

The Journal of Gemmology **Publication Ethics and Malpractice Statement**

The Journal of Gemmology is published by the Gemmological Association of Great Britain (Gem-A). *The Journal of Gemmology* (the *Journal*) adheres to the principles outlined by the Committee on Publication Ethics (<http://publicationethics.org>). Conformance to standards of ethical behaviour is therefore expected of authors, editors and reviewers.

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Reporting Standards

Authors should present an accurate account of the work performed as well as an objective discussion of its significance. Underlying data should be represented accurately in the paper. The results of research should be recorded and maintained in a form that allows analysis and review. Fraudulent or knowingly inaccurate statements constitute unethical behaviour and are unacceptable.

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Authors should ensure that their work is entirely original, and if the work and/or words of others have been used, this has been appropriately cited or quoted. Plagiarism in all its forms constitutes unethical scholarly behaviour and is unacceptable. Information obtained by private communication, correspondence or discussions with third parties should not be used without consent of the correspondent source.

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Authors should not in general publish articles describing essentially the same research to more than one journal. Submitting the same manuscript to more than one journal concurrently constitutes unethical publishing behaviour and is unacceptable. Publication in different languages in more than one journal is acceptable, provided that the primary reference is cited in the secondary publication.

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Proper acknowledgment of the work of others used in a research project must always be given.

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Authorship should be limited to those who have made a significant contribution to the conception, design, execution, or interpretation of the reported study. All those who have made significant contributions should be listed as co-authors. Where there are others who have participated in certain substantive aspects of the research project, they should be mentioned in the Acknowledgements section.

The corresponding author should ensure that all appropriate co-authors and no inappropriate co-authors are included on the paper, and that all co-authors have seen and approved the final version of the paper and have agreed to its submission for publication.

Disclosure of Financial Support

All sources of financial support for the project should be disclosed.

Acknowledgements

All sources of support (financial and technical) and details thereof should be named in the Acknowledgements section. These include grants, honoraria, industrial and academic support.

Errors in Published Work

When an author discovers a significant error or inaccuracy in his/her own published work, it is the author's obligation to promptly notify the editor or publisher and cooperate to retract or correct the contribution.

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The editor-in-chief of the journal is responsible for deciding which of the articles submitted to the *Journal* should be published. The validation of the work in question and its importance to researchers and readers must always drive such decisions.

Fair Play

The editors should evaluate manuscripts exclusively on the basis of their academic merit without regard to race, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief, ethnic origin, citizenship, or political philosophy of the authors.

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The editors and the editorial staff should not disclose any information about a manuscript under consideration to anyone other than the corresponding author, reviewers, potential reviewers, and the publisher, as appropriate.

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When genuine errors in published work are pointed out by readers, authors, or editors, which do not render the work invalid, a correction (or erratum) will be published as soon as possible. The online version of the paper may be corrected with a note indicating an appropriate resolution to the problem.

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All articles published in the *Journal* are subjected to double-blind peer review. Peer reviewers should be experts in the scientific topic addressed in the articles they review, and should be selected for their objectivity and scientific knowledge. Peer review assists the editor-in-chief in making editorial decisions and through anonymous communications with the authors may also assist the author in improving the contribution.

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Any selected referee who feels unqualified to review the research reported in a manuscript or knows that its prompt review will be impossible should notify the editor-in-chief and excuse himself from the review process.

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