American journal of neuroradiology

http://www.ajnr.org/

 Scope & Reputation

Monthly peer-reviewed journal of the American Society of Neuroradiology, first published in 1980

Covers clinical imaging, interventional therapies, basic science, and educational/medicolegal issues related to brain, spine, head and neck

SJR ranking (2024): 1.130 (Top-quartile Q1 in Radiology and Neurology fields)

Impact factor (2017): 3.653; consistently cited, with a 4-year citation rate ~3.13 in 2024 .

 Peer Review Process

Double-blind peer review for original research, technical notes, and case reports; editor-only reviews for certain commentaries and letters .

Average time to first decision: ~24 days

Reviewers are specialists, often supported by trainees; evaluations are confidential and graded for quality and timeliness

Revision outcomes: "Major revision" decisions often lead to acceptance, but more reviews typically reduce acceptance probability

 Strengths

Strong editorial standards — double-blind system reduces bias; thorough reviewer vetting

High impact & reach — top-quartile ranking and solid citation metrics underscore scientific influence

Rapid review process — ~3-4 weeks to initial decision, facilitating timely dissemination

⚠ Challenges

Reviewer variability: Quality concerns raised; over 50% of authors report issues with competence/bias in surveys

No reviewer recognition/pay: No financial incentives; few journals including AJNR offer non-monetary acknowledgements

Bias/noise potential: Double-blind reduces prejudice but may limit reviewer ability to identify self-plagiarism and context

 Comparative Overview

Compared to other neuroradiology journals, AJNR is regarded as the flagship title in the U.S., with

broad scopes and high standards. It begins as a go-to for clinical imaging and interventional studies.

Citation patterns indicate consistent academic value, though the absence of open or post-publication review contrasts with some hybrid journals in related fields.

 Recommendations for Authors

Prepare anonymized submissions carefully: adhere to double-blind guidelines to avoid initial desk-rejection.

Target clear methodological rigor and discussion, as these are heavily scrutinized.

Expect feedback loops: Major revisions are a positive sign—responding well usually leads to acceptance

Engage proactively with reviewers: the structured yet confidential review system means high-quality, timely responses improve chances.

 Conclusion

The American Journal of Neuroradiology is a premier, high-impact journal with rigorous double-blind peer review, efficient editorial processing, and significant influence in neuroradiology. While some variability in reviewer quality and lack of renewal in review innovation exist, its strong metrics and reputation make it a top-tier choice for researchers in clinical neuroimaging and intervention.