

INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

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Articles on original research, review articles, case reports, brief research reports or photographs may be submitted. Letters to the editor are welcome and if suitable will be published in a correspondence section. Articles, except those written by invitation, will be subject to review.

Manuscript preparation

- Articles may be submitted electronically, but if high resolution figures are included, please send a CD. Authors should state their full name, qualifications, institutional affiliation and provide a corresponding address and email. Articles should be a maximum of 4000 words with no more than 3 figures and 3 tables. Short reports should be a maximum of 1000 words with a maximum of 2 tables or illustrations.
- Each article should be accompanied by a summary of not more than 200 words (50 words for short reports). A structured abstract is required for original research papers.
- Authors are requested to declare conflicts of interest and source of funding.
- All abbreviations should be spelt out when first used in the text and thereafter used consistently.
- Scientific measurements should be expressed in SI units throughout, with two exceptions: blood pressure should be given in mmHg and haemoglobin values in g/dl.

Illustrations

- Figures consist of all material which cannot be set in type, such as photographs and line drawings.
- Tables and legends for illustrations should be typed on separate sheets and should be clearly identified. Tables should be labelled with Roman numerals, thus: I, II, III, etc. and illustrations with Arabic numerals, thus: 1, 2, 3, etc.
- Figures may be submitted as prints or digitally on a CD in **high-resolution format** with title of the paper, figure or table number, author name, date and program used clearly marked. Please do not submit illustrations in Powerpoint and MS Word document format as the quality is affected during reformatting for printing.

- Where identification of a patient is possible from a photograph the author must submit a consent to publication signed by the patient, or by the parent or guardian in the case of a minor.
- If any tables or illustrations submitted have been published elsewhere, written consent to republication should be obtained by the author from the copyright holder and the author(s).

References

- References should be inserted in the text as superior numbers, and should be listed at the end of the article in numerical order. Do not list them alphabetically.
- It is the author's responsibility to verify references from the original sources.
- References should be set out in the Vancouver style, and only approved abbreviations of journal titles should be used; consult the January issue of *Index Medicus* (No. 1 Part 1) for these details. Names and initials of all authors should be given unless there are more than six, in which case the first three names should be given followed by 'et al.' First and last page numbers should be given.

Example:

- Khakoo G, Lack G. Recommendations for using MMR vaccine in children allergic to eggs. *BMJ* 2000; 320: 929-932.
- References for books should include author, title, town, publisher and date.
Example:
1. Abbas AK, Lichtman AH. *Basic Immunology*. Philadelphia: WB Saunders, 2001.
- 'Unpublished observations' and 'personal communications' may be cited in the text, but not in the reference list. Articles accepted but not yet published can be included as references followed by '(in press)'.

All articles and correspondence should be addressed to:

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