

Duplicate and multiple submission of papers for publication

Authors are expected to submit articles that are original and that are not awaiting a decision regarding acceptance with any other journal. Duplicate submission refers to such concurrent submission of the same paper to two journals (and multiple submission to more than two journals) and constitutes unethical behavior in academic publishing. Publishers provide screening tools to check for duplicate submissions.

Examples of duplicate submission

- Simultaneous submission of the same manuscript to more than one journal
- Sequential submission of the same manuscript to more than one journal before receiving the final decision of the first journal, and without withdrawing the first submission

How to avoid duplicate submission

- One corresponding author should be responsible for manuscript submission
- Authors should comply with the guide for authors
- Manuscripts should be officially withdrawn from a journal or rejection decision obtained before submitting to another

Consequences of duplicate submission

These include:

- Rejection of the submitted article
- Editors and journals may request investigation by:
 - Institutional research governance and integrity teams
 - Funders
 - Professional regulatory bodies

Unethical academic publishing practice adversely affects the reputation of authors and institutions.

Duplicate and multiple submissions waste editorial and reviewer time.

Further information

Committee on Publication Ethics. Redundant (duplicate) publication in a submitted manuscript <https://publicationethics.org/resources/flowcharts/redundant-duplicate-publication-submitted-manuscript>

Elsevier. Multiple, duplicate, concurrent publication/simultaneous submission <https://www.elsevier.com/editor/perk/multiple-duplicate-concurrent-publication-simultaneous-submission>