

Authors
submit

Submission: Submitted article

Editors in chief
quickly evaluate

Rejected article

move to Phase 1

Editors in chief
assign handling and partner editors

Assigned editors
declare conflict of interest

conflict

no conflict

Assigned editors
invite reviewers

Reviewers
send the review

Phase 1:
 ≤ 3 months

Assigned editors
send recommendation:
conditional accept OR *reject*
(no revisions in Phase 1)

Editorial board
discusses

Editors in chief
communicate decision to the authors

conditional accept
move to Phase 2

Rejected article