Guidelines for authors

Authors must adhere to the following guidelines

Preparing the manuscript text

General

The manuscript must be written in U.S. English. The main body of the text, excluding the title page, abstract and list of captions, but including the references, may be a maximum of 4,000 words. Exceptions may be allowed with prior approval from the publisher.

Authors will have the opportunity to add more information regarding their article, as well as post videos, present a webinar and blog on the DT Science website.

It is preferred that there be no more than six authors. If more authors have participated in the study, the contribution of each author must be disclosed at the end of the document.

Informed consent

Patients have a right to privacy that should not be violated without informed consent. Identifying information, including patients’ names, initials or hospital numbers, should not be provided in the manuscript or visual material unless the information is essential for scientific purposes and the patient (or parent or guardian) has given written informed consent for publication. Informed consent for this purpose requires that an identifiable patient be shown the manuscript to be published. Authors should disclose to these patients whether any potential identifiable material might be available via the Internet as well as in print after publication. Nonessential identifying details should be omitted. Informed consent should be obtained if there is any doubt that anonymity can be maintained. For example, masking the eye region in photographs of patients is inadequate protection of anonymity. If identifying characteristics are altered to protect anonymity, authors should provide assurance that alterations do not distort scientific meaning.

When informed consent has been obtained, it should be indicated in the manuscript.

Human and animal rights

When reporting experiments on human subjects, authors should indicate whether the procedures followed were in accordance with the ethical standards of the responsible committee on human experimentation (institutional and national) and with the Declaration of Helsinki of 1975, as revised in 2013 (www.wma.net/en/30publications/10policies/b3/index.html). If doubt exists whether the research was conducted in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki, the authors must explain the rationale for their approach, and demonstrate that the institutional review body explicitly approved the doubtful aspects of the study. When reporting experiments on animals, authors should indicate whether institutional and national standards for the care and use of laboratory animals were followed. Further guidance on animal research ethics is available from the International Association of Veterinary Editors’ Consensus Author Guidelines on Animal Ethics and Welfare (www.veteditors.org/consensus-author-guidelines-on-animal-ethics-and-welfare-for-editors).

Preparing the manuscript text

General

The title should not exceed 35 characters. Capitalize only the first word and proper nouns in the title.

Author information

The following information must be included for each author:

– Full author name(s)
– Full affiliation (department, faculty, institution, town, country).

For the corresponding author, the following information should be included in addition:

– Full mailing address
– Email address.

Abstract and keywords

The manuscript must contain an abstract and a maximum of five keywords. The abstract should be self-contained, not cite any other work and not exceed 250 words. It should be structured into the following separate sections: objective, materials and methods, results, and conclusion.

Structure of the main text

The body of the manuscript must be structured as follows:

– Introduction (no subheadings)
– Materials and methods
– Results
– Discussion
– Conclusion

Competing interests

Authors are required to declare any competing financial or other interests regarding the article submitted. Such competing interests are to be stated at the end of manuscript before the references. If no competing interests are declared, the following will be stated: “The authors declare that they have no competing interests.”

Acknowledgments

Acknowledgments (if any) should be brief and included at the end of the manuscript before the references, and may include supporting grants.
Authors are responsible for ensuring that the information for each reference is complete and accurate. All references must be cited within the manuscript. References appearing in the list but not in the manuscript will be removed. In-text citation should follow the citation-sequence format (e.g., “as discussed by Haywood et al.,15”) using superscript numbers placed after the punctuation in the relevant sentence. The references must be numbered consecutively.

The reference list must be numbered and the references provided in order of appearance. For the reference list, the journal follows the citation style stipulated in Citing medicine: the NLM style guide for authors, editors, and publishers. The guidelines may be viewed and downloaded free of charge at www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK7256/

List of captions

Please provide the captions for all visual material at the end of the manuscript.

Abbreviations

Abbreviations should be used sparingly and defined when first used. The abstract and the main manuscript text should be regarded as separate documents in this regard.

Typography

- Use Times New Roman regular with a font size of 12 pt.
- Use double line spacing with blank lines separating sections and paragraphs.
- Type the text unjustified and do not apply hyphenation at line breaks.
- Number all of the pages.
- Use endnotes if necessary, but not footnotes.
- Greek and other special characters may be included.

Preparing the visual material

Requirements for images

Each image should be supplied separately and the following formats are accepted: PSD, TIFF, GIF and JPEG. The image must have a resolution of 300 dpi and must be no smaller than 6 cm x 6 cm.

Please number the images consecutively throughout the article by using a new number for each image. If it is imperative that certain images be grouped together, then use lowercase letters to designate these in a group (e.g., “Figs. 2a–c”).

Place the references to the images in your article wherever they are appropriate, whether in the middle or at the end of a sentence. Provide a caption for each image at the end of your article.

Requirements for tables

Each table should be supplied separately and in Microsoft Word format. Tables may not be embedded as images and no shading or color is to be used.

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