

## **INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS**

### **Submission Checklist**

You can use this list to carry out a final check of your submission before you send it to MJED for review. Please check the relevant section in this Guide for Authors for more details.

Ensure that the following items are present: One author has been designated as the corresponding author with contact details:

- E-mail address
- Full postal address

All necessary files have been uploaded: Manuscript:

- Manuscripts should be 1.5 line spacing and in size 12 font.
- Include at least five (5) keywords
- All figures (include relevant captions)
- All tables (including titles, description, footnotes)
- Ensure all figure and table citations in the text match the files provided
- All references mentioned in the Reference List are cited in the text, and vice versa
- Permission has been obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including the Internet)
- A competing interest statement is provided, even if the authors have no competing interests to declare.

### **Ethics in Publishing**

Please see our information pages on Ethics in Publishing and Ethical Guidelines for journal publication.

### **Conflict of Interest**

All authors are requested to disclose any actual or potential conflict of interest including any financial, personal or other relationships with other people or organisations within three years of beginning the submitted work that could inappropriately influence, or be perceived to influence, their work.

### **Contributors**

All authors must have materially participated in the research and/or article preparation.

### **Submission Declaration and Verification**

Submission of an article implies that the work described has not been published previously (except in the form of an abstract, a published lecture or academic dissertation/thesis).

### **Use of Inclusive Language**

Inclusive language acknowledges diversity, conveys respect to all people, is sensitive to differences, and promotes equal opportunities. Articles should make no assumptions about the beliefs or commitments of any reader, should contain nothing which might imply that one individual is superior to another on the grounds of race, sex, culture or any other characteristic, and should use inclusive language

throughout. Authors should ensure that writing is free from bias, for instance by using 'he or she', 'his/her' instead of 'he' or 'his', and by making use of job titles that are free of stereotyping (e.g. 'chairperson' instead of 'chairman' and 'flight attendant' instead of 'stewardess').

### **Changes to Authorship**

Authors are expected to consider carefully the list and order of authors before submitting their manuscript and provide the definitive list of authors at the time of the original submission. Any addition, deletion or rearrangement of author names in the authorship list should be made only before the manuscript has been accepted and only if approved by the journal's Editor-in-Chief. To request such a change, the Editor-in-Chief must receive the following from the corresponding author: (a) the reason for the change in author list and (b) written confirmation (e-mail, letter) from all authors that they agree with the addition, removal or rearrangement. In the case of addition or removal of authors, this includes confirmation from the author being added or removed.

### **Role of the Funding Source**

Manuscript author(s) should identify who provided financial support for the conduct of the research and/or preparation of the article. Author(s) should also briefly describe the role of the sponsor(s), if any, in study design; in the collection, analysis and interpretation of data; in the writing of the report; and in the decision to submit the article for publication. If the funding source(s) had no such involvement, then this should be stated.

## **PREPARATION**

### *Language*

Please write your text in good British English. Italics are not to be used for expressions of Latin origin, for example, *in vivo*, *et al.*, *per se*. Use decimal points (not commas); use a space for thousands (10 000 and above).

### *Peer review*

MJED operates a double-blind review process. All contributions will be initially assessed by the Editor for suitability for the journal. Papers deemed suitable are then typically sent to a minimum of two independent expert reviewers to assess the scientific quality of the paper. The Editor-in-Chief is responsible for the final decision regarding acceptance or rejection of articles. The Editor's decision is final.

## **Article Structure**

### *Introduction*

Present purposes of the study and provide background for your work. Include a pertinent literature review with explicit international connections for relevant ideas and explain the theoretical underpinnings and key concepts of your paper, outlining connections to relevant scholarly work in your field of research.

### *Methodology and methods*

Provide sufficient detail to allow the context of the work to be thoroughly understood and/or for the work to be reproduced. Provide sufficient detail for readers to understand how you engaged in your enquiry. Clear descriptions of your context and

participants along with strategies used to collect and analyse data should be described.

*Results:* Results should be clear and concise.

#### *Discussion*

This section should explore the significance of the results of the work, not repeat them. Combining your results and discussion into a single section may be suitable. Returning to relevant literature from the introduction should show how your work connects with or interrupts already published literature.

#### *Conclusions*

The main conclusions of the study may be presented in a short Conclusions section, which may standalone or form a subsection of a Discussion or Results and Discussion section.

#### *Appendices*

If there is more than one appendix, they should be identified as A, B, etc.

### **Essential title page information**

#### *Title:*

Concise and informative. Titles are often used in information-retrieval systems. Avoid abbreviations and formulae where possible.

#### *Author names and affiliations*

Please clearly indicate the given name(s) and family name(s) of each author and check that all names are accurately spelled. You can add your name between parentheses in your own script behind the English transliteration. Present the authors' affiliation addresses (where the actual work was done) below the names. Indicate all affiliations with a lowercase superscript letter immediately after the author's name and in front of the appropriate address. Provide the full postal address of each affiliation, including the country name and the e-mail address of each author.

#### *Corresponding author*

Clearly indicate who will handle correspondence at all stages of refereeing and publication, also post-publication. This responsibility includes answering any future queries about Methodology and Materials. Ensure that the e-mail address is given and that contact details are kept up to date by the corresponding author.

#### *Present/permanent address*

If an author has moved since the work described in the article was done, or was visiting at the time, a 'Present address' (or 'Permanent address') may be indicated as a footnote to that author's name. The address at which the author actually did the work must be retained as the main, affiliation address. Superscript Arabic numerals are used for such footnotes.

#### *Abstract*

A concise and factual abstract is required (maximum length of 200 words). The abstract should state briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results and major conclusions. An abstract is often presented separately from the article, so it

must be able to stand alone. For this reason, References should be avoided, but if essential, then cite the author(s) and year(s). Also, non-standard or uncommon abbreviations should be avoided, but if essential they must be defined at their first mention in the abstract itself.

### *Keywords*

Immediately after the abstract, provide a maximum of 5 keywords, avoiding general and plural terms and multiple concepts (avoid, for example, "and", "of"). These keywords will be used for indexing purposes.

### *Word limit*

The word limit for a Research Article is 8000, excluding tables and references, and we ask that the word count **MUST** be between 5000 and 8000 words. Please note that appendices, abstract and footnotes are included in the total word count, while references and tables/figures are excluded from the word count. Authors will be asked to enter the word count of their manuscripts upon submission.

### *Tables*

Please submit tables as editable text and not as images. Tables can be placed either next to the relevant text in the article, or on separate page(s) at the end. Number tables consecutively in accordance with their appearance in the text and place any table notes below the table body. Be sparing in the use of tables and ensure that the data presented in them do not duplicate results described elsewhere in the article. Please avoid using vertical rules and shading in table cells.

### *References Citation in text*

MJED welcomes submissions referenced in accordance to the APA style. For guidance on APA referencing style, please visit <https://apastyle.apa.org/learn/index?tab=2>. Please ensure that every reference cited in the text is also present in the reference list (and vice versa). Any references cited in the abstract must be given in full. Unpublished results and personal communications are not recommended in the reference list but may be mentioned in the text. If these references are included in the reference list, they should follow the standard reference style of the journal and should include a substitution of the publication date with either 'Unpublished results' or 'Personal communication'. Citation of a reference as 'in press' implies that the item has been accepted for publication.