

Submission Guidelines for “Suicide Policy Research”

Editorial Board of “Suicide Policy Research”

Japan Suicide Countermeasures Promotion Center (JSCP)

This is an open-access journal for advancing research on the reality of suicide and suicide prevention and promoting suicide countermeasures through such research activities. By requesting and publicly soliciting manuscripts, the Japan Suicide Countermeasures Promotion Center (JSCP) collects and publishes a wide range of articles on comprehensive suicide countermeasures. These include interdisciplinary, high-quality research papers and practical reports that contribute to on-site responses and policy development.

1. Eligibility for submission

Anyone who 1) has an interest in the reality of suicide and both research and practice regarding suicide countermeasures, and 2) who agrees with the aims of this journal.

2. Manuscript category

Manuscripts published in this journal are classified as original articles, reviews, practical reports, commentaries, and others.

(1) Original article: the content is recognized as original and highly complete as academic research.

(2) Review: a systematic investigation is conducted to compare and organize previous research, and the review is original.

(3) Practical report: the content and intent of on-site practice is clearly stated, and the report is cohesive and can be shared among researchers and practitioners.

(4) Commentary: an explanation or summary of academic or social trends on a specific topic that is useful for enhancing readers' understanding.

(5) Others: other reports or materials that do not fall into the above four categories but are deemed to be of publication value to this journal.

3. Conditions for manuscript

The manuscript must have been written in English and must not have been published in any other journal.

4. Review of manuscript

Original articles, reviews, and practical reports will be subject to a peer review (in principle, peer review and judgment by two reviewers), and other manuscript categories will also be reviewed as necessary. Details regarding peer review will be determined separately.

5. Ethical considerations

In accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki of the World Medical Association (WMA) and other guidelines in other fields of expertise, the text shall describe the content and methods of ethical considerations adopted when conducting the research, the disadvantages to the research subjects due to the research method, the elimination of risks, and the circumstances surrounding explanation and informed consent, etc. If it is determined that no ethical issues exist, this shall be stated, and the reasons shall be clearly communicated. For research conducted with the approval of an ethical review committee, the name of the ethical review committee that approved the research and the date of approval shall be stated. Note that while practical reports and commentaries are required to comply with the WMA Declaration of Helsinki and other guidelines, approval by an ethical review committee is not necessarily required.

6. Conflict of interest self-declaration

If financial support such as research grants, provision of samples, or convenience was received from companies or organizations in the preparation of the paper, this must be stated in the acknowledgments, etc. In addition, all authors must submit a “Conflict of interest self-declaration” at the time of submission.

7. Manuscript volume and the way of submission

Manuscripts should be no more than 8,000 words for original articles, reviews, practical reports, and commentaries, including figures, tables, notes, and references. Figures and tables will be counted at an average of 100 words each. Manuscripts should be submitted electronically.

8. Submission and publication fees

There are no submission or publication fees.

9. Copyright

The copyright of the articles published in this journal belongs to JSCP. If the articles are to be reprinted in other publications, the Editorial Board of JSCP must be notified in advance.

10. Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

When submitting a manuscript prepared using artificial intelligence–related technologies such as generative AI, authors must explicitly disclose such use (including the name of the tool, the sections in which it was used, and the purpose of its use) within the manuscript (e.g., in the Acknowledgments or Methods section). AI may not be listed as an author. Images or tables/figures generated by AI may not be included in the article. The authors bear full responsibility for the accuracy of the generated content and for any copyright and ethical issues arising from its use. If inappropriate use of AI is identified, the Editorial Board of this journal may decline to accept or publish the submitted manuscript, or may take corrective actions such as retracting an article that has already been published.

Supplementary Provisions

These guidelines (decided by the Editorial Board on April 13, 2026) will come into effect on April 13, 2026.

Supplementary Provisions

These guidelines (decided by the Editorial Board on July 23, 2024) will come into effect on July 23, 2024.

Supplementary Provisions

These guidelines (revised by the Editorial Board on January 9, 2024) will come into effect on January 9, 2024.