

All research articles, and most other article types, published in the PJP go through a criterious peer review process. Reviewers are required to respect the confidentiality of the peer review and analyse and value the quality, clarity and originality of the research and its significance to our readers.

Considering the journal editorial process, all submitted manuscripts are initially reviewed by the editors-in-chief and can be rejected at this stage, so that all the professionals that work with the journal aren't overworked with tasks related to articles that have minor chance of being effectively accepted and published. If not rejected, they are distributed to one of the associate editors that further analyses it and checks if it complies with the instructions to authors and meets the editorial policy. If this is the case, the associate editor sends it to two rigorous blind reviewers.

Within 30 days, the reviewer should respond to the nominee associate editor, indicating their comments on the manuscript and suggesting acceptance, review or rejection of the work. Within 10 days, the Editorial Board will make a decision which may be: accept the manuscript without modifications; sending the reviewers' comments to authors for manuscript review; rejection. When changes are proposed, authors have 30 days to submit a new revised version of the manuscript, incorporating the comments of the reviewers and of the editorial board. Authors have to answer all the questions and also send a revised version of the manuscript, with the inserted amendments.

The associate editor and the editors-in-chief then have 10 days to make the decision on the new version: reject or accept the new version, or refer it to a new appreciation for one or more reviewers.

Though editors and reviewers develop efforts to ensure the scientific and technical quality of the manuscripts, the ultimate responsibility of the content (including accuracy and precision of the observations, as well as opinions expressed) is the sole responsibility of the authors.

In 2020, 164 manuscripts were submitted to the Portuguese Journal of Pediatrics, of which 42% were rejected for publication. There are also 55 articles under review. Deciding which works to publish is a difficult but essential task in order to ensure the highest scientific quality of the journal. That is why the collaboration with the experts who have been asked to evaluate the manuscripts is critical. They are the ones who support the identification of the most important topics, judge the relevance of the proposed work and evaluate the accuracy of the proposed methodology, results and conclusions.

The editorial board of the Portuguese Journal of Pediatrics would like to thank all the reviewers who collaborated in the editorial process of the articles that were published or rejected during 2019, being fully aware that the work of scientific review by peers is the highest expression of scientific citizenship.

On behalf of all the readers, authors and editors of the Portuguese Journal of Pediatrics, thank you!

Reviewers (in alphabetical order):

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