

Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology journal

'The Editorial Board of Mac Keith Press, publishers of the journal [Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology](#), recently *endorsed the principles advocated by the EQUATOR Network*. The following actions were agreed by the Editorial Board: first, the instructions to authors will be amended to include link to the EQUATOR website and authors will be strongly advised to use appropriate reporting guidelines when preparing their manuscripts. Second, peer reviewers will be made aware of the guidelines when being invited to review for the journal, and asked to use an appropriate checklist when making their quality assessment. An editorial by Dr Chris Morris, from the Department of Public Health at the University of Oxford, due to be published in the autumn, suggests that a major incentive for authors to report their research in a complete, transparent, and accurate manner will be to make the peer reviewers work easier, which may in turn make publication more likely and, perhaps, hasten the process. ' (28 July 2008)

Instructions for authors:

<http://www.wiley.com/bw/submit.asp?ref=0012-1622&site=1> , c) Reporting guidelines

New policies on reporting introduced by this editorial:

Morris C. The EQUATOR Network: promoting the transparent and accurate reporting of research. *Dev Med Child Neurol* 2008 Oct;50(10):723. PMID: [18834380](#)

Guidance given to peer reviewers:

Once reviewers agree to undertake a review an automatic email goes out which includes the following paragraph...

"In your review, as well as giving us your opinion on the originality, scientific accuracy and relevance of the paper along with other general comments, please would you mind structuring your more specific comments under the sub-headings abstract, introduction, methods, results, discussion, references, tables and figures? In addition in common with other leading journals, DMCN supports the proposals of the EQUATOR Network on how to improve the reporting of research in our field. Where appropriate please could you consider the relevant guideline (CONSORT for randomised controlled trials; STROBE for observational studies, and MOOSE among others for systematic reviews and diagnostic accuracy studies) which are available on their website, www.equator-network.org"

*Information kindly provided by Dr Chris Morris, Associate Editor of the Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology
April 2009*