

PEER REVIEW PROCESS

1. Editor receives manuscript and then sends it to two qualified reviewers.
2. If one of the two reviewers disagrees with publication, editor will select the third reviewer for peer review.
3. If the third reviewer agrees with publication, editor will inform the author for acceptance.
4. If the third reviewer disagrees with publication, editor will select the fourth reviewer.
5. If the fourth reviewer agrees with publication, editor will inform the author. If not, the paper will be rejected.
6. If no experts included in our expert database are qualified for the peer review of an article, editor will invite other competent experts to make a decision.
7. The final decision of acceptance lies with the chief editor based on the comments of the reviewers and authors will be informed of the decision (acceptance, minor revision, major revision or rejection).
8. Each peer review process is expected to be completed within 10 days (the first two reviewers will finish reviewing within 10 days, and the third and fourth reviewers have 10 days each).

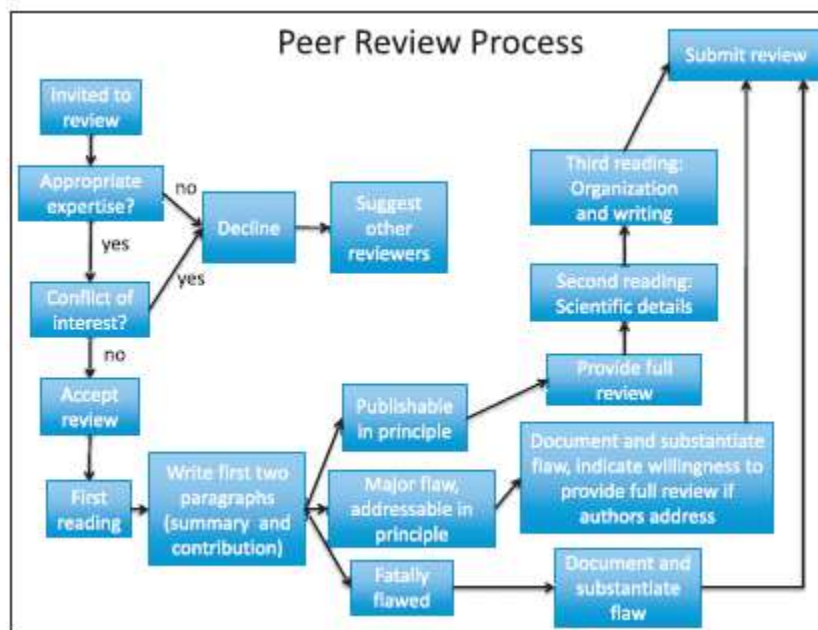


Fig. A flowchart depicting the major steps and decisions facing a peer reviewer throughout the review process