



## Process for suspected ethical non-compliance

When we encounter suspected ethical non-compliance in a manuscript, we follow the process outlined below to suggest necessary steps to authors.



Editor notices possible ethical concern with the manuscript.  
e.g., lack of informed consent, lack of ethical approval, non-disclosure of conflicts of interest



Editor brings the issue to the author's attention through a detailed comment.



Author reads editor's comment and takes corrective action.



Editor checks the revision, if the author so desires, and sends the final file(s) to the author.