

# The American Journal of Medicine

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## Guide for authors

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## About the journal

### Aims and scope

Official Publication of the [Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine](#)

*The American Journal of Medicine* - "The Green Journal" - publishes original clinical research of interest to physicians in **internal medicine**, both in academia and community-based practice. *AJM* is the official journal of the [Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine](#), a prestigious group comprising internal medicine department chairs at more than 125 medical schools across the U.S. Each issue carries useful reviews as well as seminal articles of immediate interest to the practicing physician, including peer-reviewed, original scientific studies that have direct clinical significance and position papers on health care issues, medical education, and public policy.

*AJM* publishes studies performed by multi-center groups in the various disciplines of **medicine**, including clinical trials and cohort studies from large patient populations, specifically:

- Phase I, phase II, and phase III studies performed under the auspices of groups such as general clinical research centers and cooperative oncology groups.
- Reports of patients with common presentations or diseases, especially studies that delineate the natural history and therapy of important conditions.
- Reviews oriented to the practicing internist and diagnostic puzzles, complete with images, from a variety of specialties.
- Careful physiological or pharmacological studies that explain normal function or the body's response to disease.
- Analytic reviews such as meta-analyses and decision analyses, that use a formal structure to summarize an important field.

### Article types

# The American Journal of Medicine

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## Clinical Research Study

## *Description*

Abstract

Structured abstract required (use only the following subheads: Purpose, Objective, or Background; Methods; Results; Conclusions). The maximum word count for structured abstracts is 250 words. If your manuscript is accepted for AJM Online, only the abstract will be printed in the journal. Please make sure that your abstract concisely explains your manuscript.

Word Limit

3000 words, including abstract, text, and acknowledgements, but NOT including tables, references, or the title page. Please limit the number of references to approximately 40.

Cover Letter

State type of manuscript, the title, and the authors. Confirm that the manuscript is original research that has not been published and is not under consideration elsewhere. Confirm that all of the authors participated in the preparation of the manuscript. Confirm that you have permission to reprint any figures or tables that were initially printed elsewhere

Title Page

The title page is the first page of your manuscript text file. The title page should include: the title of the manuscript; a complete list of authors, their degrees, and their academic affiliations; full contact information for the corresponding author; funding source(s); conflict of interest statement for all authors; verification that all authors had access to the data and a role in writing the manuscript; article type; key words; and running head.

Clinical Significance

In a separate document, include a maximum of 3-4 bullet points that succinctly and specifically explain the clinical significance of your manuscript (findings of your study). Bullets should provide readers with your manuscript's "take home" messages for practicing internists. Do not restate information that would be considered common

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## Conflict of Interest

In a separate document, state any potential conflicts of interest for each author or confirm that there are none. Each author should sign the document. Electronic signatures are acceptable, typed signatures are not.

## Focus

The manuscript should focus on new research that is clinically relevant to the practicing internist. To qualify as a Clinical Research Study, the manuscript must detail research that involved more than 100 subjects. Studies with 100 or fewer subjects should be submitted as Brief Observations. If your manuscript is a case study, it should be submitted as a Clinical Communication to the Editor. Metaanalyses should be submitted as Clinical Research Studies

## Photos/Illustrations

300 dpi (or greater) tiff or jpeg files are required for publication. If high resolution images are not available, your manuscript may be rejected for this reason. Do not use Word, Power Point or PDF format for photographs or illustrations. No extra charge is levied for full-color figures.

## Line Art Figures

Line art figures can be submitted in Microsoft Word or Power Point. Any text included in a figure must be at least 12 point but not more than 14 point. Similar figures should be formatted in the same fashion. No extra charge is levied for full-color figures.

## Tables/Figures

No table or figure limit (within reason). The editors reserve the right to require deletion of tables or figures that are deemed unnecessary. Provide legends for all Tables and Figures

## References

Superscript all references in numerical order in the text. Place references as endnotes in order of appearance in the text. Make sure all references listed in the endnotes are cited in the text.

## Other

Manuscript titles should run to no more than 20 words in length.

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Use the American Medical Association Manual of Style as a reference.

Avoid overuse of acronyms in the text. Use only well-known acronyms (ie, HIV, STD, CT, MRI, DNA, COPD, etc.) Manuscripts with an overabundance of acronyms will be sent back to the author for correction.

If English is not your native language, AJM editors strongly encourage you to have your text edited by a professional translator or native English speaker before submission. (This will most likely eliminate an extra revision step.)

Manuscripts may be accepted for print or online-only publication. The editors will determine the format.

## **Review**

## ***Description***

Abstract

Unstructured abstract is required. The maximum word count is 175 words. If your manuscript is accepted for AJM Online, only the abstract will be printed in the journal. Please make sure that your abstract concisely explains your manuscript.

Word Limit

3000 words, including abstract, text, and acknowledgements, but NOT including tables, references, or the title page. Please limit the number of references to approximately 40.

Cover Letter

State type of manuscript, the title, and the authors. Confirm that the manuscript is original research that has not been published and is not under consideration elsewhere. Confirm that all of the authors participated in the preparation of the manuscript. Confirm that you have permission to reprint any figures or tables that were initially printed elsewhere.

Title Page

The title page is the first page of your manuscript text file.

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information for the corresponding author; funding source(s); conflict of interest statement for all authors; verification that all authors had access to the data and a role in writing the manuscript; article type; key words; and running head.

## Clinical Significance

In a separate document, include a maximum of 3-4 bullet points that succinctly and specifically explain the clinical significance of your manuscript (findings of your study). Bullets should provide readers with your manuscript's "take home" messages for practicing internists. Do not restate information that would be considered common knowledge. Do not call for additional research in this area. (Maximum 70 words.)

## Conflict of Interest

In a separate document, state any potential conflicts of interest for each author or confirm that there are none. Each author should sign the document. Electronic signatures are acceptable, typed signatures are not.

## Focus

Focus the review on a topic that is clinically relevant to the practicing internist. Reviews should include information that will help physicians improve patient care, augment patient education, incorporate quality guidelines into their practices, or initiate practice change. Meta-analyses should be submitted as Clinical Research Studies.

## Photos/Illustrations

300 dpi (or greater) tiff or jpeg files are required for publication. If high resolution images are not available, your manuscript may be rejected for this reason. Do not use Word, Power Point or PDF format for photographs or illustrations. No extra charge is levied for full-color figures.

## Line Art Figures

Line art figures can be submitted in Microsoft Word or Power Point. Any type that is included in a figure must be at least 12 point but not more than 14 point. Similar figures

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## Tables/Figures

No table or figure limit (within reason). The editors reserve the right to require deletion of tables or figures that are deemed unnecessary. Provide legends for all

## References

Superscript all references in numerical order in the text. Place references as endnotes in order of appearance in the text. Make sure all references listed in the endnotes are cited in the text.

## Other

Manuscript titles should run to no more than 20 words in length.

Provide your manuscript as a Microsoft Word document. Double space all text.

Use the American Medical Association Manual of Style as a reference.

Avoid overuse of acronyms in the text. Use only well-known acronyms (ie, HIV, STD, CT, MRI, DNA, COPD, etc.) Manuscripts with an overabundance of acronyms will be sent back to the author for correction.

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Manuscripts may be accepted for print or online-only publication. The editors will determine the format.

## **Commentary**

## ***Description***

## Abstract

No.

## Word Limit

1500 words including text, references, and acknowledgements but not the title page.

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elsewhere. Confirm that all of the authors participated in the preparation of the manuscript. Confirm that you have permission to reprint any figures or tables that were initially printed elsewhere

## Title Page

The title page is the first page of your manuscript text file. The title page should include: the title of the manuscript; a complete list of authors, their degrees, and their academic affiliations; full contact information for the corresponding author; funding source(s); conflict of interest statement for all authors; verification that all authors had access to the data and a role in writing the manuscript; article type; key words; and running head.

## Conflict of Interest

In a separate document, state any potential conflicts of interest for each author or confirm that there are none. Each author should sign the document. Electronic signatures are acceptable, typed signatures are not.

## Focus

Commentaries can be an expression of the author's observations or opinion on topics in contemporary medical policy/issues or in medical science; they may focus on one specific point or refer to another article or articles in the current issue of the journal. Commentaries can be longer, more complex, and more broad-based than a simple editorial. They can include a small number of data, tables, figures, and references.

## Photos/Illustrations

300 dpi (or greater) tiff or jpeg files are required for publication. If high resolution images are not available, your manuscript may be rejected for this reason. Do not use Word, Power Point or PDF format for photographs or illustrations. No extra charge is levied for full-color figures

## Line Art Figures

Line art figures can be submitted in Microsoft Word or Power Point. Any type that is included in a figure must be at least 12 point but not more than 14 point. Similar figures

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## Tables/Figures

No table or figure limit (within reason). The editors reserve the right to require deletion of tables or figures that are deemed unnecessary. Provide legends for all Tables and Figures

## References

Superscript all references in numerical order in the text. Place references as endnotes in order of appearance in the text. Make sure all references listed in the endnotes are cited in the text.

## Other

Manuscript titles should run to no more than 10-12 words in length.

Provide your manuscript as a Microsoft Word document. Double space all text.

Use the American Medical Association Manual of Style as a reference. Avoid overuse of acronyms in the text. Use only well-known acronyms (ie, HIV, STD, CT, MRI, DNA, COPD, etc.) Manuscripts with an overabundance of acronyms will be sent back to the author for correction.

If English is not your native language, AJM editors strongly encourage you to have your text edited by a professional translator or native English speaker before submission. (This will most likely eliminate an extra revision step.)

Manuscripts may be accepted for print or online-only publication. The editors will determine the format.

## **Images in Dermatology, Diagnostic Dilemma, ECG Image of the Month, and Images in Radiology.**

### ***Description***

## Abstract

No.

## Word Limit

1500 words including text, references, and acknowledgements but not the title page;

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elsewhere. Confirm that all of the authors participated in the preparation of the manuscript. Confirm that you have permission to reprint any figures or tables that were initially printed elsewhere.

## Title Page

The title page is the first page of your manuscript text file. The title page should include: the title of the manuscript; a complete list of authors, their degrees, and their academic affiliations; full contact information for the corresponding author; funding source(s); conflict of interest statement for all authors; verification that all authors had access to the data and a role in writing the manuscript; article type; key words; and running head.

## Conflict of Interest

In a separate document, state any potential conflicts of interest for each author or confirm that there are none. Each author should sign the document. Electronic signatures are acceptable, typed signatures are not.

## Focus

These discussion sections generally focus on the experience of one patient who had an unusual or interesting diagnosis. Photographic images are a key element.

## Format

Organize the text using the following headings: Presentation (why did the patient seek treatment?); Assessment (description of diagnostic test and findings); Diagnosis (include the diagnostic decision and what was ruled out); and Management (how the condition was treated).

## Photos/Illustrations

At least 1 photograph is required with the submission. 300 dpi (or greater) tiff or jpeg files are required for publication. If high resolution images are not available, your manuscript may be rejected for this reason. Do not use Word, Power Point or PDF format for photographs or illustrations. No extra charge is levied for full-color figures.

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more than 14 point. Similar figures should be formatted in the same fashion. No extra charge is levied for full-color figures.

## Tables/Figures

Limit: 4 tables, figures, photographs or illustrations. The editors reserve the right to require deletion of tables or figures that are deemed unnecessary. Provide legends for all Tables and Figures.

## References

Superscript all references in numerical order in the text. Place references as endnotes in order of appearance in the text. Make sure all references listed in the endnotes are cited in the text.

## Other

Manuscript titles should be no more than 10-12 words in length.

Provide your manuscript as a Microsoft Word document. Double space all text.

Use the American Medical Association Manual of Style as a reference.

Avoid overuse of acronyms in the text. Use only well-known acronyms (ie, HIV, STD, CT, MRI, DNA, COPD, etc.) Manuscripts with an overabundance of acronyms will be sent back to the author for correction.

If English is not your native language, AJM editors strongly encourage you to have your text edited by a professional translator or native English speaker before submission. (This will most likely eliminate an extra revision step.)

Manuscripts may be accepted for print or online-only publication. The editors will determine the format.

## Clinical Effectiveness

## *Description*

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Word Limit	1000-1200 words including text, references, and acknowledgements but not the title page.
Cover Letter	State type of manuscript, the title, and the authors. Confirm that the manuscript is original research that has not been published and is not under consideration elsewhere. Confirm that all of the authors participated in the preparation of the manuscript. Confirm that you have permission to reprint any figures or tables that were initially printed elsewhere.
Title Page	The title page is the first page of your manuscript text file. The title page should include: the title of the manuscript; a complete list of authors, their degrees, and their academic affiliations; full contact information for the corresponding author; funding source(s); conflict of interest statement for all authors; verification that all authors had access to the data and a role in writing the manuscript; article type; key words; and running head.
Conflict of Interest	In a separate document, state any potential conflicts of interest for each author or confirm that there are none. Each author should sign the document. Electronic signatures are acceptable, typed signatures are not.
Focus	Clinical Effectiveness submissions should begin with a brief introduction or illustrative case that outlines an in-patient or out-patient quality control challenge. The bulk of the manuscript should describe what steps were taken to improve the situation and how effectiveness was measured. Clinical Effectiveness submissions are required to include at least one table that clearly and concisely outlines the steps that were taken to improve healthcare quality
Format	Clinical effectiveness submissions have no set format beyond the basic building blocks of a regular article (ie, title, manuscript text, subheads as needed, references,

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Photos/Illustrations

No photographs or illustrations

Line Art Figures

Line art figures can be submitted in Microsoft Word or Power Point. Any type that is included in a figure must be at least 12 point but not more than 14 point. Similar figures should be formatted in the same fashion. No extra charge is levied for full-color figures. Limit: 2 tables or figures.

Tables/Figures

Clinical Effectiveness manuscripts should include at least 1 table highlighting practical quality control measures that can be implemented in either in-patient or out-patient practice. Limit: 2 tables or figures. Provide legends for all Tables and Figures

References

Superscript all references in numerical order in the text. Place references as endnotes in order of appearance in the text. Make sure all references listed in the endnotes are cited in the text.

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Provide your manuscript as a Microsoft Word document. Double space all text.

Use the American Medical Association Manual of Style as a reference.

Avoid overuse of acronyms in the text. Use only well-known acronyms (ie, HIV, STD, CT, MRI, DNA, COPD, etc.) Manuscripts with an overabundance of acronyms will be sent back to the author for correction.

If English is not your native language, AJM editors strongly encourage you to have your text edited by a professional translator or native English speaker before submission. (This will most likely eliminate an extra revision step.)

Manuscripts may be accepted for print or online-only publication. The editors will determine the format.

## **Medical Humanities**

## ***Description***

Abstract

No.

Word Limit

680 words including text, references, and acknowledgements but not the title page. Further editing may be required to make sure the final article does not exceed one typeset page

Cover Letter

State type of manuscript, the title, and the authors. Confirm that the manuscript is original research that has not been published and is not under consideration elsewhere. Confirm that all of the authors participated in the preparation of the manuscript. Confirm that you have permission to reprint any figures or tables that were initially printed elsewhere.

Title Page

The title page is the first page of your manuscript text file. The title page should include: the title of the manuscript; a complete list of authors, their degrees, and their academic affiliations; full contact

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a role in writing the manuscript; article type; key words; and running head.

## Conflict of Interest

In a separate document, state any potential conflicts of interest for each author or confirm that there are none. Each author should sign the document. Electronic signatures are acceptable, typed signatures are not.

## Focus

Medical humanities submissions should focus on medicine in art and literature. The goal is to show how writing and reading can enrich physicians' lives and improve the practice of medicine by offering reflection on the doctor-patient relationship and the art of healing

## Format

Medical humanities submissions have no set format beyond the basic building blocks of a regular article (ie, title, manuscript text, subheads as needed, references, and author information.) Author(s) name(s) and affiliation(s) appear at the end of the text

## Photos/Illustrations

300 dpi (or greater) tiff files are required for publication. If high resolution images are not available, your manuscript may be rejected for this reason. Do not use Word, Power Point or PDF format for photographs or illustrations. Color photographs and illustrations will be printed free of charge with these types of manuscripts. Limit: 1 table, figure, photograph or illustration

## Line Art Figures/ Tables

Line art figures can be submitted in Microsoft Word or Power Point.

Any type that is included in a figure must be at least 12 point but not more than 14 point. Similar figures should be formatted in the same fashion. No extra charge is levied for full-color figures. Limit: 1 table, figure, photograph or illustration. Provide legends for all Tables and Figures.

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in the endnotes are cited in the text.

Other

Manuscript titles should run to no more than 10 words in length.

Provide your manuscript as a Microsoft Word document. Double space all text.

Use the American Medical Association Manual of Style as a reference.

Avoid overuse of acronyms in the text. Use only well-known acronyms (ie, HIV, STD, CT, MRI, DNA, COPD, etc.) Manuscripts with an overabundance of acronyms will be sent back to the author for correction.

If English is not your native language, AJM editors strongly encourage you to have your text edited by a professional translator or native English speaker before submission. (This will most likely eliminate an extra revision step.)

Manuscripts may be accepted for print or online-only publication. The editors will determine the format.

## **Advancing High Value Health Care**

### ***Description***

Abstract

No.

Word Limit

2500 words including text, references, and acknowledgements but not the title page

Cover Letter

State type of manuscript, the title, and the authors. Confirm that the manuscript is original research that has not been published and is not under consideration elsewhere. Confirm that all of the authors participated in the preparation of the manuscript. Confirm that you have permission to reprint any figures or tables that were initially printed elsewhere.

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and their academic affiliations; full contact information for the corresponding author; funding source(s); conflict of interest statement for all authors; verification that all authors had access to the data and a role in writing the manuscript; article type; key words; and running head

## Conflict of Interest

In a separate document, state any potential conflicts of interest for each author or confirm that there are none. Each author should sign the document. Electronic signatures are acceptable, typed signatures are not.

## Focus

The column will showcase quality improvement initiatives designed to increase appropriateness of resource utilization by reducing unnecessary diagnostic tests, procedures, treatments or other wasteful practice; we may also publish concise literature summaries of initiatives targeting a specific test, procedure, or treatment

## Format

These articles have no set format beyond the basic building blocks of a regular article (ie, title, manuscript text, subheads as needed, references, and author information.) Author(s) name(s) and affiliation(s) appear at the end of the text.

## Photos/Illustrations

300 dpi (or greater) tiff files are required for publication. If high resolution images are not available, your manuscript may be rejected for this reason. Do not use Word, Power Point or PDF format for photographs or illustrations. No extra charge is levied for full-color figures.

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more than 14 point. Similar figures should be formatted in the same fashion. No extra charge is levied for full-color figures. Limit: 1 table, figure, photograph or illustration. Provide legends for all Tables and Figures.

## Tables/Figures

No table or figure limit (within reason). The editors reserve the right to require deletion of tables or figures that are deemed unnecessary

## References

Superscript all references in numerical order in the text. Place references as endnotes in order of appearance in the text. Make sure all references listed in the endnotes are cited in the text.

## Other

Manuscript titles should run to no more than 10-12 words in length.

Provide your manuscript as a Microsoft Word document. Double space all text.

Use the American Medical Association Manual of Style as a reference.

Avoid overuse of acronyms in the text. Use only well-known acronyms (ie, HIV, STD, CT, MRI, DNA, COPD, etc.) Manuscripts with an overabundance of acronyms will be sent back to the author for correction.

If English is not your native language, AJM editors strongly encourage you to have your text edited by a professional translator or native English speaker before submission. (This will most likely eliminate an extra revision step.)

Manuscripts may be accepted for print or online-only publication. The editors will determine the format.

## **Personomics**

## ***Description***

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Word Limit	1500 words including text, references, and acknowledgements but not the title page.
Cover Letter	State type of manuscript, the title, and the authors. Confirm that the manuscript is original research that has not been published and is not under consideration elsewhere. Confirm that all of the authors participated in the preparation of the manuscript. Confirm that you have permission to reprint any figures or tables that were initially printed elsewhere
Title Page	The title page is the first page of your manuscript text file. The title page should include: the title of the manuscript; a complete list of authors, their degrees, and their academic affiliations; full contact information for the corresponding author; funding source(s); conflict of interest statement for all authors; verification that all authors had access to the data and a role in writing the manuscript; article type; key words; and running head.
Conflict of Interest	In a separate document, state any potential conflicts of interest for each author or confirm that there are none. Each author should sign the document. Electronic signatures are acceptable, typed signatures are not.
Focus	The column will provide examples of how knowing the patient as a person helped solve a diagnostic enigma, designed a treatment plan for a given individual, fortified the patient's dignity, illustrated the hazards of making assumptions about people, or added awe and wonder to the daily work of a doctor.
Format	These articles have no set format beyond the basic building blocks of a regular article (ie, title, manuscript text, subheads as needed, references, and author information.) Author(s) name(s) and affiliation(s) appear at the end of the text

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reason. Do not use Word, Power Point or PDF format for photographs or illustrations. Color photographs and illustrations will be printed free of charge with these types of manuscripts.

## Line Art Figures

Line art figures can be submitted in Microsoft Word or Power Point. Any type that is included in a figure must be at least 12 point but not more than 14 point. Similar figures should be formatted in the same fashion. No extra charge is levied for full-color figures.

## Tables/Figures

No more than one or two tables or figures. The editors reserve the right to require deletion of tables or figures that are deemed unnecessary. Provide legends for all Tables and Figures.

## References

Superscript all references in numerical order in the text. Place references as endnotes in order of appearance in the text. Make sure all references listed in the endnotes are cited in the text.

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Provide your manuscript as a Microsoft Word document. Double space all text.

Use the American Medical Association Manual of Style as a reference.

Avoid overuse of acronyms in the text. Use only well-known acronyms (ie, HIV, STD, CT, MRI, DNA, COPD, etc.) Manuscripts with an overabundance of acronyms will be sent back to the author for correction.

If English is not your native language, AJM editors strongly encourage you to have your text edited by a professional translator or native English speaker before submission. (This will most likely eliminate an extra revision step.)

Manuscripts may be accepted for print or online-only publication. The editors will determine the format.

## **Clinical Communication to the Editor**

## ***Description***

Abstract

No

Word Limit

650 words including text, references, and acknowledgements but not the title page. Further editing may be required to make sure the final article does not exceed one typeset page

Cover Letter

State type of manuscript, the title, and the authors. Confirm that the manuscript is original research that has not been published and is not under consideration elsewhere. Confirm that all of the authors participated in the preparation of the manuscript. Confirm that you have permission to reprint any figures or tables that were initially printed elsewhere.

Title Page

The title page is the first page of your manuscript text file. The title page should include: the title of the manuscript; a complete list of authors, their degrees, and their academic affiliations; full contact

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a role in writing the manuscript; article type; key words; and running head.

## Conflict of Interest

In a separate document, state any potential conflicts of interest for each author or confirm that there are none. Each author should sign the document. Electronic signatures are acceptable, typed signatures are not.

## Focus

Clinical Communications to the Editor (CCE) are case reports, often involving only one patient. CCE submissions have no set format beyond the basic building blocks of a regular article (ie, title, manuscript text, subheads as needed, references, and author information.) Author(s) name(s) and affiliation(s) appear at the end of the text. CCEs should begin with the salutation "To the Editor".

## Photos/Illustrations

300 dpi (or greater) tiff files are required for publication. If high resolution images are not available, your manuscript may be rejected for this reason. Do not use Word, Power Point or PDF format for photographs or illustrations. Color photographs and illustrations will be printed free of charge with these types of manuscripts. Limit: 1 table, figure, photograph or illustration

## Line Art Figures/ Tables

Line art figures can be submitted in Microsoft Word or Power Point. Any type that is included in a figure must be at least 12 point but not more than 14 point. Similar figures should be formatted in the same fashion. No extra charge is levied for full-color figures. Limit: 1 table, figure, photograph or illustration. Provide legends for all Tables and Figures.

## References

Superscript all references in numerical order in the text. Place references as endnotes in order of appearance in the text. Make sure all references listed in the endnotes are cited in the text.

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Use the American Medical Association Manual of Style as a reference.

Avoid overuse of acronyms in the text. Use only well-known acronyms (ie, HIV, STD, CT, MRI, DNA, COPD, etc.) Manuscripts with an overabundance of acronyms will be sent back to the author for correction.

If English is not your native language, AJM editors strongly encourage you to have your text edited by a professional translator or native English speaker before submission. (This will most likely eliminate an extra revision step.)

Manuscripts may be accepted for print or online-only publication. The editors will determine the format.

## **Brief Observation**

Abstract

## ***Description***

Structured abstract required (use only the following subheads: Purpose, Objective, or Background; Methods; Results; Conclusions). The maximum word count for structured abstracts is 250 words. If your manuscript is accepted for AJM Online, only the abstract will be printed in the journal. Please make sure that your abstract concisely explains your manuscript.

Word Limit

1750 words including abstract, text, references, and acknowledgements but not the title page

Cover Letter

State type of manuscript, the title, and the authors. Confirm that the manuscript is original research that has not been published and is not under consideration elsewhere. Confirm that all of the authors participated in the preparation of the manuscript. Confirm that you have permission to reprint any figures or tables that were initially printed elsewhere.

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and their academic affiliations; full contact information for the corresponding author; funding source(s); conflict of interest statement for all authors; verification that all authors had access to the data and a role in writing the manuscript; article type; key words; and running head.

## Clinical Significance

In a separate document, include a maximum of 3-4 bullet points that succinctly and specifically explain the clinical significance of your manuscript (findings of your study). Bullets should provide readers with your manuscript's "take home" messages for practicing internists. Do not restate information that would be considered common knowledge. Do not call for additional research in this area. (Maximum 70 words.)

## Conflict of Interest

In a separate document, state any potential conflicts of interest for each author or confirm that there are none. Each author should sign the document. Electronic signatures are acceptable, typed signatures are not.

## Focus

Brief Observations focus on research studies that included 100 or fewer subjects. If your manuscript is a case study, it should be submitted as a Clinical Communication to the Editor.

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State type of manuscript, the title, and the authors. Confirm that the manuscript is original research that has not been published and is not under consideration

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In a separate document, state any potential conflicts of interest for each author or confirm that there are none. Each author should sign the document. Electronic signatures are acceptable, typed signatures are not.

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- Abstracts must be able to stand alone as abstracts are often presented separately from the article.
- Avoid references. If any are essential to include, ensure that you cite the author(s) and year(s).
- Avoid non-standard or uncommon abbreviations. If any are essential to include, ensure they are defined within your abstract at first mention.

## Keywords

You are required to provide 1 to 7 keywords for indexing purposes. Keywords should be written in English. Please try to avoid keywords consisting of multiple words (using "and" or "of").

We recommend that you only use abbreviations in keywords if they are firmly established in the field.

## Highlights

You are required to provide article highlights at submission.

Highlights are a short collection of bullet points that should capture the novel results of your research as well as any new methods used during your study. Highlights will help increase the discoverability of your article via search engines. Some guidelines:

- Submit highlights as a separate editable file in the online submission system with the word "highlights" included in the file name.
- Highlights should consist of 3 to 5 bullet points, each a maximum of 85 characters, including spaces.

We encourage you to view example [article highlights](#) and read about the benefits of their inclusion.

## Graphical abstract

You are required to provide a graphical abstract at submission.

The graphical abstract summarizes the contents of your article in a concise, pictorial, professional form, highlighting important aspects of the research. It is designed to appeal to an interdisciplinary audience, and draw more attention to your online article. Some guidelines:

- Ensure you have obtained the necessary permission to include any third party owned material in a graphical abstract.
- Use of generative AI or AI-assisted tools in the production of graphical abstracts must align with Elsevier's [GenAI Policies for Journals](#).
- Submit your graphical abstract as a separate file in the online submission system.
- Ensure the image is 531 x 1328 pixels (h x w) or proportionally more, and is readable at a size of 5 x 13 cm.
- Preferred file types for graphical abstracts are TIFF, EPS, PDF or MS Office files.

More information, examples and a template can be found in the [graphical abstract guidelines](#).

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- Place tables next to the relevant text or on a separate page(s) at the end of your article.
- Cite all tables in the manuscript text.
- Number tables consecutively according to their appearance in the text.
- Please provide captions along with the tables.
- Place any table notes below the table body.
- Avoid vertical rules and shading within table cells.

We recommend that you use tables sparingly, ensuring that any data presented in tables is not duplicating results described elsewhere in the article.

## Figures, images and artwork

Figures, images, diagrams and other graphical media (artwork) must be supplied as separate files along with the manuscript, in line with these [artwork and media instructions](#). Some excerpts:

When submitting artwork:

- Cite all images in the manuscript text.
- Number images according to the order they appear within your article.
- Submit each image as a separate file using a logical naming convention for your files (for example, Figure\_1, Figure\_2 etc).
- Text graphics may be embedded in the text at the appropriate position. If you are working with LaTeX, text graphics may also be embedded in the file.

## Captions

All artwork must have a caption. A caption should consist of a brief title (not displayed on the figure itself) and a description of the image. Keep the amount of text in any image to a minimum, though any symbol or abbreviation should be explained.

Read how to add captions to your submission [here](#).

## Formats

When your artwork is finalized, "save as" or convert your electronic artwork to the formats listed below taking into account the given resolution requirements for line drawings, halftones, and line/halftone combinations:

- Vector drawings: Save as EPS or PDF files embedding the font or saving the text as "graphics."
- Color or grayscale photographs (halftones): Save as TIFF, JPG or PNG files using a minimum of 300 dpi (for single column width: min. 1063 pixels, full page width: 2244 pixels).

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- Combinations bitmapped line/halftones (color or grayscale): Save as TIFF, JPG or PNG files using a minimum of 500 dpi (for single column: min. 1772 pixels, full page width: 3740 pixels).

Please do not submit:

- Files that are too low in resolution.
- Artwork where text is disproportionately small compared to the image size, as text may become unreadable.
- Different images or graphs combined into one, as this affects accessibility

## Color artwork

If you submit usable color figures with your accepted article, we will ensure that they appear in color online.

Please ensure that color images are accessible to all, including those with impaired color vision. Learn more about [color and web accessibility](#).

## Generative AI and Figures, images and other artwork

Please read our policy on the use of generative AI and AI-assisted tools in figures, images and artwork, which can be found in Elsevier's [GenAI Policies for Journals](#). This policy states:

- AI tools may be used to support the creation of explanatory images (such as flow charts, conceptual diagrams, or schematic illustrations)
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- AI tools must not be used to create or alter images that represent primary observed or experimental data (such as western blots, microscopy images, histology images, or patient images) that were not directly obtained in the research. This includes adjustments to brightness, contrast, or color balance, which should only be done using established image processing software.
- This policy does not prevent the use of AI tools in formal research design or research methods (such as in AI-assisted imaging approaches used for collection and/or interpretation of the underlying research data or predictive modelling of clinical outcomes based on patient data).

Authors are responsible for ensuring the accuracy and originality of all images submitted for publication. If you used generative AI tools to create images in your manuscript, you should disclose this in each image caption as well as in the general Generative AI disclosure statement.

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We encourage the use of supplementary materials such as applications, images and sound clips to enhance research. Some guidelines:

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- Cite all supplementary files in the manuscript text.

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- After submission supplementary files can only be added or replaced in the revision stage of the editorial process.
- Be aware that all supplementary materials provided will appear online in the exact same way as received. These files will not be checked, formatted or typeset by the production team.

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This journal accepts video material and animation sequences to support and enhance your scientific research. We encourage you to include links to video or animation files within articles. Some guidelines:

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- Clearly label files ensuring the given file name is directly related to the file content.
- Provide files in one of our [recommended file formats](#). Files should be within our preferred maximum file size of 150 MB per file, 1 GB in total.
- Provide "stills" for each of your files. These will be used as standard icons to personalize the link to your video data. You can choose any frame from your video or animation or make a separate image.
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For more detailed instructions, we recommend that you read our guidelines on [submitting video content to be included in the body of an article](#).

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We are committed to supporting the storage of, access to and discovery of research data, and our [research data policy](#) sets out the principles guiding how we work with the research community to support a more efficient and transparent research process.

Research data refers to the results of observations or experimentation that validate research findings, which may also include software, code, models, algorithms, protocols, methods and other useful materials related to the project.

Please read our guidelines on [sharing research data](#) for more information on depositing, sharing and using research data and other relevant research materials.

### Research data deposit, citation and linking

For this journal, **Option B** instructions from our [research data guidelines](#) apply. This means that you are **encouraged** to:

- Deposit your research data in a relevant data repository.

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## Data statement

To foster transparency, you are encouraged to state the availability of any data at submission.

Ensuring data is available may be a requirement of your funding body or institution. If your data is unavailable to access or unsuitable to post, you can state the reason why (e.g., your research data includes sensitive or confidential information such as patient data) during the submission process. This statement will appear with your published article on ScienceDirect.

Read more about the importance and benefits of providing a [data statement](#).

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Linking to the data underlying your work increases your exposure and may lead to new collaborations. It also provides readers with a better understanding of the described research.

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- Provide a link to your dataset when prompted during the online submission process.
- For some data repositories, a repository banner will automatically appear next to your published article on ScienceDirect.
- You can also link relevant data or entities within the text of your article through the use of identifiers. Use the following format: Database: 12345 (e.g. TAIR: AT1G01020; CCDC: 734053; PDB: 1XFN).

Learn more about [linking research data and research articles in ScienceDirect](#).

## Co-submission of related data, methods or protocols

You are encouraged to publish a description of your research data, methods, or protocols related to your regular article as a co-submission article in [Data in Brief](#) or [MethodsX](#).

This co-submission can be submitted at the same time as your regular manuscript submission to this journal. If both your regular and co-submitted manuscripts are accepted for publication, they will be linked together on ScienceDirect, thereby promoting research reproducibility, interoperability, and open science.

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## Article structure

### Article sections

Divide your manuscript into clearly defined sections covering all essential elements using headings.

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Corresponding authors are required to acknowledge co-author contributions using [CRediT \(Contributor Roles Taxonomy\)](#) roles:

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## References

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Any references cited within your article should also be present in your reference list and vice versa. Some guidelines:

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- We recommend that you do not include unpublished results and personal communications in your reference list, though you may mention them in the text of your article.
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### Reference format

This journal does not set strict requirements on reference formatting at submission. Some guidelines:

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- Author names, journal or book titles, chapter or article titles, year of publication, volume numbers, article numbers or pagination must be included, where applicable.

Our journal reference style will be applied to your article after acceptance, at proof stage. If required, at this stage we will ask you to correct or supply any missing reference data.

### Reference style

Indicate references by adding a number within square brackets in the text. You can refer to author names within your text, but you must always give the reference number, e.g., "as demonstrated [3,6]. Barnaby and Jones [8] obtained a different result ....".

Number references in the order they appear in your article.

Abbreviate journal names according to the [List of Title Word Abbreviations](#) (LTWA).

Examples:

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## Reference to a journal publication with an article number:

[2] J. van der Geer, T. Handgraaf, R.A. Lupton, 2022. The art of writing a scientific article. *Heliyon*. 19, e00205. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2022.e00205>.

## Reference to a book:

[3] W. Strunk Jr., E.B. White, *The Elements of Style*, fourth ed., Longman, New York, 2000.

## Reference to a chapter in a book:

[4] G.R. Mettam, L.B. Adams, How to prepare an electronic version of your article, in: B.S. Jones, R.Z. Smith (Eds.), *Introduction to the Electronic Age*, E-Publishing Inc., New York, 2020, pp. 281 - 304.

## Reference to a website:

[5] Cancer Research UK, Cancer statistics reports for the UK. <http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/aboutcancer/statistics/cancerstatsreport/>, 2023 (accessed 13 March 2023).

## Reference to a dataset:

[6] M. Oguro, S. Imahiro, S. Saito, T. Nakashizuka, Mortality data for Japanese oak wilt disease and surrounding forest compositions [dataset], Mendeley Data, v1, 2015. <https://doi.org/10.1234/abc12nb39r.1>.

## Reference to software:

[7] E. Coon, M. Berndt, A. Jan, D. Svyatsky, A. Atchley, E. Kikinzon, D. Harp, G. Manzini, E. Shelef, K. Lipnikov, R. Garimella, C. Xu, D. Moulton, S. Karra, S. Painter, E. Jafarov, S. Molins, *Advanced Terrestrial Simulator (ATS) v0.88* [software], Zenodo, March 25, 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1234/zenodo.3727209>.

## Web references

When listing web references, as a minimum you should provide the full URL and the date when the reference was last accessed. Additional information (e.g. DOI, author names, dates or reference to a source publication) should also be provided, if known.

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## Data references

We encourage you to cite underlying or relevant datasets within article text and to list data references in the reference list.

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- author name(s)
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Add [dataset] immediately before your reference. This will help us to properly identify the dataset. The [dataset] identifier will not appear in your published article.

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If a template is not available for this journal, follow the format given in examples in the reference style section of this Guide for Authors.

## Submitting your manuscript

### Submission checklist

Before completing the submission of your manuscript, we advise you to read our submission checklist:

- One author has been designated as the corresponding author and their full contact details (email address, full postal address, and phone numbers) have been provided. Only the corresponding author's affiliation will be used to determine eligibility for the publishing agreement.
- All files have been uploaded, including artwork, videos, and supplementary materials. Don't forget to include tables and footnotes in the files, and to submit captions.
- Spelling and grammar checks have been carried out.
- All references in the article text are cited in the reference list, and vice versa.
- Permission has been obtained for the use of any copyrighted material from other sources, including the Web.
- For open access articles, all authors understand that they are responsible for payment of the article publishing charge (APC) if the manuscript is accepted. Payment of the APC may be covered by the corresponding author's institution, or the research funder.

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