Would your research pass our ethical standards checks?

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Before you begin, we strongly advise you to consult the Policies page of your F1000 publishing venue. Depending on the topic of your research there may be further details on ethical standards.

Is your study original and unpublished?

Yes

No
All articles submitted must be original. The work, or large parts of it, must not have been published previously or currently be under consideration or review elsewhere. If clear plagiarism (including self-plagiarism) is identified, the article will be rejected. If there is any significant overlap with another paper, this must be cited in the article and mentioned on submission. If an article has previously been posted on a preprint server, this must also be disclosed during submission.

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Yes

No
Authors must include a 'Competing interests' statement. If there are none to declare, the following standard statement is added: 'No competing interests were disclosed.'

Does your research involve plants, animals, or people?

No

Yes

Plants
Studies on plants must be carried out within the guidelines provided by the authors' institution and national or international regulations. Where applicable, you should include a statement where licenses or permissions were granted. Authors should also comply with the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Convention on the Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

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Authors describing studies involving animals must have consulted the 'Animal Research: Reporting In Vivo Experiments' (ARRIVE) 2.0 guidelines, developed by the NC3Rs. Articles reporting in vivo experiments must adhere to the ARRIVE Essential 10 checklist as a minimum, and we encourage authors to use the full ARRIVE 2.0 checklist.

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Ethics approval must be obtained before the research is conducted. Authors must provide details of the approval from their institutional or relevant ethics committee in the article. Authors also need to confirm participants consented to take part in the research by providing a statement of written informed consent. Where only oral consent was obtained, the reasons need to be explained. If consent to participate was not required, this should be clearly stated and explained.

Does your research involve clinical trials?

No

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Clinical trials should be registered before patient recruitment starts, and the trial registration number and registration date must be included in the article. We will consider retrospectively registered trials, where an explanation for the late registration is provided.

Does your research contain identifiable data?

No

Yes
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There you have it – a guide to passing our ethical standards to publish your research.