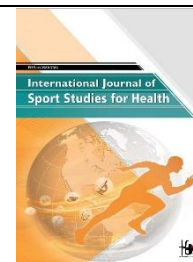


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The Ethical Compass: Establishing Ethical Guidelines for Research Practices in Sports Medicine and Exercise Science

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E d i t o r	R e v i e w e r s
<p>Bahram Arjmandi  Department of Nutrition, Food and Exercise Sciences, College of Human Sciences, Talahasi University, Florida, United States. barjmandi@fsu.edu</p>	<p>Reviewer 1: Mojtaba Kaviani  School of Nutrition and Dietetics, Acadia University, Canada. mojtaba.kaviani@acadiau.ca</p> <p>Reviewer 2: Michael Doppelmayr  Department of Sport science Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany. amoll@uni-mainz.de</p>

1. Round 1

1.1 Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

Consider providing a brief summary table or bullet points at the beginning of the results section to offer a quick overview of the 15 ethical challenges identified.

While the literature review is comprehensive, adding more recent studies or meta-analyses could provide a stronger foundation for some of the less common ethical challenges discussed.

In sections where specific guidelines or recommendations are proposed, consider using tables or figures to succinctly present these points. This would enhance readability and make the manuscript more accessible to readers seeking practical advice.

The section on AI chatbots in academic writing is timely and intriguing. Expanding this discussion to include potential future developments and ethical considerations would be beneficial. Additionally, examples of misuse and best practice guidelines for AI chatbots could enrich this section.

This section robustly covers the manuscript's ethical considerations. However, elaborating on how these considerations were integrated into the research process for this paper itself could provide valuable insights into practical applications of the proposed guidelines.

Author revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

1.2 Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The transition between sections, especially from the introduction to the methods and then to the results, could be smoother. Linking these sections more explicitly to the overall objective of establishing new ethical guidelines would enhance coherence.

Some sections could be strengthened by directly linking the discussion to specific examples from the literature, especially in areas such as data falsification and the misuse of peer review.

The manuscript could benefit from more detailed descriptions of how the 15 key ethical challenges were identified and prioritized. This might include information on the criteria used for selection and any quantitative or qualitative analyses conducted.

Specific, actionable recommendations are provided for each ethical challenge. To further enhance the manuscript, consider including case studies or real-world examples where these recommendations have been successfully implemented.

While the recommendations are valuable, making them more concise and actionable would improve their utility. Bullet points or a checklist format for each ethical challenge could aid researchers in quickly identifying best practices.

Author revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.