

1 **RESOLUTION**
2 **NUMBER** **AAD 002 (A-26)**
3
4 **TITLE** Pilot Stipends for Peer Review in Top Dermatology
5 Journals
6
7 **INTRODUCED BY** Alex Means, MD, FAAD
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9 WHEREAS, the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) mission emphasizes
10 advancing excellence in dermatology and reducing administrative burdens through
11 evidence-based education¹; and

12 WHEREAS, peer review is essential to scientific integrity, with global estimates
13 exceeding 100 million person-hours annually²; and

14 WHEREAS, physician burnout remains high, with documentation load and
15 uncompensated academic work contributing³; and

16 WHEREAS, dermatology precedent exists: BMC Dermatology offers honoraria for
17 on-time reviews via Research Square⁴; and

18 WHEREAS, cross-field benchmarks include the Journal of Financial Economics (JFE),
19 which pays \$100–\$150 per review, and the Journal of Financial and Quantitative
20 Analysis (JFQA), which pays \$75–\$100, with evidence showing reviewer payments
21 shorten turnaround time by ≈20–30%⁵; and

22 WHEREAS, journals routinely charge authors thousands of dollars in publication fees
23 while relying on reviewers to donate highly specialized labor without compensation⁶, and
24 the average article processing charge (APC) now approaches US \$2,820, with global
25 APC spending rising from US \$910 million in 2019 to US \$2.538 billion in 2023⁷; and

26 WHEREAS, journals included in this pilot are the Journal of the American Academy of
27 Dermatology (JAAD), JAAD Case Reports, and JAAD International (Elsevier), with
28 phase-2 expansion candidates including Journal of the American Medical Association
29 Dermatology (JAMA Dermatology) and the Journal of Investigative Dermatology (JID);
30 and

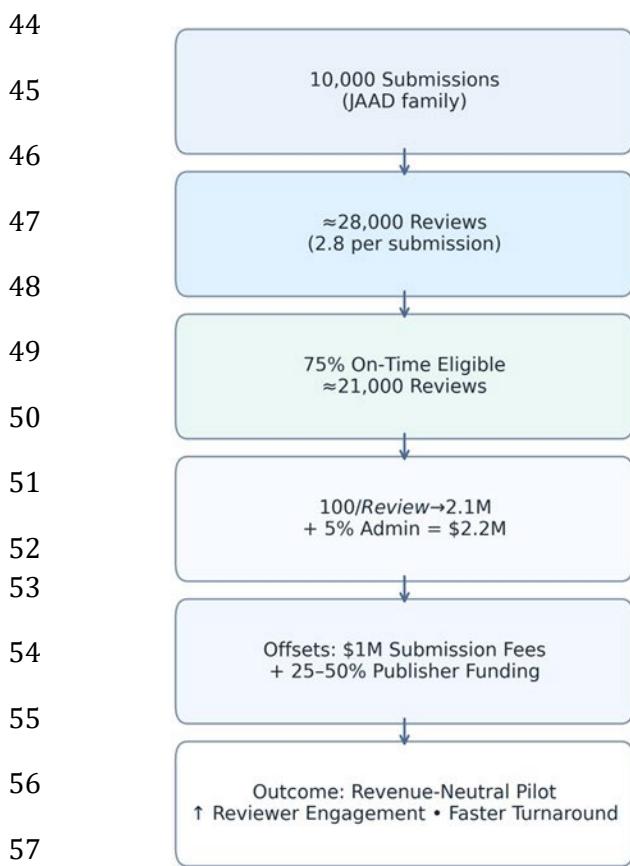
31 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the AAD shall pilot a \$100 per completed, on-time
32 peer review stipend across the Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology
33 (JAAD), JAAD Case Reports, and JAAD International for 12–18 months; and

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that editors shall track review acceptance rates,
35 turnaround, and quality, and include an optional field for reviewers to report time spent
36 per review to inform calibration by article type and complexity; and

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that results shall be analyzed and shared with the
38 Advisory Board; if favorable, expansion to Journal of the American Medical Association

39 Dermatology (JAMA Dermatology) and the Journal of Investigative Dermatology (JID)
40 will be proposed;
41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding shall rely on modest submission fees (~\$100)
42 and publisher co-funding via Elsevier to maintain budget neutrality.

43 Example of Potential Cost Impact w/Estimated Figures



68 6. Rajput V. Stop doing peer reviews for free. KevinMD. Nov 8 2025.
69 <https://kevinmd.com/2025/11/stop-doing-peer-reviews-for-free.html>

70 7. Abdel-Razig S et al., JAMA Netw Open 2024; Haustein S et al., APC Spending Report
71 2019–2023. <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2407.16551>

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73 **Does the resolution fall within the scope of the AAD and AADA bylaws, mission,
74 vision, or strategic goals?**

75 Yes.

76 **Relevant Background and/or AAD Policy Considerations:** JAAD Journals Publisher
77 Elsevier does not support paid peer review. JAAD is a subscription-based journal and
78 does not charge submission fees.

79 JAAD currently offers the following benefits to reviewers: CME credit for manuscript
80 reviews; successfully completed reviews scored at 70% or above receive 3 AMA PRA
81 Category 1 Credits per review / max. 5 reviews per year (15 credits). A published
82 reviewer list appears annually in the journal. Elsevier's [Reviewer Hub](#) offers reviewer
83 recognition certificates, an overview of peer review activities, and 30-day complimentary
84 access to Scopus, ScienceDirect and Reaxys.

85 **Fiscal/Resource Impact:** Funding for the proposed pilot would come from the
86 Academy's General Operating fund. Based on the financial model provided above, this
87 would result in a \$2.2 million investment by the Academy.

88 **References:** N/A