

IRCOBI Editorial Committee

March 9, 2026

IRCOBI Policy for the Responsible Use of AI

1. Purpose

The International Research Council on Biomechanics of Injury (IRCOBI) recognises that generative artificial intelligence (AI) and related computational tools offer powerful support for research, scholarly writing, data analysis, and scientific communication. At the same time, IRCOBI acknowledges that these technologies present challenges including the potential for factual inaccuracy, ethical concerns and risks to confidentiality.

This policy provides guidance to authors, reviewers, and associate editors involved in IRCOBI activities on the responsible use of AI in research and dissemination. This policy also supports IRCOBI's mission to be an academically rigorous forum for injury biomechanics research that is trustworthy, reproducible, and ethically sound. It balances the benefits of AI with the need for human responsibility and scholarly integrity, ensuring IRCOBI continues to foster high-quality contributions and a culture of transparent, responsible science.

2. Scope

This policy applies to the use of AI-assisted tools in preparing contributions submitted to IRCOBI-sponsored forums, including but not limited to:

- Conference papers, abstracts, and presentations
- Research datasets and computational models
- Publications and workshop materials
- Technology used in peer review, editorial assessments and scientific evaluations.

3. Principles of AI Use

3.1 Human Oversight

Individuals must retain full responsibility for all content they submit or present. AI tools are **assistive only** and cannot replace the author's judgment or scholarly integrity. The content of the submission must be created by the authors.

- Authors must verify all factual, analytical, and interpretive content generated or assisted by AI
- AI tools cannot be listed as authors or credited with intellectual contributions

3.2 Transparency and Disclosure

If AI tools are used to support writing, analysis, visualization, or code generation in a submission:

- Authors must disclose:
 1. The name and version of the AI tool,
 2. The specific purpose of its use

Disclosures should be included in the methods or acknowledgments section of the full paper or short communication. Example disclosures on AI use are provided at the end of this policy.

3.3 Accuracy and Verification

All AI outputs must be critically examined by the authors:

- Results, summaries, citation, references, and interpretations stemming from AI assistance must be checked against primary sources and validated against domain-specific standards
- AI cannot be the basis for scientific claims or conclusions

3.4 Data Integrity and Confidentiality

IRCOBI values the confidentiality of unpublished work and proprietary research:

- Manuscripts and unpublished data must **NOT** be uploaded to third-party AI tools that archive, or reuse submitted content
- Any AI-assisted processing of sensitive or confidential data must comply with funding, institutional, and legal requirements

4. Use in IRCOBI Peer Review and Editorial Activities

IRCOBI reviewers and associate editors may use AI tools to assist with clarity or language suggestions in their own originally-drafted reviews, but:

- They must not upload or share unpublished manuscripts (and any part of it) or proprietary data with external services
- Final judgments and editorial decisions remain solely with the human reviewer and associate editor

5. Enforcement and Updates

IRCOBI encourages adherence to this policy in all research and publication settings. Non-compliance may impact acceptance of contributions or participation in IRCOBI events. This policy will be reviewed periodically to align with evolving best practices in research integrity and AI use.

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IRCOBI – AI Use Disclosure Templates

1. Standard Disclosure (Writing or Editing Support)

For language polishing, structure, or clarity

AI Use Disclosure:

Generative artificial intelligence tools (name and version) were used to support language editing and/or manuscript organisation. All scientific content, interpretations, and conclusions were developed, reviewed, and validated by the authors, who take full responsibility for the accuracy and integrity of the work.

2. Disclosure with Tool Identification

Recommended when AI use is more substantial

AI Use Disclosure:

An artificial intelligence–based tool (name and version) was used to assist with [e.g. language refinement, summarisation, or code drafting]. The authors critically reviewed and edited all AI-assisted content and remain fully responsible for the originality, accuracy, and scientific validity of the submission.

3. Methods Section Disclosure

For AI use in analysis, modelling, or code support

Use of AI-Assisted Tools:

AI-enabled computational tools (name and version) were used to support [e.g. data preprocessing, exploratory analysis, or code development]. Outputs generated with AI assistance were verified against source data and domain knowledge. No AI tool independently generated scientific conclusions or results.

4. Illustrations, Visualisations, or Code Assistance

When AI helps with plots, diagrams, or programming

AI-Assisted Visualisation and Code:

AI-assisted tools (name and version) were used to support the generation of representative illustrations, infographics, and/or coding workflows that did not contain original research data. It is the responsibility of the authors to ensure that nothing in the submitted manuscript infringes on the copyrighted work of others. All visualisations and code were reviewed, validated, and finalised by the authors. AI tools were not used to generate or alter experimental data.

5. Short communication (Short Format)

Space-limited submissions

AI Disclosure:

AI tools (name and version) were used in a supporting role during manuscript preparation. Authors maintained full oversight and responsibility for all content.

6. No AI Use Statement (Optional)

For authors who want to be explicit

AI Use Statement:

No generative artificial intelligence tools were used in the preparation of this work.

7. Reviewer / Associate Editor use (Optional Internal Template)

AI Use Statement (Review Process):

Any AI tools used during the review process were limited to language or clarity assistance. Unpublished manuscripts and confidential materials were not shared with external AI systems.