



Peer-Review Statements

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All of the articles in this proceedings volume have been presented at the **ICON** during *24th April and 25th April 2026*, in *Bengaluru, India*. These articles have been peer reviewed by the members of the *Editorial Team* and approved by the Editor-in-Chief, who affirms that this document is a truthful description of the conference's review process.

1. REVIEW PROCEDURE

The reviews were *single-blind*. Each submission was examined by *at least 2* reviewer(s) independently.

The conference adopted a rigorous and transparent submission management process to ensure the quality and academic integrity of all accepted papers. Upon submission, all abstracts underwent an initial scrutiny by the Conference Conveners and the Editorial Committee to assess their relevance to the conference theme, originality, and adherence to the submission guidelines.

Submissions that successfully passed the preliminary screening were subjected to a peer-review process, where each manuscript was evaluated by experts in the respective field based on scholarly merit, methodological rigor, originality, significance, and relevance. Reviewers also considered potential conflicts of interest to ensure an impartial evaluation.

Authors received constructive feedback from the reviewers and, where necessary, were invited to revise and resubmit their manuscripts by addressing the comments and recommendations. Revised submissions were further assessed to verify that the required revisions had been satisfactorily incorporated. The decision regarding acceptance or rejection of the revised manuscript was considered final.

Papers accepted for presentation were presented during the conference and subsequently underwent plagiarism screening using standard plagiarism detection software to ensure compliance

with ethical publishing standards. Only manuscripts that successfully completed the peer-review process, paper presentation, plagiarism check, and editorial review were selected for publication in the conference proceedings.

2. QUALITY CRITERIA

Reviewers were instructed to assess the quality of submissions solely based on the academic merit of their content along the following dimensions

- 1. Pertinence of the article’s content to the scope and themes of the conference;
- 2. Clear demonstration of originality, novelty, and timeliness of the research;
- 3. Soundness of the methods, analyses, and results;
- 4. Adherence to the ethical standards and codes of conduct relevant to the research field;
- 5. Clarity, cohesion, and accuracy in language and other modes of expression, including figures and tables.

In addition, all of the articles have been checked for textual overlap. Plagiarism checks too were done

3. KEY METRICS

<i>Total submissions</i>	57
<i>Number of articles sent for peer review</i>	38
<i>Number of accepted articles</i>	27
<i>Acceptance rate</i>	47.36%
<i>Number of reviewers</i>	10

4. COMPETING INTERESTS

Example A (for no special interest): Neither the Editor-in-Chief nor any member of the Scientific Committee declares any competing interest.

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