Data and Reproducibility Policy

Purpose: This policy aims to promote data sharing, reproducibility, and adherence to best practices in reporting and registration within the publication process.

Data Availability:

1. **Data Sharing and Author Responsibility:** Authors are encouraged to make all data underlying the findings described in their manuscript fully available without restriction upon publication (consistent with the ALPSP-STM Statement on Data and Databases). This includes raw data, processed data, and any additional materials necessary to reproduce the reported results. Authors are also encouraged to save copies of all data, including raw, processed, and unpublished data, and be prepared to share them upon request by the editorial office or interested parties for the purpose of verification or further analysis.
2. **Data Accessibility Statement:** Authors must provide a clear statement in their manuscript indicating where and how the data can be accessed, including any necessary access restrictions and the specific data repository or platform used for data deposition.

Reproducibility:

1. **Code and Algorithms:** Authors should provide any custom code or algorithms used in their research to facilitate reproducibility. Code should be well-documented, commented, and easily executable by others.
2. **Methods Transparency:** Authors are required to provide detailed descriptions of their methods, including experimental procedures, statistical analyses, and any relevant protocols. This enables readers to assess the validity and reliability of the reported findings.

Use of Reporting Guidelines:

1. **Reporting Standards: Authors** should adhere to relevant reporting guidelines specific to their study design or field of research (e.g., CONSORT for clinical trials, STROBE for observational studies, ARRIVE for animal studies). Compliance with these guidelines helps ensure completeness and transparency in reporting.
2. **Checklist Submission:** Authors must submit a completed checklist corresponding to the relevant reporting guideline along with their manuscript. This checklist should indicate adherence to key reporting criteria and facilitate editorial and peer review.

Registration of Clinical Trials and Other Study Designs:

1. **Clinical Trials:** Authors conducting clinical trials or experimental designs must register their trial in a publicly accessible registry recognized by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) or the World Health Organization (WHO) International Clinical Trials Registry Platform (ICTRP) prior to patient enrollment.
2. **Other Study Designs:** Authors conducting other types of studies, such as observational studies or experimental research involving human or animal subjects, are encouraged to preregister their study protocols in an appropriate registry or repository to enhance transparency and accountability.

Policy Review: This Data and Reproducibility Policy will be periodically reviewed and updated to ensure alignment with evolving standards and best practices in scientific publishing.