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Latin American and Caribbean Center on Health Sciences Information
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Recommendation for editors of health journals indexed in LILACS and SciELO about registration of clinical trials May 15th, 2007



This is to inform all editors of health journals indexed in LILACS and SciELO databases that, starting in August 2007, BIREME will require that journals which publish randomized controlled trials and clinical trials include in the "Instructions for Authors" the recommendation for prior registration of all trials published in their journals and to require the correspondent identification number for accepting manuscripts.

This decision follows the orientation of the International Clinical Trial Registry Platform (ICTRP) of the World Health Organization - WHO, of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors and of the *Workshop ICTRP: strategies to promote adherence to the International Clinical Trials Registry Platform in Latin America & the Caribbean*, carried out during the 8th Brazilian Congress of Collective Health and 11th World Congress on Public Health, in 2006.

WHO highlights the importance of the clinical trials as sources of evidence of the effectiveness and safety of interventions to human health. To ensure transparency, to fulfill ethical responsibilities and to increase public trust in the conduct of clinical research, WHO recommends that all clinical trials be registered at inception.

BIREME suggests the following text to be included in the Instructions for Authors:

"Journal XXX follows the policies of the World Health Organization (WHO) and of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) for clinical trial registration, recognizing the importance of those initiatives for international dissemination of information on clinical research, in open access. Accordingly, only articles of trials previously registered in one of the Clinical Trial Registries that meet WHO and ICMJE requirements will be accepted for publication, starting in 2007. The list of registries accepted by WHO and ICMJE is available in ICMJE site. The trial registration number should be published at the end of the abstract."

Thank you for your cooperation.

Best regards,


Abel L. Packer
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