

Instructions to the Authors

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About the Journal

The **JOURNAL OF CLINICAL SCIENCES, J. Clin. Sc. (JCS)**, is a publication for medical doctors and those in related medical disciplines. Its a practice and the science of clinical medicine and its related disciplines. The Journal publishes original and review articles. Authors must attest that not currently submitted to any other journal for consideration.

Information To Authors

JCS will publish contributions of the following types: Original research publications, reviews and meta-analysis, brief communications including case reports and grand round reports as well as editorials and commentaries. Manuscripts written in English should be submitted electronically at the manuscript website: www.journalonweb.com/jcls The manuscript should be organised under the following sections: Title page, Abstract, Keywords, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Discussion, Acknowledgement, References, Tables, Legends to figures, and Figures. Variations from this outline apply to such articles as editorials and brief communications should be structured. The title page should contain the title of the manuscript, the names and affiliations of the authors as well as a corresponding author. References, tables and legends should be provided in line with the "Uniform requirements for manuscripts submitted to Biological and Medical Research Publications".

Scope of the journal

Journal of Clinical Sciences (JCS) publishes contributions of professional, scientific and educational interest to clinicians and those in related medical disciplines to enhance the practice and advance the science of clinical medicine and its related disciplines and sciences. JCS publishes papers relating to the economic aspects of medicine, the related specialties to clinical medicine, and general clinical science. The Journal is published four times a year. Supplements may also be published upon arrangement with the Editor-in-Chief.

Summary Of Technical Requirements

1. Double space all parts of the manuscript.
2. Begin each section or component on a new page.
3. Review the sequence: title page, abstract, keywords, text, acknowledgements, references (Vancouver style), tables (each on a separate page).
4. Illustrations and figures as unmounted prints, should be no larger than 203x254 mm (8x10 inches).
5. Include permission to reproduce previously published material or to use illustrations that may identify human subjects.
6. Enclose transfer of copyright and other forms.
7. Submit the manuscript electronically at the manuscript submission website: www.journalonweb.com/jcls
8. Keep a copy of everything submitted.

General Information

Manuscripts are considered on the understanding that they have not been published or are not under consideration for publication by another journal. If the paper elsewhere does not disqualify the paper from consideration. When there is doubt about possible duplicative publication, authors should contact the Editor-in-Chief.

manuscript on submission.

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Proofs may be sent through the manuscript submission system (www.journalonweb.com/jcls) to the corresponding author for corrections on request. Corrections should be returned within seven days of despatch by the Editor. Manuscripts should be prepared in accordance with the "Uniform Requirements Submitted to Biomedical Journals" and reviewed by assessors. All accepted manuscripts may be copy edited according to the Journal style. The authors are responsible for all statements and claims and statements are not necessarily shared by the Editors and the Publishers of the Journal. Similarly, the Editors and Publisher do not guarantee the advertisement of advertised products or services.

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The Editorial Process

A manuscript will be reviewed for possible publication with the understanding that it is being submitted to Journal of Clinical Sciences alone at that time, anywhere, simultaneously submitted, or already accepted for publication elsewhere. The journal expects that authors would authorize one of the matters related to the manuscript. All manuscripts received are duly acknowledged. On submission, editors review all submitted manuscripts initially. Manuscripts with insufficient originality, serious scientific or technical flaws, or lack of a significant message are rejected before proceeding for final review. Manuscripts unlikely to be of interest to the Journal of Clinical Sciences readers are also liable to be rejected at this stage itself.

Manuscripts that are found suitable for publication in Journal of Clinical Sciences are sent to two or more expert reviewers. During submission, the journal uses two or three qualified reviewers who have had experience in the subject of the submitted manuscript, but this is not mandatory. The reviewers' comments are sent to the contributor/s. However, the selection of these reviewers is at the sole discretion of the editor. The journal follows a double-blind review process where authors are unaware of each other's identity. Every manuscript is also assigned to a member of the editorial team, who based on the comments reviews the manuscript. The comments and suggestions (acceptance/ rejection/ amendments in manuscript) received from reviewers are conveyed to the author. The author is requested to provide a point by point response to reviewers' comments and submit a revised version of the manuscript. This process is repeated until the editor is satisfied with the manuscript. **Upon acceptance for publication, authors will be required to pay article processing charges of \$120 (one hundred dollars only).** Members of the Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Medicine of the University of Lagos are entitled to some rebate.

Manuscripts accepted for publication are copy edited for grammar, punctuation, print style, and format. Page proofs are sent to the corresponding author. The author is expected to return the corrected proofs within three days. It may not be possible to incorporate corrections received after that period. The whole process of final decision and sending and receiving proofs is completed online. To achieve faster and greater dissemination of knowledge and information, the journal offers 'Ahead of Print' immediately on acceptance.

Clinical trial registry

Journal of Clinical Sciences favors registration of clinical trials and is a signatory to the Statement on publishing clinical trials in Indian biomedical journals. The journal would publish clinical trials that have been registered with a clinical trial registry that allows free online access to public. Registration in the following registries is required: <http://www.ctri.nic.in/>; <https://www.anzctr.org.au/>; <http://www.clinicaltrials.gov/>; <http://isrctn.org/>; <http://www.trialregister.nl/trialreg/index.asp>; and <http://www.trialregister.nl/trialreg/index.asp>; and for clinical trials that have begun enrollment of subjects in or after June 2008. Clinical trials that have commenced enrollment of subjects prior to that date may be published in Journal of Clinical Sciences only if they have been registered retrospectively with clinical trial registry that allows unhindered online access.

Authorship Criteria

Authorship credit should be based only on substantial contributions to each of the three components mentioned below:

1. Concept and design of study or acquisition of data or analysis and interpretation of data;
2. Drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and
3. Final approval of the version to be published.
4. Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are resolved

Participation solely in the acquisition of funding or the collection of data does not justify authorship. General supervision of the research group is not sufficient. A contributor should have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content of the manuscript. Authorship should be based on the relative contribution of the contributor towards the study and writing the manuscript. Once submitted the order cannot be changed. The journal prescribes a maximum number of authors for manuscripts depending upon the type of manuscript, its scope and number of authors. Contributors should provide a justification, if the number of authors exceeds these limits.

Contribution Details

Contributors should provide a description of contributions made by each of them towards the manuscript. Description should be divided in following categories: design, definition of intellectual content, literature search, clinical studies, experimental studies, data acquisition, data analysis, statistical analysis, editing and manuscript review. One or more author should take responsibility for the integrity of the work as a whole from inception to published form and should act as 'guarantor'.

Conflicts of Interest/ Competing Interests

All authors of articles must disclose any and all conflicts of interest they may have with publication of the manuscript or an institution or product that is important to the outcome of the study presented. Authors should also disclose conflict of interest with products that compete with those mentioned in the manuscript.

Submission of Manuscripts

Manuscript should be in British English language style, Electronic manuscript should have double spacing The paper should be set out as follows:

(a) Title, (b) Summary, (c) Keywords below, (d) Text, (e) Acknowledgement (f) References, (g) Legend to figures and (h) Tables. Number the manuscript pages from the title page through the tables. Each of these subsections should be started on a new page in the sequence given above.

Title Page: This should contain the title of the manuscript, initials and surname and highest academic degree or diploma obtained by each author. It should also include the corresponding author, a running title of not more than 40 characters and financial support information (e.g. agency, grant number). Avoid use of abbreviations.

Summary Page: The summary abstract should either be structured (maximum 250 words) or unstructured (150 words or less) depending on the journal. Summaries include original research papers, case reports, reviews and meta-analyses and brief reports. Other contributions may be provided on a conventional manner. In any event the abstract should include the purpose, methods, results and conclusions. Editorials, correspondence, commentaries and other contributions need not carry abstracts.

Structured Summaries are of two types:

1. Abstract for original contributions, case reports and brief reports should consist of the following sections
 - Background and objective
 - Methods which should include design, subjects, materials, setting and measurements
 - Results and
 - Conclusions
2. A review article abstract (including meta analysis) should be organised into the following sections:
 - Background/purpose
 - Data source
 - Study selection
 - Data extraction
 - Results, and

- Conclusions

Keywords: Provide up to five keywords or short phrases that can be used for indexing, immediately following the abstract.

Use terms from Index Medicus Medical Subject Heading (MeSH).

Guidelines On Style: Headings in Text. Use a maximum of three levels of headings. Abbreviations should be sparingly used and only to save space in text. In a figure or table, define the abbreviation in a foot-note. List in an alphabetical order all non-standard abbreviations (with definitions). Drugs should be indicated by their generic names but not trade names except for drugs showing adverse reaction or those used in comparison. Tables should be submitted one each on separate sheets, typed double-spaced, and numbered and referred to in the text by Arabic numerals. Tables should be indicated. A brief title describing the content in the table should be supplied at the top. Give each column of the table a short heading. Explain the content of the table. For footnotes, use the following symbols in the given sequence in order from left to right or from top to bottom in the body of the table etc. *, †, ‡, §, ¶, ††, ‡‡, §§, ¶¶, †††, ‡‡‡, §§§, ¶¶¶. No internal horizontal or vertical rules should be used in the table. If a table must extend beyond a page, repeat the title followed by "cont" and repeat the table on the next page. Illustrations or photographs should be submitted in quadruplicate, and should be black and white glossy prints of very high quality. However, photographic prints are acceptable as photographic prints. Original drawings, X-rays films etc. are not acceptable. Illustrations should not be larger than an A4 (300 x 210 mm). Letters, numbers and symbols should be even and clear throughout and of sufficient size that when reduced for publication each item will still be legible. Notes should be in the respective legend and not in the figures themselves.

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Acknowledgements: Acknowledgement of general support, financial and material support, technical, secretarial help etc. should be indicated at the end of the text. Responsibility of the authors to obtain consent of those being acknowledged.

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Manuscripts must be prepared in accordance with "Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing and Publication of Scholarly Work in Clinical Medicine" (Recommendations) formerly known as the "Uniform requirements for Manuscripts submitted to Biomedical Journals" developed by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (November 2018). This is available at http://www.icmje.org/urm_main.html. The uniform requirements and specific requirements of Journal of Clinical Sciences (November 2018). Before submitting a manuscript, contributors are requested to check for the latest instructions available. The journal subscribes to manuscript reporting guidelines such as STROBE, CONSORT, PRISM etc. Please consult <https://www.equator-network.org/reporting-guidelines/> for further information. Manuscripts that conform to these guidelines are more likely to meet the journal reporting style and likely to be acceptable to the journal for publication than those that do not. **not guarantee publication.** Instructions are also available from the website of the journal (<http://www.jcsjournal.org>) and from the manuscript submission guidelines (<http://www.journalonweb.com/jcls>).

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Indicate the type of contribution in the covering letter as follows:

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Original research should concern itself with aetiology, pathogenesis, pathology, diagnosis, management and prevention of diseases in Clinical Science which impact on human health care are equally welcome in this section. This type of text should have a maximum of 4,000 words and a maximum of five figures or tables and fifteen references.

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Examples of these include unique case reports, clinical experiences, reports of adverse drug effects, and short reports of original research. The text should not exceed 1,000 words, five figures or tables and fifteen references.

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Important innovations in medical education and continuing professional improvement are welcome. Text length should not exceed 4,000 words.

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The text should not exceed 5,000 words, and should be edited before submission. Proceedings of grand rounds are also welcome in this section.

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Editorials and commentaries are normally commissioned. However, unsolicited ones are welcome and subject to routine assessment. The theme should be relevant to the journal. Maximum length, 1,000 words and no more than 20 references.

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Letters to the Editor should contain a maximum of 600 words, five references and two illustrations or tables. Letters may be on matters concerning clinical relevance or reactions to articles published in the journal. Correspondence should be typed double spaced and submitted in duplicate. All correspondence should be addressed to the Editor.

MISCELLANEOUS:

These include book reviews, and socio political issues related to medicine and personal opinion (maximum 2,000 words).

References

JOURNALS

List all authors when six or fewer; when seven or more, list first six and add et al

Standard article: Musumuta G, Okolo P. Pneumonia in Lagos Children. W A J Med 1997; 234: 45–49

Special format: Letters or abstracts:- Oshare, EO. Tetanus in Lagos (letter). Nig Med J 1988;1:301

BOOKS

List all authors or editors when six or fewer. When seven or more, list the first six and add et al.

Authors of a book: Makanemmer, EN. Immunology for Medical students. 6th ed. Lagos. Princess publisher; 1990:47

Chapter in a book: Okowo M, Daro H. meningitiss in Zaria. In Yakubu M. Nmadu P: (eds). Medicine in the Tropics. Vol 5, Lagos, Prince publisher; 1990:47

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ETHICAL CONSIDERATION

1. Consent:

All manuscripts reporting experiments in human beings must be accompanied by a statement in the method section that the authors have an ethics committee. If investigators have no access to an ethics committee, the principles outlined in the Helsinki Declaration should be followed. If full face photographs are to be used, such photographs must be accompanied by a signed or thumb printed informed consent form. Experimenters must also follow the institution's guidelines on the use of laboratory animals in research.

2. Criteria for Authorship:

The criteria for authorship as expressed in the uniform requirements¹ which state that "authorship credit should be based only on substantial contributions to the work, including:

- conception and design, or analysis and interpretation of data.
- drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content.
- final revision of the version to be published"
- Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are properly investigated and resolved

Collecting and assembling data reported in a paper are not, by themselves, qualifications for authorship. The corollary also should not be overlooked. Substantial contributions to the work and authorship should not be excluded.

Conflicts of Interest: Authors should list all financial support, including equipment and drugs on the title page. Details of financial interest that might be considered a conflict of interest should be given in the covering letter. Referees (assessors of articles) should also inform the editor of any possible conflict of interest.

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Reporting Guidelines

Reports of randomized clinical trials should present information on all major study elements, including the protocol, assignment of interventions (allocation to treatment groups), and the method of masking (blinding), based on the CONSORT Statement (<http://www.consort-statement.org>).

Reporting Guidelines for Specific Study Designs

Guideline	Type of Study	Source
STROBE	Observational studies including cohort, case-control, and cross-sectional studies	https://www.strobe-statement.org/index.php?id=available-checklists
CONSORT	Randomized controlled trials	http://www.consort-statement.org
SQUIRE	Quality improvement projects	http://squire-statement.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.ViewPage&PageID=471
PRISMA	Systematic reviews and	http://prisma-statement.org/PRISMAStatement/Checklist.aspx

	meta-analyses	
STARD	Studies of diagnostic accuracy	https://pubs.rsna.org/doi/full/10.1148/radiol.2015151516
CARE	Case Reports	https://www.care-statement.org/checklist
AGREE	Clinical Practice Guidelines	https://www.agreetrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/AGREE-Reporting-Checklist-2016.pdf

The reporting guidelines for other type of studies can be found at <https://www.equator-network.org/reporting-guidelines/>.

Documents Cited

1. International Committee of Medical Journal Editors. Uniform requirements for manuscript submitted to Biomedical Journals. *BMJ*, 1997; 315: 270-274
2. The 41st World Medical Assembly. Declaration of Helsinki's Recommendations guiding Physicians in Biomedical Research and involving Human Subjects. *WMAJ*, 1990; 24: 606

Illustrations (Figures)

- Upload the images in JPEG format. The file size should be within 1024 kb in size while uploading.
- Figures should be numbered consecutively according to the order in which they have been first cited in the text.
- Labels, numbers, and symbols should be clear and of uniform size. The lettering for figures should be large enough to be legible after reduction.
- Symbols, arrows, or letters used in photomicrographs should contrast with the background and should be marked neatly with transfer type.
- Titles and detailed explanations belong in the legends for illustrations not on the illustrations themselves.
- When graphs, scatter-grams or histograms are submitted the numerical data on which they are based should also be supplied.
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- If photographs of individuals are used, their pictures must be accompanied by written permission to use the photograph.
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- 2) If the manuscript contains patient images that preclude anonymity, or a description that has obvious indication to the identity of the patient, informed consent should be indicated in the manuscript.

Sending a revised manuscript

The revised version of the manuscript should be submitted online in a manner similar to that used for submission of the manuscript for the first time. The "First Page" or "Covering Letter" file while submitting a revised version. When submitting a revised manuscript, contributors are requested to include a point clarification at the beginning in the revised file itself. In addition, they are expected to mark the changes as underlined or colored text in the manuscript.

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Original Article, Review Article: US \$ 120 (for overseas authors), INR 9078 (for authors from India)

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Checklist

Covering letter

- Signed by all contributors
- Previous publication / presentations mentioned
- Source of funding mentioned
- Conflicts of interest disclosed

Authors

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- Double spacing
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- Title page contains all the desired information
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- Headings in title case (not ALL CAPITALS)
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- Numerals at the beginning of the sentence spelt out
- Check the manuscript for spelling, grammar and punctuation errors
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Tables and figures

- No repetition of data in tables and graphs and in text
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