

REGISTERED REPORTS

REVIEWER GUIDELINES

Definition

Stage 1 Submissions

Stage 2 Submissions

Flowchart of Processing

Definition

Registered Reports are a form of empirical article in which the methods and proposed analyses are pre-registered and reviewed prior to research being conducted; the emphasis is on demonstrating a high quality of rigor in the process as opposed to the nature of the results. This format of article seeks to neutralize a variety of inappropriate research practices, including inadequate statistical power, selective reporting of results, and publication bias.

The review process for *Registered Reports* is divided into two stages. In Stage 1, reviewers assess study proposals **before** data are collected. In Stage 2, reviewers consider the full study, including results and interpretation.

Stage 1 Submissions

Stage 1 manuscripts will include only an Introduction, Methods (including proposed analyses), and Pilot Data (where applicable). In considering papers at Stage 1, reviewers will be asked to assess:

1. The importance of the research question(s).
2. The logic, rationale, and plausibility of the proposed hypotheses.
3. The soundness and feasibility of the methodology and analysis pipeline (including statistical power analysis where appropriate).
4. Whether the clarity and degree of methodological detail are sufficient to exactly replicate the proposed experimental procedures and analysis pipeline.
5. Whether the authors have pre-specified sufficient outcome-neutral tests for ensuring that the results obtained can test the stated hypotheses, including positive controls and quality checks.

Following Stage 1 peer review, manuscripts will be 1) accepted, 2) offered the opportunity to revise, or 3) rejected outright. Manuscripts that pass peer review will be issued an *In-Principle Acceptance* (IPA), indicating that the article will be published pending successful completion of the

study according to the exact methods and analytic procedures outlined, as well as a defensible and evidence-bound interpretation of the results.

Stage 2 Submissions

Following completion of the study, authors will compose and submit the full manuscript, including Results and Discussion sections. The manuscript will be distributed to the reviewers, who will be asked to appraise:

1. Whether the data are able to test the authors' proposed hypotheses by satisfying the approved outcome-neutral conditions (such as quality checks, positive controls)
2. Whether the Introduction, rationale and stated hypotheses are the same as the approved Stage 1 submission (required)
3. Whether the authors adhered precisely to the registered experimental procedures
4. Whether any unregistered *post hoc* analyses added by the authors are justified, methodologically sound, and informative
5. Whether the authors' conclusions are justified given the data

The review process flowchart for Registered Reports

