Instructions to Authors

Scope of the journal
Manipal Journal of Medical Sciences (MJMS), an official publication of MAHE, is published in Manipal Universal Press India, biannually with a focus on quality research with implications on medical practice. The journal will publish research in basic and applied sciences in pre, para and clinical disciplines of medicine. Papers with innovative and novel ideas are encouraged. In addition to original research, MJMS will publish review articles, case reports, short communications, letters to the editor and student research papers. MJMS follows the Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals, issued by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE Recommendations), and the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) code of conduct for editors. The journal will be available in print form only.

Types of Manuscripts and word limits

1. **Original Research Papers**: These should only include original findings from high-quality research studies such as experimental studies, randomized controlled trials, case–control, cohort surveys etc. The word limit is 5000 excluding references and an abstract (structured format) of not more than 250 words.

2. **Short Communications**: These manuscripts, with not more than 1 table/figure, should contain short reports of original studies or evaluations. The word limit is 1500 words, up to 20 references, and an abstract (structured format) of not more than 250 words.

3. **Review Articles (invited)**: Review articles should include an abstract of not more than 250 words describing the purpose of the review, collection and analysis of data, with the main conclusions. The word limit is 5000 words excluding references and abstract.

4. **Case Reports**: The word limit is 1000 words, up to 10 references, and an unstructured abstract of not more than 150 words.

5. **Student Research**: Research projects done by an undergraduate student of Health Sciences Institution. The word limit is 1500 words, references up to 10, and an abstract (structured format) of not more than 250 words.

Manuscript preparation and submission
Authors must ensure that manuscripts submitted to MJMS follows the guidelines provided for each article type. Authors should check for plagiarism before submission.

Authors should submit their manuscripts through online manuscript submission system or by email only to editor at editor.mjms@manipal.edu

Once article is received by the editor, it will be acknowledged and a manuscript id shall be assigned. The manuscript will be subjected to peer review process. The manuscripts may require minor/major revisions based on reviewer's comments and authors would be required to resubmit manuscript after making necessary corrections within 15 working days. For manuscripts not recommended for publication by reviewers, the final decision will be taken by the Editorial Board and the decision to that effect will be communicated. Accepted papers will be processed further and galley proofs will be sent to the corresponding author for approval.

Manuscripts must be solely the work of the author(s) stated, must not have been previously published elsewhere, and must not be under consideration by another journal. All manuscripts should be submitted in English only. Manuscripts should be typed double spaced in a single column in A4 size only with Times New Roman font size 12. It should be paginated on the upper right hand corner of each page, beginning with the title page. The language of manuscript must be simple and explicit. Identity of the author(s) must NOT appear anywhere in the manuscript (except on the title page).

Title Page
1. Type of manuscript (Original/Review/Case report)
2. The title of the article, which should be concise and informative;
3. Running title or short title not more than 50 characters;
4. The name (Last name, First name and initials of middle name), qualification and designation with institutional affiliation of all authors;
5. The name of the department(s) and institution(s) to which the work should be attributed;
6. The name, address, phone numbers and e-mail address of the corresponding author.
7. The total number of pages, photographs, tables, figures and word count separately for abstract and for the text (excluding the references and abstract).
8. Acknowledgements
9. Source of funding, if any, must be mentioned

Abstract Page
The second page should carry the full title of the manuscript and an abstract (of no more than 150 words for case reports; 250 words for original articles and review articles). For original articles the abstract should be structured as Background, Methods, Results and Conclusions. 3 to 6 key words should be provided to help readers or indexing agencies in cross-indexing the study. Words used 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.

Text of the article
Introduction: State the purpose of the article and summarize the rationale for the study or how the idea for research originated. Give a concise background of the study. Mention clearly the aims and objectives of the study.

Material and Methods: Describe how the work was carried out. The procedure adopted should be described in sufficient detail to allow the experiment/study to be interpreted and repeated by the readers, if necessary. The number of subjects, the number of groups studied, the study design, sources of drugs with dosage regimen or instruments used and ethical aspects must be mentioned under the section. The methodology - the data collection procedure - must be described in sufficient detail. If a procedure is a commonly used one, giving a reference (previously published) would suffice. If a method is not well known (though previously published) describe it briefly. Explicitly describe modifications or new methods to enable the readers to judge their accuracy, reproducibility and reliability. The details of ethical approval should be provided. Reports of randomised clinical trials should be based on the CONSORT statement (http://www.consort-statement.org).

Statistical Analysis: The details of statistical tests used and the level of significance should be stated. When more than one test is used, particulars of the group/test to be highlighted

Results: The results should be stated concisely without comments. It 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.

Discussion: This section should deal with the interpretation of results. Results should not be repeated in the discussion. It is important to discuss the new and significant observations in the light of previous work. Discuss also the limitations of the study. New hypotheses or recommendations can be put forth. Conclusions must be drawn considering the strengths and weaknesses of the study.

Acknowledgements: Acknowledge only persons who have contributed to the scientific content or provided technical support. Sources of financial support should be mentioned.

References: References are to be cited in the text by superscripted number and should be in the order in which they appear in the text. The list of references should be typed double spaced and shall follow the Vancouver style. References cited in tables or figure legends should be numbered in accordance with the sequence established by the first identification in the text of the particular table or figure. Please refer http://www.icmje.org for other types of references such as electronic media, newspaper items, etc.


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Tables
- Tables should be self-explanatory and should not duplicate textual material. Limit the number to minimum required.
• Number tables, in Arabic numerals, consecutively in the order of their first citation in the text and provide a brief title for each.
• Units of measurement should be abbreviated and placed below the headings. Abbreviations used should be given in the footnotes.
• Statistical measurement variations such as SD and SEM should be identified.
• Inclusion of structural formulae in Tables should be avoided.
• Tables should be submitted on separate pages after references.

Figures / Photographs
• Each figure must be numbered and a short descriptive legend must be provided.
• Figures may be converted to *.pcx, *.tiff, *.jpg format.
• All photographs and diagrams should be referred to as figures and should be numbered consecutively.
• These files should not exceed 2 MB in size.

Conflict of Interest and Financial Disclosures
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Review Article
Should be about 5000 words, contain up-to-date information, comprehensively cover relevant literature and preferably be written by scientists who have in-depth knowledge on the topic. All format requirements are same as those applicable to full papers. Review articles need not be divided into sections such as Material and Methods, Results and Discussion, but should definitely have an Abstract and Introduction.

Case Reports: Interesting clinical cases may be considered for publication. Those with photographs stand a better chance. The case reports should have an unstructured abstract, introduction, case history and a brief discussion.

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  • Full name(s) and affiliations of author(s);
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  • Name, address, telephone and e-mail address of corresponding author
  • Running title
  • Number of pages, number of figures and number of tables.
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