Guidelines for authors

Authors must adhere to the following guidelines

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

Title

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:

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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, conclusion, and keywords.

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The body of the manuscript must be structured as follows:

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

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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.

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