

Instructions to the Authors

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Last updated on April 17th, 2023

The Editorial Process



A manuscript will be reviewed for possible publication with the understanding that it is being submitted to *Dermatologica Sinica* alone at that point in time and has not been published anywhere, simultaneously or already accepted for publication elsewhere. The journal expects that authors would authorize one of them to correspond with the Journal for all matters related to the manuscript. All manuscripts received by the journal will be acknowledged. On submission, editors review all submitted manuscripts initially for suitability for formal review. Manuscripts with insufficient originality, serious scientific or technical flaws, or lack of a significant contribution will be rejected before proceeding for formal peer-review. Manuscripts that are unlikely to be of interest to the *Dermatologica Sinica* readers are also liable to be rejected at this stage itself.

Manuscripts received from Editorial Board members will be screened by the Editor in Chief and sent to external peer reviewers. The editorial board members who are authors will be excluded from publication.

Manuscripts that are found suitable for publication in *Dermatologica Sinica* are sent to two or more expert reviewers. During submission, the contributor is requested to provide names of two or three qualified reviewers who have had experience in the subject of the submitted manuscript, but this is not mandatory. The reviewers should not be affiliated with the same institutes as the contributor(s). However, the selection of reviewers is at the sole discretion of the editor. The journal follows a double-blind review process, wherein the reviewers and authors are unaware of each other's identity. Every manuscript is also assigned to a member of the editorial team, who based on the comments from the reviewers takes a final decision on the manuscript. The comments and suggestions (acceptance/ rejection/ amendments in manuscript) received from reviewers are sent to the corresponding author. If required, the author is requested to provide a point-by-point response to reviewers' comments and submit a revised version of the manuscript. This process is repeated till reviewers are satisfied with the manuscript.

Manuscripts accepted for publication are copy edited for grammar, punctuation, print style, and format. Page proofs are sent to the corresponding author. The corresponding author is expected to return corrected proofs within three days. It may not be possible to incorporate corrections received after that period. The whole process of submission of the manuscript to final decision and sending and receiving proofs is carried out to achieve faster and greater dissemination of knowledge and information, the journal publishes articles online as 'Ahead of Print' immediately on acceptance.

Clinical trial registry



Dermatologica Sinica favors registration of clinical trials. *Dermatologica Sinica* would publish clinical trials that have been registered with a clinical trial registry that allows free online access to public. Registering clinical trials in the following trial registers is acceptable: <http://www.ctri.in/>; <https://www.anzctr.org.au/>; <http://www.clinicaltrials.gov/>; <http://isrctn.org/>; <http://www.trialregister.nl/trialreg/index.asp>; and <http://www.umin.ac.jp/>. The journal will accept clinical trials that have begun enrollment of subjects in or after June 2008. Clinical trials that have commenced enrollment of subjects prior to June 2008 would be considered for publication in *Dermatologica Sinica* if they have been registered retrospectively with clinical trial registry that allows unhindered online access to public without charging any fees.

Authorship Criteria



Authorship credit should be based only on substantial contributions to each of the three components mentioned below:

1. Concept and design of study or acquisition of data or analysis and interpretation of data;
2. Drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and
3. Final approval of the version to be published.

Participation solely in the acquisition of funding or the collection of data does not justify authorship. General supervision of the research group is not sufficient for authorship. Each contributor should have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content of the manuscript. The order of naming the contributors should be based on the relative contribution of the contributors to the study and writing the manuscript. Once submitted the order cannot be changed without written consent of all the contributors. The journal prescribes a maximum number of authors for manuscripts depending on the type of manuscript, its scope and number of institutions involved (vide infra). The authors should provide a justification, if the number of authors exceeds these limits.

Contribution Details

Contributors should provide a description of contributions made by each of them towards the manuscript. Description should be divided in following categories, as applicable: concept, design, definition, literature search, clinical studies, experimental studies, data acquisition, data analysis, statistical analysis, manuscript preparation, manuscript editing and manuscript review. Authors' contributions will be listed in the article. One or more authors should take responsibility for the integrity of the work as a whole from inception to published article and should be designated as 'guarantor'.

Data availability statement

Since April 18th, 2023, *Dermatologica Sinica* requires authors to include in any articles that report results derived from research data to include a Data Availability Statement. The provision of a Data Availability Statement will be verified as a condition of publication. Data Availability Statements should include information on where data supporting the results reported in the article can be found including, where applicable, publicly available archived datasets analyzed or generated during the study. Where research data are not publicly available, this must be stated in the manuscript along with any conditions for accessing the data. Data Availability Statements must take one of the following forms (or a combination of more than one if required for multiple types of research data):

- The datasets generated during and/or analyzed during the current study are available in the [NAME] repository, [PERSISTENT WEB LINK TO DATASETS]
- The datasets generated during and/or analyzed during the current study are not publicly available due [REASON WHY DATA ARE NOT PUBLIC] but are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.
- The datasets generated during and/or analyzed during the current study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.
- Data sharing not applicable to this article as no datasets were generated or analyzed during the current study.
- All data generated or analyzed during this study are included in this published article [and its supplementary information files].
- The data that support the findings of this study are available from [third party name] but restrictions apply to the availability of these data, which were used under license for the current study, and are not publicly available. Data are however available from the authors upon reasonable request and with permission of [third party name].

Conflicts of Interest/ Competing Interests

All authors of must disclose any and all conflicts of interest they may have with publication of the manuscript or an institution or product that is mentioned in the manuscript and/or is important to the outcome of the study presented. Authors should also disclose conflict of interest with products that compete with those mentioned in their manuscript.

Submission of Manuscripts

All manuscripts must be submitted on-line through the website <https://www.editorialmanager.com/ds>. First time users will have to register at this site. Registration is free but mandatory. Registered authors can submit their articles after logging into the site using their username and password.

- **Free of Charge for Submission, except two items below,**

1. There is an additional charge if the total size of your submission exceeds 25MB. Please put the large data file in Cloud and provide the link in the manuscript.

2. Fast-track review: This is an expedited review process that may be requested by authors for any article type at the time of their first submission. Authors will be charged US\$350 (NT\$10,000). Within 3 business days, the associate editors will make an initial assessment of the manuscript and assign appropriate reviewers. Once the reviewers accept the review request, they will send in their final decision within 1 week. The Editorial Office will return the decision to authors within 2 days after all the reviewing processes have been completed. There is no guarantee that the article will be accepted. Authors will be charged for the revised manuscript.

The submitted manuscripts that are not as per the “Instructions to Authors” would be returned to the authors for technical correction before they undergo editorial/ peer-review. Generally, the manuscript should be submitted in the form of two separate files:

[1] Title Page/First Page File/covering letter:

This file should provide

1. The type of manuscript (original article, case report, review article, correspondence, etc.) title of the manuscript, running title, names of all authors/ contributors (with their highest academic degrees and affiliations) and name(s) of department(s) and/ or institution(s) to which the work should be credited. All information which can reveal your identity should be here. Use text/rtf/doc files. Do not zip files.
2. The total number of pages, total number of photographs and word counts separately for abstract and for the text (excluding the references, tables and abstract), word counts for introduction + discussion.

original article.

3. Source(s) of support in the form of grants, equipment, drugs, or all of these.
4. Acknowledgement, if any. One or more statements should specify 1) contributions that need acknowledging but do not justify authorship, such as general support by a departmental chair; 2) acknowledgment of technical help; and 3) acknowledgments of financial and material support, which should specify the nature of the support. This should be included in the title page of the manuscript and not in the text.
5. If the manuscript was presented as part at a meeting, the organization, place, and exact date on which it was read. A full statement to the editor about all submissions and previous reports that might constitute a redundant publication of the same or very similar work. Any such work should be referred to specifically, and referenced in the new paper. Copies of such material should be included with the submission so that the editor decide how to handle the matter.
6. Registration number in case of a clinical trial and where it is registered (name of the registry and its URL).
7. Conflicts of Interest of each author/ contributor. A statement of financial or other relationships that might lead to a conflict of interest, if that information is not included in the manuscript itself or in a separate statement.
8. Criteria for inclusion in the authors'/ contributors' list.
9. A statement that the manuscript has been read and approved by all the authors, that the requirements for authorship as stated earlier in this document have been met, and that each author believes the manuscript represents honest work, if that information is not provided in another form (see below); and
10. The name, address, e-mail, and telephone number of the corresponding author, who is responsible for communicating with the other authors about revisions and final approval of the proofs, if that information is not included on the manuscript itself.

[2] **Blinded Article file:** The main text of the article, beginning from Abstract till References (including tables) should be in this file. The file must not contain any mention of the authors' names or initials, or any other information which the study was done or acknowledgements. Page headers/running title can include the title but not the authors' names. Manuscripts not in compliance with the Journal's blinding policy will be returned to the corresponding author. Use rtf/doc files. Do not zip the files. **Limit the file size to 1 MB.** Do not incorporate images in the file. Images and graphs should be submitted separately from the text file. The pages should be numbered consecutively, beginning with the first page of the blinded article file.

[3] **Images:** Submit good quality color images. **Each image should be less than 2 MB in size.** Size of the image can be reduced by decreasing the actual height and width of the images (keep up to 10x10 cm or 5-6 inches). Images can be submitted as jpeg files. Do not zip the files. Legends for the figures/images should be included at the end of the article file.

[4] **The contributors' / copyright transfer form** (template provided below) has to be submitted in original with the signatures of all the contributors.

Preparation of Manuscripts

Manuscripts must be prepared in accordance with "Uniform requirements for Manuscripts submitted to Biomedical Journals" developed by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (October 1997). The requirements and specific requirement of *Dermatologica Sinica* are summarized below. Before submitting a manuscript, contributors are requested to check for the latest instructions available. Instructions are available from the website of the journal (<https://www.dermisinica.org>).

Dermatologica Sinica accepts manuscripts written in American English.

Copies of any permission(s)

It is the responsibility of authors/ contributors to obtain permissions for reproducing any copyrighted material. A copy of the permission obtained must accompany the manuscript. Copies of any and all other manuscripts in preparation or submitted elsewhere that are related to the manuscript must also accompany the manuscript.

Please note that it is the responsibility of the author(s) to obtain permission from the copyright holder(s) to reproduce figures or tables that have previously been published elsewhere. And the credit line and legend for such figures as "Reproduced with permission, courtesy of [copyright owner]."

Types of Manuscripts

Original articles:

These include randomized controlled trials, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, intervention studies, studies of screening and diagnostic test, outcome studies, cost effectiveness analyses, case-control studies with high response rate. The text of original articles amounting to up to 3,000 words (excluding Abstract, References, and Tables) should be divided into sections with the headings Abstract, Keywords, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, References, Tables and Figure legends.

Format guide:

- **Abstract:** up to 250 words, structured, including "Background, Objectives, Methods, Results, Conclusion".
- **Word limit:** 3,000 words (excluding the abstract and references).
- **References:** 50 or less.
- **Tables/Figures:** Data in the text should not be repeated extensively in tables or figures.

Introduction: State the purpose and summarize the rationale for the study or observation.

Materials and Methods: It should include and describe the following aspects:

Ethics: When reporting studies on human beings, indicate whether the procedures followed were in accordance with the ethical standards of the responsible committee on human experimentation (institutional or regional) and with the Helsinki Declaration of 1975, as revised in 2013 (available at <https://www.wma.net/policies-post/wma-declaration-of-helsinki-ethical-principles-for-medical-research-involving-human-subjects>). For studies involving human participants, authors are expected to mention about approval of (regional/ national/ institutional or independent Ethics Committee or Review Board, obtaining informed consent from all participants and obtaining assent for children aged over 7 years participating in the trial. The age beyond which assent would be required could vary as per regional and/ or national guidelines. Ensure confidentiality of subjects by desisting from mentioning participants' names, initials, or hospital numbers, especially in illustrative material. When reporting experiments on animals, indicate whether the institution's or a national council's guide for, or any national law on the care and use of laboratory animals was followed.

Evidence for approval by a local Ethics Committee (for both human as well as animal studies) must be supplied by the authors on demand. Animal experimental procedures should be as humane as possible. The use of anesthetics and analgesics used should be clearly stated. The ethical standards of experiments must be in accordance with the guidelines provided by the CPCSEA and World Medical Association Declaration of Helsinki (for studies involving experimental animals and human beings, respectively). The journal will not consider any paper which is ethically unacceptable. Details of ethics committee permission and ethical practices must be included in all research articles under the 'Materials and Methods' section.

Study design:

Selection and Description of Participants: Describe your selection of the observational or experimental participants (patients or laboratory animals, including controls) clearly, including eligibility and exclusion criteria. **Technical information:** Identify the methods, apparatus (give the manufacturer's name and address in parentheses), and procedures in sufficient detail to allow other researchers to reproduce the results. Give references to established methods, including statistical methods (see below); provide references and brief descriptions for methods that have been published but are not well known or new or substantially modified methods, give reasons for using them, and evaluate their limitations. Identify precisely all drugs and chemicals used, including generic name(s), dose(s), and route(s) of administration.

Reports of randomized clinical trials should present information on all major study elements, including the protocol, assignment of interventions (methods of randomization, concealment of allocation to treatment groups) and the method of masking (blinding), based on the CONSORT Statement (<http://www.consort-statement.org>).

Reporting Guidelines for Specific Study Designs

Guideline	Type of Study	Source
STROBE	Observational studies including cohort, case-control, and cross-sectional studies	https://www.strobe-statement.org/index.php?id=available-checklists
CONSORT	Randomized controlled trials	http://www.consort-statement.org
SQUIRE	Quality improvement projects	http://squire-statement.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.ViewPage&PageID=471
PRISMA	Systematic reviews and meta-analyses	http://prisma-statement.org/PRISMAStatement/Checklist.aspx
STARD	Studies of diagnostic accuracy	https://pubs.rsna.org/doi/full/10.1148/radiol.2015151516

	accuracy	
CARE	Case Reports	https://www.care-statement.org/checklist
AGREE	Clinical Practice Guidelines	https://www.agreetrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/AGREE-Reporting-Checklist-2016.pdf
ARRIVE	Animal Research: Reporting of In Vivo Experiments	https://www.nc3rs.org.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Guidelines/NC3Rs%20ARRIVE%20Guidelines%202013.pdf

Results: Present your results in a logical sequence in the text, tables, and illustrations, giving the main or most important findings first. Do not repeat in the text all the data in the tables or illustrations; e summarize only important observations. Extra- or supplementary materials and technical detail can be placed in an appendix where it will be accessible but will not interrupt the flow of the text; alternati published only in the electronic version of the journal. **Statistics:** Whenever possible quantify findings and present them with appropriate indicators of measurement error or uncertainty (such as confidence intervals). Do not report losses to observation (such as, dropouts from a clinical trial). When data are summarized in the Results section, specify the statistical methods used to analyze them. Avoid non-technical terms in statistics, such as 'random' (which implies a randomizing device), 'normal', 'significant', 'correlations', and 'sample'. Define statistical terms, abbreviations, and most symbols. Specify the computer software used. Use upper italics (*P* 0.048). For all *P* values include the exact value and not less than 0.05 or 0.001. Mean differences in continuous variables, proportions in categorical variables and relative risks including hazard ratios should be accompanied by their confidence intervals.

When data are summarized in the Results section, give numeric results not only as derivatives (for example, percentages) but also as the absolute numbers from which the derivatives were calculated, and the statistical methods used to analyze them. Restrict tables and figures to those needed to explain the argument of the paper and to assess its support. Use graphs as an alternative to tables with many entries. Do not duplicate data in graphs and tables. Where scientifically appropriate, analyses of the data by variables such as age and sex should be included.

Discussion: Include summary of *key findings* (primary outcome measures, secondary outcome measures, results as they relate to a prior hypothesis); *Strengths and limitations* of the study (study question, data collection, analysis and interpretation); *Interpretation and implications* in the context of the totality of evidence (is there a systematic review to refer to, if not, could one be reasonably done here and what does your study adds to the available evidence, effects on patient care and health policy, possible mechanisms); *Controversies* raised by this study; and *Future research directions* (for this particular research collaboration, clinical research).

Do not repeat in detail data or other material given in the Introduction or the Results section. In particular, contributors should avoid making statements on economic benefits and costs unless their manuscript includes economic data and analyses. Avoid claiming priority and alluding to work that has not been completed. New hypotheses may be stated if needed, however they should be clearly labeled as such.

Review articles:

The Journal welcomes submission of concise, high-quality review articles. The review articles should aim to provide the reader with a balanced overview of an important subject in the field. Review articles should be submitted by authors or invited by Editor-in-Chief for publication. The manuscript is subject to peer review.

Format guide:

- **Abstract: up to 250 words, unstructured**
- **Word limit: 4,500 words (excluding the abstract and references)**
- **References: 65 or less**
- **Tables/Figures: data in the text should not be repeated extensively in the tables or figures**

Brief reports:

These should clearly and concisely describe clinical or technical notes, preliminary experimental results or instrumentation and analytic techniques. Section headings should be: Abstract, Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgments (if applicable), References. The Editors reserve the right to decide what constitutes a Brief Report.

Format guide:

- **Abstract: up to 200 words, unstructured**
- **Word limit: 1,500 words (excluding the abstract and references).**
- **References: 12 or less.**
- **Tables/Figures: 2 table or figure**

Correspondence:

These include case reports, letters to the Editor, and comments that respond to a recently published article in DS or address an issue of interest to DS readers. Replies will be published in the same issue as the article they address. Comments are invited at the discretion of the Editor.

Format guide:

- **Begin with "Dear Editor,"**
- **No subheadings.**
- **Word limit: 750 words**
- **Tables/Figures: up to 2 tables or figures.**
- **References: 8 or less.**

(Accepted Correspondence will be published within two pages)

References (Download DS Endnote [here](#))

References should be *numbered* consecutively in the order in which they are first mentioned in the text (not in alphabetic order). *Identify references in text*, tables, and legends by Arabic numerals in square brackets after the punctuation marks. *References cited only* in tables or figure legends should be numbered in accordance with the sequence established by the first identification in the text of the particular source. Use the style of the examples below, which are based on the formats used by the NLM in *Index Medicus*. The titles of journals *should be abbreviated* according to the style used in Index Medicus. Use the full name of the journal for non-indexed journals. Avoid using abstracts as references. Information from manuscripts submitted but not accepted should be cited in the text as "unpublished observations" with written permission of the source. Avoid citing a "personal communication" unless it provides essential information not available from a public source, in which case the name of the person and date of communication should be included in the text.

The commonly cited types of references are shown here, for other types of references such as newspaper items please refer to ICMJE Guidelines (<http://www.icmje.org> or http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/uniform_requirements.html).

Articles in Journals

1. Standard journal article (for up to six authors): Parija SC, Ravinder PT, Shariff M. Detection of hydatid antigen in the fluid samples from hydatid cysts by co-agglutination. *Trans R Soc Trop Med Hyg* 2008;82:10-12.
2. Standard journal article (for more than six authors): List the first six contributors followed by *et al.*

Roddy P, Goiri J, Flevaud L, Palma PP, Morote S, Lima N, *et al.*, Field Evaluation of a Rapid Immunochromatographic Assay for Detection of *Trypanosoma cruzi* Infection by Use of Whole Blood. *PLoS ONE* 2008;46:2022-7.

1. Volume with supplement: Otranto D, Capelli G, Genchi C. Changing distribution patterns of canine vector borne diseases in Italy: leishmaniosis vs. dirofilariosis. *Parasites & Vectors* 2009;Suppl 2:1-10.

Books and Other Monographs

1. Personal author(s): Parija SC. Textbook of Medical Parasitology. 3rd ed. All India Publishers and Distributors. 2008.
2. Editor(s), compiler(s) as author: Garcia LS, Filarial Nematodes In: Garcia LS (editor) Diagnostic Medical Parasitology ASM press Washington DC 2007: pp 319-356.
3. Chapter in a book: Nesheim M C. Ascariasis and human nutrition. *In* Ascariasis and its prevention and control, D. W. T. Crompton, M. C. Nesbemi, and Z. S. Pawlowski (eds.). Taylor and Francis 2004: pp. 87–100.

Electronic Sources as reference

Journal article on the Internet: Parija SC, Khairnar K. Detection of excretory *Entamoeba histolytica* DNA in the urine, and detection of *E. histolytica* DNA and lectin antigen in the liver abscess pus for the amoebic liver abscess. *BMC Microbiology* 2007, **7**:41.doi:10.1186/1471-2180-7-41. <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2180/7/41>

Tables

- Tables should be self-explanatory and should not duplicate textual material.
- Tables with more than 10 columns and 25 rows are not acceptable.
- Number tables, in Arabic numerals, consecutively in the order of their first citation in the text and supply a brief title for each.
- Place explanatory matter in footnotes, not in the heading.
- Explain in footnotes all non-standard abbreviations that are used in each table.
- Obtain permission for all fully borrowed, adapted, and modified tables and provide a credit line in the footnote.

- For footnotes use the following symbols, in this sequence: *, †, ‡, §, ||, ¶, **, ††, ‡‡.
- Tables with their legends should be provided at the end of the text after the references. The tables along with their number should be cited at the relevant place in the text.

Illustrations (Figures)

- Upload the images in JPEG format. The file size should be within 1024 kb in size while uploading.
- Figures should be numbered consecutively according to the order in which they have been first cited in the text.
- Labels, numbers, and symbols should be clear and of uniform size. The lettering for figures should be large enough to be legible after reduction to fit the width of a printed column.
- Symbols, arrows, or letters used in photomicrographs should contrast with the background and should be marked neatly with transfer type or by tissue overlay and not by pen.
- Titles and detailed explanations belong in the legends for illustrations not on the illustrations themselves.
- When graphs, scattergrams or histograms are submitted the numerical data on which they are based should also be supplied.
- The photographs and figures should be trimmed to remove all the unwanted areas.
- If photographs of individuals are used, their pictures must be accompanied by written permission to use the photograph.
- If a figure has been published elsewhere, acknowledge the original source and submit written permission from the copyright holder to reproduce the material. A credit line should appear in the legend.
- Legends for illustrations: Type or print out legends (maximum 100 words) for illustrations using double spacing, with Arabic numerals corresponding to the illustrations. When symbols, arrows, numbers, or letters are used to identify parts of the illustrations, identify and explain each one in the legend. Explain the internal scale (magnification) and identify the method of staining in photomicrographs.
- Final figures for print production: Send sharp, glossy, un-mounted, color photographic prints, with height of 4 inches and width of 6 inches at the time of submitting the revised manuscript. Print color photographs are not acceptable. If digital images are the only source of images, ensure that the image has minimum resolution of 300 dpi or 1800 x 1600 pixels in TIFF format. Send the images on a separate sheet. Each image should have a label pasted (avoid use of liquid gum for pasting) on its back indicating the number of the figure, the running title, top of the figure and the legends of the figure. Do not write the caption on the back of the image. Do not write on the back of figures, scratch, or mark them by using paper clips.
- The Journal reserves the right to crop, rotate, reduce, or enlarge the photographs to an acceptable size.

Protection of Patients' Rights to Privacy



Identifying information should not be published in written descriptions, photographs, sonograms, CT scans, etc., and pedigrees unless the information is essential for scientific purposes and the patient or guardian, wherever applicable) gives informed consent for publication. Authors should remove patients' names from figures unless they have obtained informed consent from the patients. The journal's guidelines:

1. Authors, not the journals nor the publisher, need to obtain the patient consent form before the publication and have the form properly archived. The consent forms are not to be uploaded with the manuscript. They should be sent through email to editorial or publisher offices.
2. If the manuscript contains patient images that preclude anonymity, or a description that has obvious indication to the identity of the patient, a statement about obtaining informed patient consent should be included with the manuscript.

Sending a revised manuscript



The revised version of the manuscript should be submitted online in a manner similar to that used for submission of the manuscript for the first time. However, there is no need to submit the "First Page" file while submitting a revised version. When submitting a revised manuscript, contributors are requested to include, the 'referees' remarks along with point-to-point clarification at the beginning in the revision. In addition, they are expected to mark the changes as underlined or colored text in the article.

Reprints and proofs



Journal provides no free printed reprints. Authors can purchase reprints, payment for which should be done at the time of submitting the proofs.

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Publication schedule

The journal publishes articles on its website as ‘Ahead of Print’ and collect the issues quarterly.

Copyrights



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Checklist



Covering letter

- Previous publication / presentations mentioned
- Source of funding mentioned
- Conflicts of interest disclosed
- Statement of Human and Animal Rights disclosed
- Statement of Informed Consent
- "Copyright form" and "Authorship & Conflicts of interest Statement" signed by all contributors and uploaded

Authors

- Last name and given name provided along with Middle name initials (where applicable)
- Author for correspondence, with e-mail address provided
- Number of contributors restricted as per the instructions
- Identity not revealed in paper except title page (e.g. name of the institute in Methods, citing previous study as 'our study', names on figure labels, name of institute in photographs, etc.)

Presentation and format

- Double spacing
- Margins 2.5 cm from all four sides
- Page numbers included at bottom
- Title page contains all the desired information
- Running title provided (not more than 50 characters)
- Abstract page contains the full title of the manuscript
- Abstract provided (structured abstract of 250 words for original articles and unstructured abstract of 250 words for review articles)
- Key words provided (three or more)
- Introduction of 75-100 words (cover letter)
- Headings in title case (not ALL CAPITALS)
- The references cited in the text should be after punctuation marks, in superscript with square bracket.
- References according to the journal's instructions, punctuation marks checked
- Send the article file without ‘Track Changes’

Language and grammar

- Uniformly American English
- Write the full term for each abbreviation at its first use in the title, abstract, keywords and text separately unless it is a standard unit of measure. Numerals from 1 to 10 spelt out
- Numerals at the beginning of the sentence spelt out
- Check the manuscript for spelling, grammar, and punctuation errors
- If a brand name is cited, supply the manufacturer's name and address (city and state/country).

- Species names should be in italics

Tables and figures

- No repetition of data in tables and graphs and in text
- Actual numbers from which graphs drawn, provided
- Figures necessary and of good quality (color)
- Table and figure numbers in Arabic letters (not Roman)
- Labels pasted on back of the photographs (no names written)
- Figure legends provided and should be typed separately
- Patients' privacy maintained (if not permission taken)
- Credit notes for borrowed figures/tables provided
- Write the full term for each abbreviation used in the table as a footnote

Contributors' form



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