**JSM Instructions for Authors of Transgender-Related Research**

We encourage authors reporting on transgender-related data to promote health, research, education, respect, dignity, and equality for transgender and gender diverse people. In submitting a manuscript, authors are advised to:

1. **Authors should avoid language which has the intention or effect of stigmatizing or pathologizing gender and body diversity (including a diversity of gender expressions and identities, as well as bodily characteristics).** Stigmatizing/pathologizing language such as “disordered” or “abnormal” or “malformation” should be avoided. “Persons diagnosed with gender dysphoria” or “persons with a gender dysphoria diagnosis” is preferred over “gender dysphoric persons” or “persons with gender dysphoria”. Affirmative language should be given preference, such as “gender and bodily diversity,” “gender diverse children,” “trans people” or “persons diagnosed with gender incongruence per ICD-11”. Where persons who live with the gender expression/gender identity assigned at birth are being discussed, authors should avoid the adjective “normal” and use the term “cisgender” (or its variants).

2. **Avoid advocating clinical interventions and practices which are not consistent with human rights standards**, such as, so-called reparative therapies, aimed at coercing or otherwise imposing gender conformity upon gender and bodily diverse persons.

3. **Avoid employing misgendering language**, such as language which belittles or undermines a person’s gender, such as referring to a person who identifies as female as “pretending to be female”, “natal male” or by using quotation marks (“girl”) to describe the person.

4. **Employ references to gender and sexual orientation that respect the gender identity of persons to whom they refer.** The references should be based on the self-description of the person, without assuming a concrete gender identity or sexual orientation,
and include non-binary and fluid gender expressions and gender identities, as well as non-heterosexual, queer, and non-binary sexualities. For example, a person identifying as female should be referred to by way of words such as girl, woman, female, she, and her, etc., according to the term she prefers. If she is attracted to women, she should be referred to as lesbian, gay, queer, etc. in line with her self-description.

5. **When employing references to a person’s assigned sex at birth, authors should use terms such as “birth-assigned sex” or (if appropriate) “legal sex”**. Authors should avoid the term “biological sex” or “natal sex.” If evidence is being presented on chromosomal, gonadal, hormonal, or genital sex characteristics, we ask that authors use those more specific terms. The term “actual sex” or “actual gender” should be avoided.

6. **Refer to adult trans-identified individuals in a way that respects their gender expression/identity before social and surgical transition**. The people concerned may have identified in their current gender identity even before undergoing transition. Pronouns should therefore be chosen in a careful way, without assuming a concrete gender identity, pronoun and/or name use.

7. **Avoid use of photos, videos or any other visual representations of individuals unless explicit consent of these individuals was obtained**.