



Human and Animal Rights Policy

For manuscripts reporting medical studies involving human participants, we require a statement identifying the ethics committee that approved the study, and that the study conforms to recognised standards, for example: [Declaration of Helsinki](#); [US Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects](#); or [European Medicines Agency Guidelines for Good Clinical Practice](#). Please also include the ethics approval reference number issued by the relevant ethics committee.

Clinical studies

Original clinical studies should comply with the ethics principles set out in the declaration of Helsinki. WMA DECLARATION OF HELSINKI – ETHICAL PRINCIPLES FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH INVOLVING HUMAN SUBJECTS

<https://www.wma.net/policies-post/wma-declaration-of-helsinki-ethical-principles-for-medical-research-involving-human-subjects/>

It is usually appropriate for the reporting of original clinical studies to be consistent with the CONSORT recommendations

<http://www.consort-statement.org/checklists/view/32--consort-2010/66-title>

Animal studies

Animal studies should comply with the standards set out in ARRIVE and the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals

<https://www.nc3rs.org.uk/arrive-guidelines>

[Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals - NCBI Bookshelf \(nih.gov\)](#)

A statement indicating that the protocol and procedures employed were ethically reviewed and approved, and the name of the body giving approval, must be included in the Methods section of the manuscript. Authors should also state whether experiments were performed in accordance with relevant institutional and national guidelines and regulations for the care and use of laboratory animals:

- UK authors should conform to UK legislation under the [Animals \(Scientific Procedures\) Act 1986 Amendment Regulations \(SI 2012/3039\)](#).
- European authors outside the UK should conform to [Directive 2010/63/EU](#).

Informed consent policy

Images and information from individual participants will only be published where the authors have obtained the individual's free prior informed consent. Authors do not need to provide a copy of the consent form to the publisher; however, in signing the author license to publish authors are required to confirm that consent has been obtained.