PREPARATION OF THE MANUSCRIPT

The language of manuscript must be simple and explicit. If needed, the authors should consult those experienced in scientific writing and communication. Identity of the author(s) must NOT appear anywhere in the manuscript (except on the first page file).

(A) Review Articles

Reviews are written by researchers of considerable experience in the field concerned. The authors should review the recent trends or advances in that field in the light of their own work. However, when an author has not done enough original work on a topic but wants to share the knowledge on recent advances/trends which may be useful for post-graduate students or junior members of faculty, one may do so by writing for Educational Forum.
Authors are advised to search Medline and other databases on the Internet, apart from collecting information using conventional methods.

These articles should contain a covering letter, title page, summary (need not be structured) and key words. They should be written under appropriate sub-headings. The authors are encouraged to use flowcharts, boxes, tables and figures for better presentation. Should not Exceed 4000 words (Excluding Tables, Figures and References)

(B) Original Research Articles

These may either be a full length research article or a short communication. These papers should be arranged into the following sections:

1. Title page
2. Abstract and key words
3. Introduction
4. Materials and Methods
5. Results
6. Discussion
7. Acknowledgment
8. References
9. Tables
10. Figures

Manuscript should be written in Times New Roman, Font 12, single spacing, Margins-2.5 cm all sides, A4 Size.

Should not Exceed 3000 words (Excluding Tables, Figures and References)

1) Title page

It should be paginated as page 1 of the paper. It should include the title, authors’ names and affiliations, running title, address for correspondence including e-mail address.

Title:
Must be informative, specific and short. It should not exceed 150 characters.

Authors and affiliations:
The names of authors and their affiliations should be given. It should be made clear which affiliations relates to which author by referencing through superscript number.

Running title:
It is a short title printed in the journal at the right top corner of right hand page of the article (except the lead page). It should be not more than 50 characters in length.

Address for correspondence:
The corresponding author’s address should be given on the title page. The e-mail ID of the corresponding author must also be provided.

2) Abstract and key words

Abstract:
It must start on a new page carrying the following information: (a) Title (without authors’ names or affiliations), (b) Abstract, (c) Key words. It should not exceed 250 words excluding the title and the key words. The abstract must be concise, clear and informative
rather than indicative.

The abstract must be in a structured form (OBJECTIVES, METHODS, RESULTS and CONCLUSIONS) and explain briefly what was intended, done, observed and concluded. The conclusions and recommendations not found in the text of the article should not be given in the abstract.

Key words:
Provide 3-5 keywords which will help readers or indexing agencies in cross-indexing the study. The words found in title need not be given as key words. Use terms from the latest Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) list of Index Medicus. A more general term may be used if a suitable MeSH term is not available.

3) Introduction

It should start on a new page. Essentially this section must introduce the subject and briefly say how the idea for research originated. Give a concise background of the study. Do not review literature extensively but provide the most recent work that has a direct bearing on the subject. Justification for research aims and objectives must be clearly mentioned without any ambiguity. The purpose of the study should be stated at the end.

4) Materials and Methods

This section should deal with the materials used and the methodology (how the work was carried out). The procedure adopted should be described in sufficient details to allow the experiment to be interpreted and repeated by the readers, if desired. The number of subjects, the number of groups, the study design, sources of drugs with dosage regimen or instruments used, statistical methods and ethical aspects must be mentioned under the section. The data collection procedure must be described. If a procedure is a commonly used, giving a previously published reference would suffice. If a method is not well known (though previously published) it is better to describe it briefly. Give explicit descriptions of modifications or new methods so that the readers can judge their accuracy, reproducibility and reliability.

The nomenclature, the source of material and equipment used, with details of the manufacturer in parentheses, should be clearly mentioned. Drugs and chemicals should be precisely identified using their non-proprietary names or generic names. If necessary, the proprietary or commercial name may be inserted once in parentheses. The first letter of the drug name should be small for
generic name (e.g., insulin glargine, glimepiride) but capitalized for proprietary names (e.g., Glaritus, Inogla). New or uncommon drug should be identified by the chemical name and structural formula.

The doses of drugs should be given as unit weight per kilogram body weight e.g., mg/kg and the concentrations should be given in terms of molarity e.g., nm or mM. The routes of administration may be abbreviated, e.g., intra-arterial (i.a.), intracerebroventricular (i.c.v.), intra-gastric gavage (i.g.), intramuscular (i.m.), intraperitoneal (i.p.), intravenous (i.v.), per os (p.o.), subcutaneous (s.c.), transdermal (t.d.) etc.

Statistical Methods: The variation of data should be expressed in terms of the standard error of mean (SEM) or the standard deviation (SD), along with the number of observations (n). The details of statistical tests used and the level of significance should be stated. If more than one test is used it is important to indicate which groups and parameters have been subjected to which test.

5) Results

The results should be stated concisely without comments. They should be presented in logical sequence in the text with appropriate reference to tables and/or figures. The data given in tables or figures should not be repeated in the text. The same data should not be presented in both tabular and graphic forms. Simple data may be given in the text itself instead of figures or tables. Avoid discussions and conclusions in the results section.

6) Discussion

This section should deal with the interpretation, rather than recapitulation of results. It is important to discuss the new and significant observations in the light of previous work. Discuss also the weaknesses or pitfalls in the study. New hypotheses or recommendations can be put forth.

Avoid unqualified statements and conclusions not completely supported by the data. Repetition of information given under Introduction and Results should be avoided. Conclusions must be drawn considering the strengths and weaknesses of the study. They must be conveyed in the last paragraph under Discussion. Make sure conclusions drawn should tally with the objectives stated under Introduction.

7) Acknowledgements
Acknowledge only those who have contributed to the scientific content or provided technical support. Sources of financial support may be mentioned.

8) Conflict Of interest
Should be clearly stated for any conflicts

9) References

It should begin on a new page. Follow Vancouver style of referencing. The number of references should normally be restricted to a maximum of 40 references. Majority of them should preferably be of articles published in the last 5 years.

Papers which have been submitted and accepted but not yet published may be included in the list of references with the name of the journal and indicated as “In press”. A photocopy of the acceptance letter should be submitted with the manuscript. Information from manuscript “submitted” but “not yet accepted” should not be included. Avoid using abstracts as references. The “unpublished observations” and “personal communications” may not be used as references but may be inserted (in parentheses) in the text.

References are to be cited in the text by super-scribed number and should be in the order in which they appear. As far as possible mentioning names of author(s) for reference should be avoided in the text.

The references must be verified by the author(s) against the original documents. The list of references should be typed single spaced in the Vancouver style.

Check list for Tables

- Serially numbered.
- Short self-explanatory heading should be given
- Columns should have headings
- Units of data given.
- ‘n’ mentioned.
- Mean ± SD or Mean ± SEM given.
- Statistical significance of groups indicated by asterisks or other markers.
- P values given.
- Rows and columns properly aligned.
• Appropriate position in the text indicated.
• Table should be included where ever necessary (in Editable Format) and serially numbered

Figures

Each figure must be numbered and a short descriptive caption must be provided. A computer drawn figure with good contrast is acceptable. Sometimes, raw data for graphs may be required in Excel sheet when the article is accepted for publication. Graphic files for diagrams and figures may be converted to *.pcx, *.tiff, *.jpg format. These files should not exceed 2 MB in size.

Check list for Figures

• Serially numbered. (Self-explanatory caption given)
• X and Y axes graduated. (X and Y axes titled)
• Units mentioned (if necessary)
• Different symbols/markers for different groups given.
• SD or SEM represented (graphically).
• Statistical significance indicated.
• Approximate position in the text marked.
• Figures should be included where ever necessary (in Editable Format) and serially numbered

(C) Short communications

While other things remain the same as described above, these papers should be considerably small in contents.

(D) Letter to Editor/Correspondence

This may either be a small research communication or a commentary on a contemporary issue or remarks/queries on a recently published article in IJP.

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Interesting clinical cases (with pharmacologic significance) may be considered for publication. Those with photographs stand a better chance. The case reports should have Brief abstract, introduction, case history and a brief discussion.

WORD LIMITS

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- Letter to the Editor: Should reflect short, decisive observation. Up to 500 words and five references.
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