



The Australasian Society of Aerospace Medicine

Code of Practice for Scientific Integrity in Presentations and Publications.

Introduction

The Australasian Society of Aerospace Medicine (ASAM, the Society) is the professional society providing an authoritative body of opinion on aerospace medicine in Australasia.

The objects of the Society include cultivating and promoting aviation medicine and related sciences, which it accomplishes through its annual scientific meeting and the Journal of the Australasian Society of Aerospace Medicine. In addition, the Society lends its support to regional meetings around Australia that share the same goals.

Principles

In striving to promote the science of aviation medicine and related disciplines through its scientific meetings and publication, the Australasian Society of Aerospace Medicine adopts the following principles:

- Material should be presented clearly, honestly, and without fabrication, falsification, exaggeration, or inappropriate manipulation.
- Material should be original to the authors, with the work of others acknowledged through appropriate referencing.
- Scholarly reviews should provide a complete and balanced review of the literature.
- Opinion pieces should be based on interpretation of scientific literature.
- Authorship should accurately reflect individuals' contributions to the work being presented, and should not imply endorsement by individuals or organisations without their agreement.
- Potential conflicts of interest that might affect the interpretation of the material being presented should be clear as people consider the material.
- Where original research is reported, it should have been conducted in an ethical and responsible manner, and researchers should describe their methods clearly and unambiguously.

Expectation

It is expected that scientific material presented or published under the auspices of the Australasian Society of Aerospace Medicine will conform to this Code of Practice for Scientific Integrity. It is expected that all authors who submit a paper for publication or presentation in an ASAM-sponsored forum will be asked to acknowledge compliance with this Code. Prospective presenters at scientific meetings will be asked to provide an abstract of their proposed talk.

Intent

By adopting this Code of Practice for Scientific Integrity in Presentations and Publications, the Australasian Society of Aerospace Medicine is exhibiting its adherence to the highest standards of academic integrity as it promotes the science of aviation medicine and related disciplines to its members and others in the wider community.

Code of practice

Soundness and reliability

- Material should be presented clearly and unambiguously.
- Where original research is being presented, it should have been conducted in an ethical and responsible manner, carefully executed, and with appropriate analysis of data.
- Scientific material – including both original research as well as discussion of others' research findings – should be subject to appropriate analysis and evaluation.

Honesty

- Material should be presented honestly and without fabrication, falsification, or inappropriate data manipulation.
- Images should not be modified in a misleading way. Images that have been modified should be clearly identified.
- Where a paper or presentation comprises scientific material and opinion, it should be clear which parts are based on *evidence* and which parts comprise *opinion*.
- Where humour or 'dramatic effect' is used, it should be unambiguous, not misleading, and not be offensive.

Balance

- Scholarly reviews and syntheses of existing research should be complete, balanced, and should include findings regardless of whether they support the hypothesis or interpretation being proposed.
- Where original research is being reported, researchers should publish all meaningful research results, including negative results or results that do not support the hypothesis being tested.
- New findings should be presented in the context of previous research. The work of others should be represented in a fair and balanced manner.

Originality

- There should be a clear distinction between material that is original from the authors of a publication or presentation, and material that originates from others.
- Work of others should be attributed accurately in citations and quotations.

- Copyright material (e.g. tables, figures or extensive quotations) should be reproduced only with appropriate acknowledgement.
- Relevant previous work and publications, both by other researchers and the authors' own, should be properly acknowledged and referenced.
- Data, text, figures or ideas originated by other researchers should be properly acknowledged and should not be presented as if they were the authors' own.
- Original wording taken directly from publications by other researchers should appear in quotation marks with the appropriate citations.
- Opinion pieces presenting a particular viewpoint or argument should be clearly distinguished from scholarly reviews, but should still be based on an interpretation of scientific material.

Transparency

- Authors should disclose relevant financial and non-financial interests, relationships, and potential conflicts of interest that might affect the interpretation of the material being presented, or which the audience/readership might reasonably wish to know.
- Authors' credentials to present particular material should be clearly established.
- Authors should clearly establish the authority with which material is being presented, including any organisations or institutions that represent through the material. Where authors may represent a number of different organisations, it is important for the audience/readership to have a clear understanding which organisation is being represented at that time.
- The citing of employment position, military rank, or academic title in a publication or presentation should not inappropriately imply endorsement by institutions or organisations.

Authorship

- The authorship of a publication or presentation should accurately reflect individuals' contributions to the work. Only those individuals who made a substantial contribution to the work should be recognised as authors.
- The corresponding author should act as a point of contact between the editor and the other authors, and should keep co-authors informed and involve them in major decisions about the publication or presentation. Nevertheless, all authors should agree to be listed, and should approve the submitted and accepted versions of the publication.
- It is the corresponding author's responsibility (on behalf of their co-authors, if any) to ensure that relevant institutional endorsements and approvals have been obtained prior to material being presented or published.
- Authors should not use acknowledgements misleadingly to imply an endorsement by individuals or organisations.
- All authors should have read and be familiar with the material, and will be expected to take joint responsibility for the integrity of the material.

Ethics

- Where research involving humans or animals is presented, it is the authors' responsibility to obtain assent from the relevant ethical review board. This should be discussed in the presentation or paper.
- Material (including images) that could potentially identify individuals should not be used without their specific consent.

Contact

Please contact the secretariat@asam.org.au to discuss this Code of Practice.

Acknowledgement

The Code of Practice is based on material adapted with permission from:

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