

JACC: Basic to Translational Science

Policies and Procedures for Managing Conflict of Interest

The following policies have been established to provide guidance with respect to the management of Conflict of Interest for the Editor-in-Chief and the Associate Editors who review, select, and publish articles in *JACC: Basic to Translational Science*.

In order to avoid actual or perceived Conflict of Interest:

1. Original manuscripts or research letters authored or coauthored by the Editor-in-Chief and/or by any of the Associate Editors will be handled by the Guest Editor-in-Chief. The Guest Editor-in-Chief will make all decisions regarding the manuscript. The entire editorial process will be handled confidentially.
2. Original manuscripts or research letters submitted from the Editor-in-Chief's institution will be handled by the Guest Editor-in-Chief. Manuscripts from an Associate Editor's institution can be handled by another Associate Editor from a different institution.
3. Original research manuscripts or research letters authored or coauthored by a collaborator who has published with the Editor-in-Chief within 3 years from the time of submission will be handled by the Guest Editor-in-Chief. Coauthors on government or society-initiated guidelines and scientific statements, or on non-collaborative review manuscripts, will not be, for the purpose of this procedure, considered collaborators.
4. Original research manuscripts or research letters authored or coauthored by a collaborator who has published with an Associate Editor within 3 years at the time of submission cannot be handled by that Associate Editor but can be handled by another Associate Editor. Coauthors on government or society-initiated guidelines and scientific statements, or on non-collaborative review manuscripts, will not be, for the purpose of this procedure, considered collaborators.
5. Original research manuscripts or research letters authored or coauthored by an investigator who has a close professional relationship with the Editor-in-Chief (e.g., mentee or a collaborator on a funded grant) within 3 years from the time of submission will be handled by a Guest Editor-in-Chief.
6. Original research manuscripts or research letters authored or coauthored by an investigator who has a close professional relationship with an Associate Editor (e.g., mentee or a collaborator on a funded grant) within 3 years at time of submission cannot be handled by that Associate Editor but can be handled by another Associate Editor.
7. The Editor-in-Chief may refer an original research manuscript or a research letter to the Guest Editor-in-Chief to avoid a real or reasonably perceived conflict of interest. In all such cases, the Guest Editor-in-Chief makes all decisions about the manuscript, and all decisions are confidential.

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8. Associate Editors may declare real or reasonably perceived conflict in handling any original research manuscript or research letter on the basis of long-standing professional relations or professional disagreements with any of the authors. These manuscripts can be handled by another Associate Editor or handled by the Guest Editor-in Chief.