



## **HETI Journal: International Research and Practice**

A publication of

The Federation of Horses in Education and Therapy International A.I.S.B.L.

## **HETI Journal: International Research and Practice Appeals and Complaints Process**

The HETI journal follows the [Committee on Publication Ethics \(COPE\)](#) guidelines on appeals to journal editor decisions and complaints about a journal's editorial management of the [peer review process](#).

### **Editor decisions**

We are open to receiving genuine appeals concerning editor decisions. However, it is crucial that you offer substantial evidence or novel data/information in order to address the comments put forth by the editor and reviewers.

In the context of a manuscript that expresses opinions, the probability of a successful appeal to reverse an editor's decision is lower. These manuscripts consist of viewpoints, commentaries, and literature reviews, where the emphasis is on editorial judgment regarding readability and relevance.

It is imperative that all manuscripts expressing opinions are supported by evidence and fully referenced. When writing opinion-led manuscripts, it is important to provide evidence and clearly explain how it influenced your opinion.

### **Appealing an Editorial Decision**

To appeal an editorial decision, please submit an appeal letter via email to the HETI journal's editorial office. Please address this letter to the journal editor and clearly explain the basis for an appeal.

This letter should

- Explain the reasons for your disagreement with the decision. Please provide specific explanations addressing the comments from the editor and/or reviewers that influenced the rejection decision.
- Present any new information or data that you wish the journal to consider.
- Provide evidence if you believe a reviewer has made technical errors in their assessment of your manuscript.



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- If you believe a reviewer may have a conflict of interest, explain why.

After receiving the appeal, editors may involve any associate editors or specific reviewers who performed the peer review of the original submission. Editors have the option to affirm their decision to decline the manuscript, request a revised manuscript, or pursue further peer or statistical review of the original manuscript.

Each article is eligible for one appeal, and the editors' decisions on appeals are considered final. The timely evaluation and decision-making process for new submissions will be given priority over appeals.

Please contact the editor via email if you need more information about the journal's appeals procedure.

### **Complaints process**

Authors seeking to submit a complaint regarding the editorial management of the journal should contact the office of the [HETI Federation](#).

It is important to recognize that HETI is unable to entertain appeals pertaining to matters currently under legal proceedings. HETI retains the right to reject, suspend, or terminate an appeal submitted under this policy if legal proceedings are initiated and the claim pertains to the same subject matter as the appeal.