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Submission Guidelines for Authors

1. General

The *MJLH* publishes leading academic work in the field of health law. The *MJLH* also accepts articles on issues related to health policy or bioethics, but all articles must have strong legal content.

Articles are accepted on a rolling basis and will be published in the first available publication spot. The *MJLH* typically publishes 3-4 English articles per issue, and publishes two issues per year. Please contact the *MJLH* if you have any questions about our current publication cycle.

Articles should be submitted via email as Microsoft Word documents to **submissions.mjlh@mail.mcgill.ca**. The *MJLH* does not accept submissions via fax or regular mail.

2. Submission Types

The *MJLH* welcomes a variety of submission types, including:

- i. **Academic articles** consisting of legal scholarship that advances the field of health law. Length: 10,000 to 25,000 words, including footnotes.
- ii. **Perspective articles**, which are shorter in length than academic articles, and offer accessible commentary on contemporary or controversial topics in health law. Length: 1,500 to 5,000 words, including footnotes.
- iii. **Case comments** engaging in critical discussion of recent health law jurisprudence. Length: 5,000 to 10,000 words, including footnotes.
- iv. **Other submissions of scholarly or practical importance**, including model prosecutorial guidelines, health law forms and precedents, model legislation, important and otherwise-unreported cases, etc. Length: 5,000 to 25,000 words, including footnotes.
- v. **Blog posts** are similar to perspective articles, or very short academic articles,

and are published online via the *MJLH*'s health law blog.

3. Exclusivity, Originality, and Copyrights

To be considered for publication, manuscripts must be submitted exclusively to the *MJLH*. Simultaneous submissions will not be considered.

The *MJLH* publishes only original works. The author(s) must notify the *MJLH* of any previously published works whose content overlaps significantly with that of the current submission, or state that no such works exist.

Articles published in the *MJLH* may subsequently be reproduced or re-published, in whole or in part, in other journals, provided that the article or a portion of it, as the case may be, is clearly marked as originating in the *MJLH*.

Authors retain copyright in their articles but grant the *MJLH* an irrevocable, royalty-free, exclusive license to publish the author's article for the first time, which lasts for the duration of the author's copyright in the article.

4. Formatting Instructions

Submissions should include:

- i. A separate title page which contains the author(s) names, institutional affiliations, and advanced degrees, as well as a declaration about conflicts of interest (see below), and any personal notes of thanks or financial acknowledgements;
- ii. A 200-300 word abstract, in both English and French if possible; and
- iii. A table of contents.

5. Citation Style

All citations must conform to the 7th Edition of the *Canadian Guide to Uniform Legal Citation*. References should be made using footnotes, rather than endnotes or in-text citations.

Cross-referencing: Where applicable, all sources used more than once must establish a short-form according to the *Canadian Guide*. Subsequent references to that source must use standard cross-referencing rules (see the *Canadian Guide* for rules on *supras* and *ibids*).

THE *MJLH* requires one major derogation from the *Canadian Guide*. All cross-references (e.g. *supras*, *ibids*) must be paired with the short form. This allows editors to identify a source if the original citation is lost during the editing process.

E.x.

17. Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Part I of the Constitution Act, 1982, being

Schedule B of the Canada Act 1982 (UK), 1982, c 11 [Charter].

24. Charter, *supra* note 17.

25. Charter, *ibid*.

6. Conflict of Interest

Authors must disclose any real, apparent, or potential conflicts of interest as part of their submission. Conflicts of interest are not automatic bars to publication, but are used to ensure the integrity of the editorial process.

The *MJLH* defines a conflict of interest as:

- i. Any non-academic stake in the article's topic, such as financial interests (e.g. patents, stock or remuneration related to the article's subject matter), or current or pending participation in litigation related to the topic;
- ii. Financial, personal or institutional relationships with organizations that could be perceived as potentially influencing the author's objectivity;
- iii. Any other facts which could damage the credibility of the article if they became known after publication.

Following the convention of medical literature, the *MJLH* publishes declared conflicts of interest in a footnote for all articles.

7. Research Ethics Policy

Articles reporting on original research involving human subjects must have received ethics approval from the appropriate research ethics board/institutional review board. The submission email must contain a copy of the ethics approval.

8. Empirical and Quantitative Research Policy

The *MJLH* encourages the submission of articles containing statistical analysis and promotes the publication of transparent, reproducible results. As such, all empirical research published in the *MJLH* must fulfill two criteria:

- i. All statistical articles must contain a complete description of the paper's methodology, or a reference to a previously published description. The description must be sufficiently detailed for another researcher to replicate the analysis without requiring additional information from the authors. It must include, but is not limited to: data sources, sampling strategies, survey instruments, coding decisions, treatment of missing variables, software used, as well as all statistical tests or corrections applied. Depending on its length, either the complete methodological description will appear in the article, or an abridged version will be used and the full version will be hosted as a companion document on the *MJLH*'s website.

- ii. In limited circumstances, a replication dataset may be requested by the *MJLH* prior to publication. Issues of proprietary datasets purchased by authors from third parties, or ethical concerns (e.g. confidentiality) will be resolved on a case-by-case basis.