

Guidelines for WebmedCentral *plus* Editorial Board Members

- 1. Each specialty of the journal has its own separate "Specialty Editorial Board". Members of these specialty editorial boards have published widely in the field and have some experience of reviewing manuscripts in the past.
- 2. Editorial Board Members will review manuscripts on request from Specialty Editors. They will assist specialty editors in determining if a manuscript is "scientifically sound" and deserves to be published. Broadly our criteria for publication are as follows.
 - Article should be a piece of scientific importance.
 - The manuscript must be scientifically and technically robust.
 - Authors must have supplied all necessary data and information and described methods in sufficient detail. Results must be interpreted appropriately and support the conclusions deduced.
 - The manuscript is appropriately written and includes appropriate references.
 - Authors maintain high standards of research integrity. Appropriate consent forms, ethics committee/institutional review board clearances etc. have been obtained.
 - Authors must disclose competing interests, sources of funding and contribution made by each author.
 - The manuscript follows appropriate guidelines for that type of study.
- 3. Named reviews will be published with the manuscript openly. Editorial Board Members should therefore be familiar and comfortable with the concept of open peer review.
- 4. Unless under exceptional circumstances, we will not ask our Editorial Board members to review more than 6 manuscripts per year.
- 5. We expect our Editorial Board members to provide their reviews within 2 weeks of request.