

Instructions to Authors

Experimental Medicine journal publishes scientific papers on a large variety of topics* of medical science and practice. Contributions may be in the form of editorials, original articles, review articles, case reports, technical notes, therapeutical notes, new technologies, special articles and letters to the Editor. Manuscripts must be prepared in strict compliance with the instructions to Authors published below. These conform with the Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Editors edited by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors. Articles not conforming to international standards will not be considered. Manuscripts should be sent (including title page, key words, text, figures and tables with legends) by e-mail to experimentalmedicine@yahoo.com. Submission of a manuscript means that the paper has not already been published and, if accepted, will not be published elsewhere either entirely or in part. All illustrations should be original. Illustrations taken from other publications must be accompanied by the permission of the publisher. The journal adheres to the principles set forth in the Helsinki Declaration and states that all reported research concerning human beings should be conducted in accordance with such principles. The journal also adheres to the International Guiding Principles for Biomedical Research Involving Animals recommended by the WHO and requires that all research on animals be conducted in accordance with them. Papers must be accompanied by the following submission letter, signed by all Authors: "The undersigned Authors transfer the ownership of copyright to the Experimental Medicine" should their work be published in this journal. They state that the article is original, has not been submitted for publication in other journals and has not already been published. They state that they are responsible for the research that they have designed and carried out; that they have participated in drafting and revising the manuscript submitted, which they approve in its contents. They also state that "the research reported in the paper was undertaken in compliance with the Helsinki Declaration and the International Principles governing research on animals". Authors implicitly agree to their paper being submitted to the Editorial Board. In the case of requests for modifications, the new corrected version should be sent to the editorial office by e-mail underlining and highlighting the parts that have been modified. The correction of proofs should be limited to a simple check of the printing; any changes to the text will be charged to the Authors. Corrected proofs must be sent back within five days to experimentalmedicine@yahoo.com. In case of delay, the editorial staff of the journal may correct the proofs on the basis of the original manuscript. Forms for the ordering of reprints are sent together with the proofs.

Kinds of papers accepted

Editorials. Commissioned by the Editor in Chief or Board of Editors, it must deal with a subject of topical interest regarding which the Author expresses his personal opinion. A maximum of 5.500 words and 30 references will be accepted.

Original articles. These should be original contributions to the subject treated. A maximum of 10.000 words and 60 references will be accepted. The article must be subdivided into the following sections: introduction, materials and methods, results, discussion, conclusions. In the introduction the aim of the study should be clearly summed up. The materials and methods section should describe in logical sequence how the study was designed and carried out, how the data were analysed (what hypothesis was tested, what type of study was carried out, how randomisation was done, how the subjects were recruited and chosen, provide accurate details of the main features of treatment, of the materials used, of drug dosages, of unusual apparatus, of the statistical method). In the results section the answers to the questions posed in the introduction should be given. The results should be reported fully, clearly and concisely with figures, graphs and tables. The discussion section should sum up the main results, critically analyse the methods used, compare the results obtained with other data reported in the literature and discuss the implications of the results.

Review articles. These should discuss a topic of current interest, outline current knowledge of the subject treated, analyse the different opinions regarding the problem discussed, be up-to-date on the latest data in the literature. A maximum of 12000 words and 100 references will be accepted. A maximum of two authors will be accepted for brief review articles.

Case reports. These give a description of particularly interesting cases. A maximum of 7000 words and 30 references will be accepted. The article must be subdivided into the following sections: introduction, case report presenta-

tion or clinical series presentation, discussion, conclusions.

Technical notes. Description of a new technique or changes to techniques already in use. A maximum of 9000 words and 40 references will be accepted.

Therapeutical notes. These are intended for the presentation and assessment of new drugs. A maximum of 9000 words and 40 references will be accepted. The article must be subdivided into the following sections: introduction, materials and methods, results, discussion, conclusions.

New technologies. These should be critical reviews of new equipment. A maximum of 9000 words and 40 references will be accepted. The paper must be subdivided into the following sections: introduction, materials and methods, results, discussion, conclusions.

Special articles. These present research projects, papers of history of medicine, teaching methods, management issues, economic and legislative aspects related to the topics considered by the journal. The purpose of such an article should be to advance or illuminate a scientific or practical issue, to educate or entertain the journal's readers. A maximum of 10.000 words will be accepted.

Adverse drug reactions. Reports of adverse drug reactions are peer reviewed and those accepted are published in the Correspondence section. Length must not exceed 900 words, only one table or figure is permitted, and there should be no more than five references, and no more than five authors.

Seminars. Seminars may be scientifically or clinically focused, and should be at least 3 articles submitted by a Hospital Department, a Medical School or a Research Institute. Seminars can be a larger collection of articles with related topics and could be published as a supplement.

Hypotheses. A hypothesis paper can be a scientific experimental project, not performed elsewhere yet, or theoretical approach to a new discovery. New data are not part of a hypothesis, but you must include a section on how to test your idea. The paper should contain at least 1500 words and 20 references.

Debates. A debate paper is submitted by 2 authors or two Research teams that undertake the responsibility to write down the 2 different opinions on a controversial medical issue.

Comments - Letters to the Editor. They may include up to 900 words and 10 or so references) and comment someone else's paper or other report or event within the past month or so, or in the near future. We will also consider longer Comments whose title will start with "Clinical update:" These pieces must be a useful update geared to clinicians seeking shorter pieces outside their specialty. They can be 1500 words, no more than 20 references, and with 1-2 figures/panels/tables).

World Medical News. Experimental Medicine journal welcomes articles covering news about science, medicine, policy issues, and people. The articles may be submitted by professional journalists, but a significant event in your country that might be of wider interest can be brought to the attention of our journal, as an article of World Medical News.

Perspectives. Reviews of books and other media are often commissioned, but suggestions for contributions are welcome via experimentalmedicine@yahoo.com

Obituaries. Obituaries can be written by the team of our journal or by the readers. We invite suggestions from readers for people whom we should feature remarkable individuals who are internationally renowned for their contributions to medicine.

How to submit your manuscript

The paper should be submitted as a Word Document. The paper must be divided into the following sections:

Title page. The title should be concise but informative, with no abbreviations. We need to know the first name and surname of the authors. The Institute and University or Department and Hospital where each author works (if he works). Unemployed authors do not have to state an Affiliation Institute.

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The name, address, telephone number and e-mail of the author to whom all correspondence and proofs should be sent, should be reported. Refer the dates of any congress where the paper has already been presented.

Abstract and key words. Articles should include an abstract of minimum 150 and maximum 400 words. For original articles, therapeutic notes, new technologies it should be structured into the following sections: background (aim of the study), methods (experimental design, patients and interventions), results (what was found), conclusion (meaning of the study). Key words should refer to the terms from Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) of the Index Medicus. No abstracts are requested for Editorials and Letters to the Editor.

Text. Identify methodologies, equipment (give name and address of manufacturer in brackets) and procedures with sufficient details to allow other researchers to reproduce results. Specify well-known methods including statistical procedures; mention and provide a brief description of published methods which are not yet well known; describe new or modified methods at length; justify their use and evaluate their limits. All drugs should indicate generic name, dose and how administered. Brand names for drugs should be given in brackets. Units of measurement, symbols and abbreviations must conform to international standards. Measurements of length, height, weight and volume should be given in metric units (metre, kilogram, litre) or their decimal multiples. Temperatures must be expressed in degrees Celsius. Blood pressure must be expressed in millimeters of mercury. All hematological and biochemical measurements should be expressed in metric units using the International System of Units (IS). Authors should avoid using little used symbols and abbreviations. They must however be explained when they first appear in the text.

References. It is expected that all cited references will have been read by the authors. The references should be numbered numerically in the order in which they are first cited. Bibliographical entries in the text should be quoted using superscripts. References must be set out in the standard format approved by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors.

A. References of Journals's published papers. Each entry must specify the Author's surname and initials (list all Authors up to six. If there are seven or more list only the first six names and add "et al", the article's original title, the name of the Journal (respecting the abbreviations used by Index Medicus), the year of publication, the number of the volume and the number of the first and last pages. Follow the international standard punctuation carefully when citing references.

Examples:

Standard article; Sutherland DE, Simmons RL, Howard RJ. Intra-capsular technique of transplant nephrectomy. *Surg Gynecol Obstet* 1978;146:951-2.

Organization as author; International Committee of Medical Journal Editors. Uniform requirements for manuscripts submitted to biomedical journals. *Ann Int Med* 1988;108:258-65.

Issue with supplement; Payne DK, Sullivan MD, Massie MJ. Women's psychological reactions to breast cancer. *Semin Oncol* 1996;23(1 Suppl 2):89-97. **Articles not in English;** Christodoulou I. Εγκεφαλοεντερικά σύνδρομα [Brain-gut syndromes]. *The Inter J Med Greek Pages* 2008;1:12-16.

B. References of books and monographs. For occasional publications the names of the Authors, the title, edition, place, publisher and year of publication must be given.

Examples:

1. Books by one or more Authors; Irene Christodoulou. Are you a reviewer? Athens: Renaissance Medical Publishing, 2008.

2. Chapter from book; De Meester TR. Gastroesophageal reflux disease. In: Moody FG, Carey LC, Scott Jones R, Ketly KA, Nahrwold DL, Skinner DB, editors. *Surgical treatment of digestive diseases*. Chicago: Year Book Medical Publishers, 1986.

3. Congress proceedings; Kimura J, Shibasaki H (editors). Recent advances in clinical neurophysiology. Proceedings of the 10th International Congress of EMG and Clinical Neurophysiology; 1995 Oct 15-19; Kyoto, Japan. Amsterdam: Elsevier; 1996.

Tables. Each table must be submitted on a separate Word document and be prepared graphically in keeping with the page layout of the journal, numbered in Roman numerals and accompanied by a short title. Notes should be inserted at the foot of the table and not in the title. Tables should be referenced in the text.

Figures. The images must be submitted as separate high definition JPEG files and not pasted inside the word document that contains the manuscript. The images should be referenced in the text. Histological photographs should always be accompanied by the magnification ratio and staining method. Legends should be typed on a separate word document file. Drawings, graphs and diagrams should be done using a computer. X-ray examinations must be submitted as high definition JPEG files. If the figures are in colour it should always be specified whether colour or black and white reproduction is required.

Covering Letter. We ask that you send a covering letter with the submission of your manuscript. If you make your first submission to the Experimental Medicine, please ask the covering letter form from the Editorial Office (experimentalmedicine@yahoo.com). Use the covering letter to explain why your paper should be published in Experimental Medicine. It is also helpful to indicate here what could shorten your paper.

Authors' contributions and signatures. We ask all authors of, and all contributors (including medical writers and editors) to, articles to specify their individual contributions at the end of the text. We suggest the following format for Articles: "I declare that I participated in the (here list contributions made to the study) and that I have seen and approved the final version. I have the following conflicts of interest" (report them).

Conflict of interest and source of funding. A conflict of interest exists when an author or the author's institution has financial or personal relationships with other people or organisations that inappropriately influence (bias) his or her actions. Financial relationships are easily identifiable, but conflicts can also occur because of personal relationships, academic competition, or intellectual passion. A conflict can be actual or potential, and full disclosure to the Editor is the safest course. Failure to disclose conflicts may lead to publication of a Department of Error. All submissions must include disclosure of all relationships that could be viewed as presenting a potential conflict of interest (see *Lancet* 2001; 358: 854-56 and *Lancet* 2003; 361: 8-9).

Acknowledgments. Was a medical writer or editor involved in the creation of your manuscript? If yes, we need a signed statement from the corresponding author to include the name and information on funding of this person. This information should be added to the Acknowledgment and/or Contributors section. In addition, you will need to send us a signed statement from this person declaring that he or she has given you permission to name him or her as an author, as a contributor, or in the Acknowledgment section.

Patients' consent and permission to publish. Studies on patients or volunteers require ethics committee approval and informed consent, which should be documented in your paper. You will be asked to send a signed consent form before publication. Consent must be obtained for case reports and clinical pictures. Please ask the consent form from the Editorial Office.

*Suggested topics for authors

Biology	Biotechnology
Clinical Trials	Continuing Education in Health and Life Sciences Research
Entomology and Zoology	Environmental Science and Technology
Experimental Linguistics	Experimental Psychology
Experimental Surgery	Ethics in Research
Medical and Health Informatics	Nanotechnology
Neurobiology	Pharmaceutical Research
Physics	Preclinical Original Research
Research Financing and International Research Funding	Statistics for Health and Life Sciences
Tissue Engineering	Veterinary Medicine

Please contact us in case you wish to suggest a topic that is missing from our list.

If you do not have access to the Internet or e-mail, you may send your manuscript (in a CD-ROM) and all signatures and statements to the Editorial Office, Irene Christodoulou, Heronias 8, Sikies, 56625, Thessaloniki. Tel. +0030 2310613736. For any further information visit our website (<http://www.experimental-medicine.com>) or contact the Editorial Office: experimentalmedicine@yahoo.com.