



PUBLICATION ETHICS AND MALPRACTICE STATEMENT:

Te Kāreti o ngā Kaiwhakawhānau ki Aotearoa |

New Zealand College of Midwives Journal

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INTRODUCTION

Te Kāreti o nga Kaiwhakawhanau ki Aotearoa | the New Zealand College of Midwives Journal (the Journal) bases its [Publication Ethics and Malpractice Statement](#) and its guidelines for authors, reviewers and editors on the [International Committee of Medical Journal Editors \(ICMJE\) recommendations](#) and the [Committee on Publication Ethics \(COPE\) core practices](#).

SUBMISSIONS

The Journal welcomes original research, literature reviews, case studies, audits and research methodology manuscripts that fit with the [Aims of the Journal](#).

The Aims of the Journal are:

- to promote health as it relates to childbearing wāhine/women/people and their whānau/families
- to promote the view of childbirth as a normal life event for the majority of wāhine, and the midwifery professional's role in effecting this
- to provoke discussion of midwifery issues
- to support the development of Aotearoa New Zealand midwifery scholarship
- to support the development and dissemination of Aotearoa New Zealand and international research into midwifery and maternal and child health
- to provide evidence to support midwifery practice

Authors are required to adhere to the Journal's [Contributor Guidelines](#). And by submitting a manuscript, authors imply that the work is original, has not been published previously in any form and is not under consideration for publication elsewhere.

Authorship

When the manuscript is co-authored, details for all authors are to be provided. It is expected that each person named as an author of a manuscript has made substantial contributions to all of the following:

- The conception and design of the study, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data
- Drafting the manuscript or revising it critically for important intellectual content
- Final approval of the version to be submitted

The corresponding author is responsible for ensuring that all authors have agreed to submit the manuscript for publication. The corresponding author's email address will be published with the paper.

Acknowledgements

Those who only meet some of the authorship criteria, or who provided assistance such as collecting data, transcribing interviews or providing technical or writing support, should be acknowledged in the manuscript.

Bicultural context

The Journal presents research relevant to the continuity of midwifery care framework in Aotearoa New Zealand within a bicultural Te Tiriti honouring context.¹

Inclusive language

Authors should use culturally sensitive language that conveys respect and acknowledges diversity. The Journal style is to use inclusive language and also to support humanising terms (for example, *give birth* rather than *deliver*; *women with diabetes*, rather than *diabetic women*).

Use of copyright material

It is the responsibility of authors to ensure that any necessary permission is sought for copyright material. This relates to substantial quotations, diagrams, artwork, photographs and other items that are owned by others. Written evidence of copyright permission must be produced if the manuscript is accepted for publication.

Plagiarism

The Journal has zero tolerance to plagiarism, including self-plagiarism, and requires authors to ensure that it does not occur.

References

Authors are responsible for providing accurate, relevant and complete references. The Journal style is based on the American Psychological Association (APA) 7th edition format.

¹ Te Tiriti o Waitangi (The Treaty of Waitangi) is an agreement which was signed by representatives of the British crown and Māori in 1840. Te Tiriti o Waitangi aimed to protect the rights of Māori to keep their lands, forests and fisheries, and to give the Crown the right to govern and establish laws and to develop British settlement. <https://www.waitangitribunal.govt.nz/treaty-of-waitangi/>

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Authors are required to complete an [Author Cover Sheet](#), which includes a declaration of interests. Authors must declare if they have any commercial, personal or organisational interests that could influence, or could be perceived as influencing, the production of their research or their submission to the Journal.

These include, but are not limited to:

- payments, honoraria or travel costs in respect of the research
- financial interest in any product the research might promote
- reimbursement by commercial entities to an author's employer for the author's time and expertise
- membership of an organisation or a professional or advisory group

Authors' declarations of interest are provided anonymously to reviewers and a summary of any declaration is published with the paper.

ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

All manuscripts that report research should ensure that the research has been carried out in accordance with the [Helsinki Declaration](#) as revised in 2013. Aotearoa New Zealand based research should follow the standards of the National Ethics Advisory Committee – Kāhui Matatika o te Motu (NEAC) for intervention and observational research, audits and related activities.

Authors of research manuscripts need to include details of how study participants were recruited and the institution that granted ethical approval (please state the ethics approval number). The Journal requires authors to ensure that their paper will protect anonymity and confidentiality of participants. Authors must obtain appropriate written consent and permissions by study participants if identifying information is included.

Similarly, if any photographs of people are submitted for publication with a paper, authors must obtain written consent from those appearing in the photographs.

Māori research

For all health research undertaken that is of relevance to Māori, and/or if authors have involved Māori participants, the authors should clearly state in the manuscript that they have complied with Health Research Council of New Zealand (HRC) guidelines:

- [Guidelines for Researchers on Health Research Involving Māori](#)
- [Te Ara Tika Guidelines for Māori Research Ethics](#)

Pacific Peoples research

For all health research undertaken that is of relevance to Pacific Peoples, and/or if authors have involved Pacific peoples as participants, the authors should clearly state in the manuscript that they have complied with [HRC guidelines regarding Pacific Health research](#).

Human rights and informed consent

In Aotearoa New Zealand the [Code of Health and Disability Services Consumer's Rights](#) establishes the rights of health consumers and the obligations of health providers. The code extends to protect health consumers participating in research in Aotearoa New Zealand. Therefore authors are required to adhere to the code, which includes the rights for consumers to be treated with respect, to be free from discrimination and exploitation, to effective communication, to be fully informed, and to make an informed choice.

Animal rights

For any research that involves animals, the authors should clearly state in the manuscript that they have complied with the [National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee guidelines](#).

REVIEW PROCESS

All manuscripts are assessed by an editor and, if deemed suitable, are sent for double-blind peer review by two external reviewers who have expertise relevant to the content. Reviewers who are invited to review a manuscript are required to declare any interests that might conflict, or might be perceived as conflicting, with their ability to carry out an impartial/objective review of that manuscript.

The Editorial Board appoints an editor/sub-editor for each manuscript. Any editor/sub-editor who is affiliated to an author through a supervisory, employment or teaching role will not be involved in editing that author's manuscript. The appointed editor/sub-editor collates the reviewers' feedback and communicates with the corresponding author regarding the acceptability of publishing the manuscript. If accepted, manuscripts go through a process of in-house checks and proof reading and are returned to the author for final confirmation and permission to publish.

Each reviewer of a manuscript receives an anonymised copy of the other's review, with the aim of providing feedback and an insight into a different reviewer's perspective.

Editors/sub-editors themselves will at times offer a manuscript for publication. In this situation they will not be appointed as editor for their submission and they will be excluded from all discussions about reviewers and the quality of the manuscript, until they receive official feedback from the nominated editor/sub-editor.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Members of the Editorial Board, editors, sub-editors, reviewers and administration staff are required to maintain confidentiality with regard to submissions and reviews. They will also refrain from using unpublished material for their own research purposes, unless they obtain the author's explicit written consent.

ACCEPTANCE

Manuscripts that are accepted and published become the copyright of Te Kāreti o nga Kaiwhakawhanau ki Aotearoa | the New Zealand College of Midwives Journal. The editors reserve the right to modify any accepted manuscript with regard to syntax, format and layout.

RAISING CONCERNS

If authors wish to appeal against any editorial decisions, they should contact the co-editors, who will present concerns to the Editorial Board for resolution.

Readers who have any concerns over the content of a published paper should also contact the co-editors. Valid criticisms will be presented to the authors, who will have the opportunity to respond.

If authors discover an error or inaccuracy in their published paper, they must promptly notify the co-editors. An erratum will then be published.

ADVERTISING

Advertisements will be accepted at the discretion of Te Kāreti o nga Kaiwhakawhanau ki Aotearoa | the New Zealand College of Midwives. Advertisements for artificial milk formulas, nipple creams or baby foodstuffs will not be accepted.