of food and feed, the environment, drugs, transportation, communications, and other related fields. The scope of topics in the JRS include:

- Risk Analysis Process (Assessing, Managing and Communicating Risk)
- Hazard Analysis and Risk-based Preventive Controls
- Food contamination and adulteration;
- Monitoring and Surveillance of Food Contaminants
- Cost-benefit Analysis of Regulations
- Social and Political Impact of Regulations and Policies
- Implementation of Quality System within a regulatory infrastructure
- Implementation of ISO Standards and Accreditation
- Regulation, standardization, and codes practices;
- Product Safety
- Gap analysis, implementation, and evaluation of regulatory practices and improvement;
- Regulatory Science Education, training and outreach
- Current Events

Submissions that do not fulfill these requirements will not be considered for review.

### **Peer Review Process**

JRS is committed to transparency in the review process and aims to provide authors with fair and timely reviews. 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 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. Once a minimum of two reviews have been completed, 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.

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.
- Check for plagiarism.

Reviewers are asked to consider the originality of the submission, the article's format and structure (as described in the [JRS Author Guidelines](#)), ethical concerns such as plagiarism or fraud, and criteria for recommendation as described in the [Reviewer Guidelines](#).

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### **Conflicts of Interest**

Prior to beginning your review, please review the author information and affiliations for any potential conflicts of interest. A conflict of interest will not necessarily eliminate you from reviewing an article, but reviewers are asked to fully disclose any actual or potential conflict of interest that could inappropriately influence, or be perceived to influence, the review process. Examples of potential conflicts of interests include having a personal relationship with any of the authors, having a direct or indirect financial interest in the article being reviewed, co-authoring publications with at least one of the authors in the past 3 years, or working within the same department or organizational unit as one of the authors within the past 3 years. All reviewers must declare all potential competing, or conflicting, interests. Competing interests may be personal, financial, intellectual, professional, political or religious in nature.

### **Confidentiality**

Reviewers are asked to protect the confidentiality of the manuscript to ensure that it is not disseminated or exploited. All manuscripts and information contained therein should remain confidential both during and after the review process. Reviewers should not attempt to contact the author(s).

### **Appropriate feedback**

The reviewer must provide a fair, honest, and unbiased assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of the manuscript. In addition, the reviewer can provide confidential comments to the editor as well as comments to be read by the authors.

### **Reviewer Registration**

All manuscripts are reviewed online and you must be registered as a reviewer. To register:

1. Complete the registration form posted at:  
<https://journals.tdl.org/regsci/index.php/regsci/user/register>
2. Select the “Reviewer” checkbox
3. Identify your reviewing interests
4. Click “Register” to return to your user home page

### **Criteria for Recommendation**

In your evaluation, please consider the originality of the submission, the article’s format and structure (as described in the [JRS Author Guidelines](#)), ethical concerns such as plagiarism or fraud.

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### **Review Steps**

The editor will send the article review request to selected reviewers by email. The request will include an abstract of the submission, a hyperlink to the submission review page and due date. Reviewers should only accept a request to review if they are able to dedicate an appropriate amount of time to completing the review by the due date. The typical period of time allowed for reviews is 4 weeks from the initial review request. Within the online review page, reviewers are directed to:

1. Accept or decline the review
2. Download and review the submission files
3. Declare competing interests
4. Post your review of the submission
  - a. Reviewers are presented with two open text boxes, the first "for author and editor," and the second "for editor"
5. Upload any additional files for the editor and/or author
6. Submit review and one of the following recommendations to the editor:
  - a. Accept submission
  - b. Revisions required
  - c. Resubmit for review
  - d. Resubmit elsewhere (article is archived)
  - e. Decline submission
  - f. Post comments