



Editorial

Open Science and Health Law: CIADS' New Editorial Commitments for 2026

Ciência Aberta e Direito Sanitário: novos compromissos editoriais do CIADS para 2026

Ciencia Abierta y Derecho Sanitario: nuevos compromisos editoriales del CIADS para 2026

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Abstract

The journal *Cadernos Ibero-Americanos de Direito Sanitário* announces, through its editorial, the adoption of new commitments for the year 2026, aligned with Open Science. The main change is the adoption of a continuous publication model in a single annual volume. This decision seeks to speed up the dissemination of research results, strengthening the timely dissemination of scientific knowledge without compromising the editorial rigor and academic quality that characterize the journal. Other changes relate to the interaction between authors and reviewers, and the publication of reviews of approved articles. These commitments are not only an editorial guideline, but an institutional responsibility to promote health, social justice, and the democracy of knowledge.

Keywords: Open Access Publication; Health Law; Scientific Communication and Dissemination.

Resumo

O periódico *Cadernos Ibero-Americanos de Direito Sanitário* anuncia, por meio de seu editorial, a adoção de novos compromissos para o ano de 2026, alinhados com a Ciência Aberta. A principal mudança é a adoção do modelo de publicação contínua em volume único anual. Essa decisão busca ampliar a celeridade na divulgação dos resultados de pesquisa, fortalecendo a disseminação tempestiva do conhecimento científico sem prejuízo do rigor editorial e da qualidade acadêmica que caracterizam o periódico. Outras mudanças referem-se à interação entre autores e pareceristas, e a publicação dos pareceres dos artigos aprovados. Esses compromissos não constituem apenas uma diretriz editorial, mas uma responsabilidade institucional com a promoção da saúde, da justiça social e da democracia do conhecimento.

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Palavras-chave: Publicação de Acesso Aberto; Direito Sanitário; Comunicação e Divulgação Científica.

Resumen

La revista *Cadernos Ibero-Americanos de Direito Sanitário* anuncia, a través de su editorial, la adopción de nuevos compromisos para el año 2026, alineados con la Ciencia Abierta. El principal cambio es la adopción del modelo de publicación continua en un único volumen anual. Esta decisión tiene como objetivo agilizar la divulgación de los resultados de investigación, fortaleciendo la difusión oportuna del conocimiento científico, sin menoscabo del rigor editorial y de la calidad académica que caracterizan a la revista. Otras modificaciones se refieren a la interacción entre autores y revisores, así como a la publicación de los dictámenes de los artículos aprobados. Estos compromisos no constituyen únicamente una directriz editorial, sino una responsabilidad institucional con la promoción de la salud, la justicia social y la democratización del conocimiento.

Palabras clave: Publicación de Acceso Abierto; Derecho Sanitario; Comunicación y Divulgación Científica.

Scientific communication plays a central role in the contemporary shaping of public policies, normative production, and the enforcement of fundamental rights, especially in the field of health. In a scenario marked by global health crises, profound inequalities in access to information, and disputes surrounding the production, circulation, and use of scientific knowledge, academic journals assume strategic responsibility in mediating between science, institutions, and society.

It is in this context that the journal *Cadernos Ibero-Americanos de Direito Sanitário* (CIADS) reaffirms its institutional commitment to Open Science as a structuring principle of its editorial policy and as an indispensable dimension for the consolidation of Health Law as a scientific, legal, and political field oriented toward the promotion of the right to health. More than a technical choice, the openness of science is an ethical, institutional, and democratic requirement, directly linked to the public interest and the social function of scientific knowledge.

Open Science has been progressively recognized as a response to central problems in contemporary science, such as economic barriers to access to knowledge, the opacity of evaluation processes, crises of reproducibility, and the gap between scientific production, public policies, and social needs. In this sense, understanding it only as expanding access to publications would be insufficient. Opening science implies making the processes of production, validation, circulation, and use of knowledge transparent, strengthening its social function and its commitment to the public interest. This understanding is supported by the UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science, published in 2021, which defines open science as an inclusive construct oriented toward accessibility, the reuse of scientific knowledge, and the expansion of dialogue between the academic community and society⁽¹⁾.

In the field of Health Law, this perspective takes on particular relevance. Normative, judicial, and administrative decisions in health depend directly on the qualified circulation of scientific evidence, as well as on transparency regarding the conditions of its production. The openness of scientific knowledge is also linked to the international recognition of the human right to participate in and benefit from scientific progress, enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and reaffirmed by the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. In the

field of health, this right acquires specific normative density, since the production and dissemination of scientific knowledge constitute material conditions for the realization of the right to health and for collectively addressing global health challenges. As Alves et al.⁽²⁾ point out, scientific journals play a central role in this process by mediating the democratization of knowledge and the realization of this fundamental right.

It is in this context that CIADS announces, through this editorial, significant changes to its CIADS Open Science Policy⁽³⁾, which has been reformulated to meet the demands of dynamic scientific communication. The main change is the adoption, as of January 2026, of a continuous publication model in a single annual volume. This decision seeks to speed up the dissemination of research results, strengthening the timely dissemination of scientific knowledge without compromising the editorial rigor and academic quality that characterize the journal. Continuous publication will allow approved manuscripts to be made available as they complete their editorial flow, decoupling scientific communication from the logic of independent issues, a traditional publication model widely used by the national and international community, and reinforcing the journal's commitment to timeliness, transparency, and the social effectiveness of the knowledge produced.

Published articles will continue to be identified by DOI and electronic locator, ensuring accuracy in citation and preservation of scientific records, while the journal will maintain space for the organization of thematic dossiers, preserving editorial consistency and collective dialogue around relevant topics in Health Law.

Another change adopted to align with the principles of Open Science refers to the peer review process. Starting in 2026, CIADS will enable interaction between authors and reviewers, upon consultation and express consent of the parties. CIADS will also adopt the publication of reviews of approved articles, with the express authorization of the article author on the Open Science form recommended by SciELO, valuing the invisible work of reviewers as academic production relevant to the progress of science.

It should be clarified that, since 2023, CIADS has begun to harmonize its editorial practices with the precepts of Open Science by disclosing the names of the editors responsible for publishing the articles. And, in 2025, it began to encourage the full availability of data and materials on preprint servers, not considering such deposit as prior publication, which would constitute a violation of originality.

What is now being presented, therefore, with the adoption of more comprehensive measures, is the reaffirmation of CIADS' commitment to scientific integrity, editorial responsibility, and the expansion of the social impact of legal and health knowledge. These guidelines are formalized and publicly available in CIADS' editorial policy documents⁽³⁾, ensuring transparency, predictability, and alignment with international standards of scientific communication.

Furthermore, these changes not only respond to international recommendations, but also dialogue with Latin America's historical trajectory in the construction of cooperative, public, and non-commercial models of scientific communication. Initiatives such as SciELO demonstrate that the

Global South is not merely a latecomer to the Open Science agenda, but a protagonist in the consolidation of publishing systems oriented toward the public good⁽⁴⁾.

In the field of scientific integrity, Open Science also presents itself as a response to practices that undermine trust in academic production, such as p-hacking³, HARKing⁴, and publication bias. Methodological transparency, pre-registration of studies, and data availability increase the possibilities for independent verification and contribute to the robustness of scientific knowledge, an aspect that is particularly relevant in the applied humanities and social sciences, including law, where the complexity of the phenomena analyzed requires methodological rigor and interpretive responsibility⁽⁵⁾.

By comprehensively integrating Open Science into its editorial policy with the adoption of a continuous publication model in a single annual volume, encouraging open peer review and publication of opinions, CIADS reaffirms science as a social, collective practice oriented toward the right to health. More than just expanding access to content, it is about opening up processes, strengthening transparency and scientific integrity, and broadening the dialogue between science, law, and society. In a scenario marked by complex health challenges, the circulation of misinformation, and persistent structural inequalities, this commitment is not only an editorial guideline but also an institutional responsibility to promote health, social justice, and the democracy of knowledge.

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³ P-hacking refers to methodologically inappropriate practices whereby statistical procedures or analytical criteria are selectively adjusted in order to achieve statistically significant results, compromising the reliability, reproducibility, and integrity of scientific research.

⁴ It is a practice in which researchers create or adjust hypotheses after seeing the results of the study, presenting them as if they were *a priori* (planned before data collection), which distorts the scientific process, inflates positive results, and compromises credibility.

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Authors' contributions

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