

Online Submission Procedure

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Authors are **required** to submit the following manuscript information online using [ScholarOne Manuscripts](#) (formerly known as Manuscript Central):

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- manuscript title
- abstract
- cover letter
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- acknowledgments

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Format of Manuscript Elements

Manuscripts must be in English with wide (1 inch) margins, typed and double-spaced throughout. Number pages consecutively, and include the corresponding author's name on each page. Manuscripts should contain each of the following elements in sequence: 1) Title page 2) Abstract 3) Text 4) Acknowledgments 5) References 6) Tables 7) Figure legends. Start each subdivision on a new page. Define unusual abbreviations at the first mention in the text.

Manuscripts should follow the *AMA Manual of Style (10th ed.)*² for grammar, punctuation, and style, and should meet the [Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals](#)¹ established by the ICMJE for general authorship guidelines.

Use generic drug names in the text; use of brand names is optional, and these should be specified in parentheses. The text should be written in a uniform style, and its contents as submitted for consideration should be deemed final by the author and suitable for publication as follows:

Title Page. The title page should contain the complete title of the manuscript, names and affiliations of all authors, institution(s) at which the work was performed, and name, address, telephone and fax numbers, and E-mail address of the author responsible for correspondence. Authors should also provide a short title of not more than 45 characters (including spaces), and must identify a minimum of five key words (5-10), not in the title but taken from *Index Medicus*, that will highlight the subject matter of the article. Any funding sources for the study (whether financial or in-kind) and any authors' financial disclosures and conflict of interest should be listed on this page as well as in the cover letter (see section on Cover Letter below).

Abstract. Abstracts must be 250 words or less, and should be intelligible without reference to the text. Abstracts must be organized into four sections: Background, Methods, Results, Conclusions. Purpose of the study should be included in Background and sample sizes must be included in Methods.

Research Articles. Research articles are generally 3500 words or fewer, exclusive of tables, figures, and references, and include Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, and Conclusion

sections conforming to standard scientific reporting style. The introduction should include a succinct summary of the known literature in the area and a rationale for and justification of the purpose of the study and why the experimental question and hypothesis are important or novel. Whenever possible, information on why the study is important for the practicing clinician should be provided. In the Methods and Results sections, detailed information on statistics should be provided such as name of statistical test, whether tests were one- or two-tailed, test used for each set of data, *and* correction factors, if any, for multiple comparisons. Data and figures should present or reflect standard deviations rather than standard error of means. All significant and relevant non-significant results must include test values, degree(s) of freedom, and probability. The Discussion section should include a clear exposition of the clinical and scientific importance of the study. Articles should strive to highlight the clinical meaning of the constructs and results as opposed to their methodological and mechanistic implications. Conclusions must be clearly justified from the study.

Cover Letter. Manuscripts must be accompanied by a short cover letter. The cover letter should identify any funding sources for the study, as well as any potential conflicts of interest (COI) on the part of any of the authors in association with the research being performed, including, but not limited to, research support, lectureships, stock options, stock ownership, and medical advisory board participation which might be perceived as having some influence on the research. A separate, complete COI form will be submitted subsequently prior to publication.