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DESCRIPTION

Academic and scholarly abstracted journal publishing worldwide clinical and basic research in the field of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine.

Annals of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine publishes original peer-reviewed clinical and research articles, epidemiological studies, new methodological clinical approaches, review articles, editorials and guidelines.

Annals of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine covers all areas of Rehabilitation and Physical Medicine; such as: methods of evaluation of motor, sensory, cognitive and visceral impairments; acute and chronic musculoskeletal disorders and pain; disabilities in adult and children; processes of rehabilitation in orthopaedic, rheumatological, neurological, cardiovascular, pulmonary and urological diseases.

Official Journal of the French Society of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (Société Française de Médecine Physique et de Rédaptation, SOFMER)

One of the Journals of the UEMS PRM Section. Published in association with ISPRM.

8 issues/year

Indexed in all major international databases.

2021 Impact Factor: 5.393, 2021 Journal Citation Reports (Clarivate Analytics, 2022).

AUDIENCE

All people interested in Rehabilitation

IMPACT FACTOR

2022: 4.600 © Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Reports 2023
ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

Current Contents - Life Sciences
ClinicalKey
PubMed Central
Journal Citation Reports - Science Edition
Pascal Francis
Web of Science
Scopus
Hinari
Current Contents - Clinical Medicine
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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION

*Annals of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (APRM)* is a scientific journal created in 2009 from the existing *Annales de Réadaptation et de Médecine Physique*. It is published in English and covers all fields and aspects of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, from basic, to medical and social sciences related to rehabilitation.

*Annals of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine* is published in association with the International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (ISPRM). In addition, it is one of the Official journals of the Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine section of the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS) and is the official organ of the Société Française de Médecine Physique et de Réadaptation (SOFMER). The Journal is indexed in MEDLINE and has one of the highest impact factors of the "Rehabilitation" category of the Journal Citation Report (JCR, Clarivate Analytics), and one of the highest CiteScore (SCImago Journal Rank). The journal is also well-ranked in the "Orthopaedics" categories.

All papers are available with free access after 1 year. The papers published in the Annals of PRM are increasingly popular, as shown by the recent statistics of the ScienceDirect downloads. In 2020, the articles of the Annals of PRM were downloaded 1 000 000 times every month worldwide. Publication in the Annals of PRM is free of charge.

The Editorial policy of the Journal is to publish papers respecting the ethical principles of the Helsinki statement (1964). Papers must deal with one of the following fields:

- Assessment methods of motor, sensory, cognitive and visceral impairments
- Functional disabilities in children, adults, and older adults
- Clinical applications and research about handicap epidemiology and the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health
- Rehabilitation techniques and programs as well as technological innovations to reduce handicap in cardiovascular, neurological, orthopaedic, pulmonary, rheumatological, and urological diseases
- Evidence-based-medicine applied for non-pharmacological treatments, and drugs used in rehabilitation
- Elaboration of clinical recommendations in the field of rehabilitation
- Submission of papers dealing with interventions in rehabilitation is especially encouraged, as well as meta-analyses.

To ensure the quality of papers submitted for publication, the Annals of PRM require that the reporting follows guidelines: see Equator website [https://www.equator-network.org/](https://www.equator-network.org/).

To ensure the quality of research published in the Annals of PRM, studies must be registered in international databases (WHO-labelled). This is mandatory for interventional studies and systematic reviews and strongly encouraged for observational studies. The registration reference must be given at the end of the abstract.

All manuscripts will be first subjected to a home reviewing possibly including an external expert. The editorial committee will do its best to decide whether or not a manuscript will go to standard reviewing. This decision should be made within the two weeks following the submission. Only a few manuscripts which have a chance to go through the reviewing process will be sent to reviewers. In that case, we will try to reach a decision within two months. Reviewing already done in previous high-standard journals can be added as additional materials. The editorial board can decide to consider this former reviewing to take a decision.

Types of article

 Specifications for Manuscript Categories

- **Original articles:**
  - Word count (excluding abstract, tables, figure captions, references) ≤ 5000 + supplemental material
  - Abstract ≤ 300 words
  - References ≤ 50
  - Figures/Tables ≤ 6
  - Additional materials: what is required, sparingly

- **Reviews - Meta-analyses - Update papers - Position papers:**
  - Word count (excluding abstract, tables, figure captions, references) ≤ 6000 + supplemental material
  - Abstract ≤ 300 words
  - References ≤ 80
  - Figures/Tables ≤ 8
Additional materials: what is required, sparingly

Letters to editor including outstanding single Case studies, short original research, Scientific Notes, etc.:
- Word count (excluding abstract, tables, figure captions, references) ≤ 1800
- No Abstract
- References ≤ 20
- Figures/Tables ≤ 3
- Additional materials: what is required, sparingly

Editorials:
- Word count (excluding abstract, tables, figure captions, references) ≤ 1500
- No Abstract
- References ≤ 12
- Figures/Tables ≤ 3

Correspondance: Comment on having a scientific scope
- 1000 words
- References ≤ 5
- No figure/No table

The length of each manuscript must be given on the title page, including a word count for the abstract and main text, as well as number of tables, figures, references and additional materials.

Original articles
Articles are full-length reports of original research. These include large-scale pivotal trials of new therapies (randomized clinical trials). According to ClinicalTrials.gov, clinical trials "are generally considered to be biomedical or health-related research studies in human beings that follow a predefined protocol". ClinicalTrials.gov includes both interventional and observational types of studies. Interventionsal studies are those in which the research subjects are assigned by the investigator to a treatment or other intervention, and their outcomes are measured. Observational studies are those in which individuals are observed and their outcomes are measured by the investigators.

Original articles report new and original work that has not been published elsewhere (except as an abstract at a conference). The last paragraph of the introduction should state the question(s) of the study, whose answers are found in the results section. The results should be described concisely, with no redundancies between the text and the tables or figures. The discussion should start with a brief summary of the results and an explanation of how the results contribute to answer the study question(s). The discussion should be brief; in general, one-third of the total manuscript length is appropriate.

Specifications:
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- Structured Abstract, maximum 300 words.
- Ideally, the introduction should not exceed 350 words.
- A maximum of 50 References. The best references should be included rather than duplicative citations for single points. Citations to non-peer-reviewed work should be avoided. If additional references are deemed important, they can be published as supplemental data.
- No more than 6 Figures and/or Tables. Tables should not repeat data in the text. Figure legends must explain what is represented in the figure rather than repeat results, methods, and conclusions. °
- If Methods contain widely available, detailed protocols, appropriate portions may be posted online only at the Editor's discretion.

Reviews, Meta-analyses, Update papers, Position papers

Reviews and Position papers are either a review or an opinion statement that provides a summary of the most important recent information on a topic. Update papers present an update of recent data about a specific topic. Methodologies of review papers must follow some rules regarding the bibliography selection, reading and presentation (PRISMA reporting guidelines). If a review summarizes recommendations for practice, use the word "Recommendations" in the title rather than "Guidelines", unless they have been established by a process involving learned societies. The structure of Update articles and position papers may be more flexible.

Specifications:
- No more than 6000 words, excluding Abstract, Figures, Tables, References, Additional material
- Abstract (structured optional), maximum 300 words
- Ideally, the introduction should not exceed 350 words.
• A maximum of 80 References (additional references may be added as Additional material). They should cite the most important papers in the field.
• No more than 8 Tables and/or Figures.

Letters to editors
Letters to the editor are Clinical/Scientific notes, or comments on a paper published in the Annals of PRM. The writing may be organized in sections, must be fluid without any chapter heading. The introduction and the discussion should be brief and should point out the originality of the study or the case(s) description and its contribution to scientific knowledge. No attempt should be made to write a review of the topic. Manuscripts reporting a case with a review of the literature will not be considered.

Specifications:
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• No abstract (the title serves as abstract)
• No more than 20 References.
• No more than 3 Tables and/or Figures.
In some cases, the length of a letter to the editor may exceed that mentioned in the Table above, but only with the agreement of the editors.

Editorial
Editorials expound opinions, describe noteworthy facts, summarize prominent studies, report news, or provide perspective. The authors are free to choose the outline. There is no abstract. Although editorials are often commissioned by the Editorial Committee, spontaneous submissions are welcome, with or without a pre-submission inquiry to the editors. In some cases, the length of the editorial can be longer than the one mentioned in the specifications below, with the agreement of the editors.

Specifications:
• No more than 1500 words, excluding Figures, Tables, References
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• No more than 20 References.
• No more than 3 Tables and/or Figures.

Submission checklist
You can use the list at the bottom of the page for a final check of your submission before sending it to the journal for review.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

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Please see our information on Ethics in publishing.

Studies in humans and animals
If the work involves the use of human subjects, the author should ensure that the work described has been carried out in accordance with The Code of Ethics of the World Medical Association (Declaration of Helsinki) for experiments involving humans. The manuscript should be in line with the Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals and aim for the inclusion of representative human populations (sex, age and ethnicity) as per those recommendations. The terms sex and gender should be used correctly.

Authors should include a statement in the manuscript that informed consent was obtained for experimentation with human subjects. The privacy rights of human subjects must always be observed.

All animal experiments should comply with the ARRIVE guidelines and should be carried out in accordance with the U.K. Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act, 1986 and associated guidelines, EU Directive 2010/63/EU for animal experiments, or the National Research Council's Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals and the authors should clearly indicate in the manuscript that such guidelines have been followed. The sex of animals must be indicated, and where appropriate, the influence (or association) of sex on the results of the study.

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of a separate Declaration of Interest form, which forms part of the journal's official records. It is important for potential interests to be declared in both places and that the information matches. More information.

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suggest using alternatives that are more appropriate and (self-) explanatory such as "primary", "secondary", "blocklist" and "allowlist". These guidelines are meant as a point of reference to help identify appropriate language but are by no means exhaustive or definitive.

**Reporting sex- and gender-based analyses**

**Reporting guidance**

For research involving or pertaining to humans, animals or eukaryotic cells, investigators should integrate sex and gender-based analyses (SGBA) into their research design according to funder/sponsor requirements and best practices within a field. Authors should address the sex and/or gender dimensions of their research in their article. In cases where they cannot, they should discuss this as a limitation to their research's generalizability. Importantly, authors should explicitly state what definitions of sex and/or gender they are applying to enhance the precision, rigor and reproducibility of their research and to avoid ambiguity or conflation of terms and the constructs to which they refer (see Definitions section below). Authors can refer to the Sex and Gender Equity in Research (SAGER) guidelines and the SAGER guidelines checklist. These offer systematic approaches to the use and editorial review of sex and gender information in study design, data analysis, outcome reporting and research interpretation - however, please note there is no single, universally agreed-upon set of guidelines for defining sex and gender.

**Definitions**

Sex generally refers to a set of biological attributes that are associated with physical and physiological features (e.g., chromosomal genotype, hormonal levels, internal and external anatomy). A binary sex categorization (male/female) is usually designated at birth ("sex assigned at birth"), most often based solely on the visible external anatomy of a newborn. Gender generally refers to socially constructed roles, behaviors, and identities of women, men and gender-diverse people that occur in a historical and cultural context and may vary across societies and over time. Gender influences how people view themselves and each other, how they behave and interact and how power is distributed in society. Sex and gender are often incorrectly portrayed as binary (female/male or woman/man) and unchanging whereas these constructs actually exist along a spectrum and include additional sex categorizations and gender identities such as people who are intersex/have differences of sex development (DSD) or identify as non-binary. Moreover, the terms "sex" and "gender" can be ambiguous—thus it is important for authors to define the manner in which they are used. In addition to this definition guidance and the SAGER guidelines, the resources on this page offer further insight around sex and gender in research studies.

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Suggesting reviewers
Please submit the names and institutional e-mail addresses of several potential reviewers.

You should not suggest reviewers who are colleagues, or who have co-authored or collaborated with you during the last three years. Editors do not invite reviewers who have potential competing interests with the authors. Further, in order to provide a broad and balanced assessment of the work, and ensure scientific rigor, please suggest diverse candidate reviewers who are located in different countries/regions from the author group. Also consider other diversity attributes e.g. gender, race and ethnicity, career stage, etc. Finally, you should not include existing members of the journal's editorial team, of whom the journal are already aware.

Note: the editor decides whether or not to invite your suggested reviewers.

PREPARATION
**General considerations**
- Manuscript has been spell checked and grammar checked
- 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 interests statement is provided, even if the authors have no competing interests to declare
- Journal policies detailed in this guide have been reviewed
- Referee suggestions and contact details provided, based on journal requirements

For further information, visit our Support Center.

**Peer review**
This journal operates a single anonymized 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 is responsible for the final decision regarding acceptance or rejection of articles. The Editor's decision is final. More information on types of peer review.

**Use of word processing software**
It is important that the file be saved in the native format of the word processor used. The text should be in single-column format. Keep the layout of the text as simple as possible. Most formatting codes will be removed and replaced on processing the article. In particular, do not use the word processor's options to justify text or to hyphenate words. However, do use bold face, italics, subscripts, superscripts etc. When preparing tables, if you are using a table grid, use only one grid for each individual table and not a grid for each row. If no grid is used, use tabs, not spaces, to align columns. The electronic text should be prepared in a way very similar to that of conventional manuscripts (see also the Guide to Publishing with Elsevier). Note that source files of figures, tables and text graphics will be required whether or not you embed your figures in the text. See also the section on Electronic artwork.

To avoid unnecessary errors you are strongly advised to use the 'spell-check' and 'grammar-check' functions of your word processor.

**Article structure**

**Subdivision_unnumbered sections**
Divide your article into clearly defined sections. Each subsection is given a brief heading (H1, H2, H3 formats). Each heading should appear on its own separate line. Subsections should be used as much as possible when cross-referencing text: refer to the subsection by heading as opposed to simply 'the text'.

**Introduction**
State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.

**Material and methods**
Provide sufficient details to allow the work to be reproduced by an independent researcher. Methods that are already published should be summarized, and indicated by a reference. If quoting directly from a previously published method, use quotation marks and also cite the source. Any modifications to existing methods should also be described.

**Theory/calculation**
A Theory section should extend, not repeat, the background to the article already dealt with in the Introduction and lay the foundation for further work. In contrast, a Calculation section represents a practical development from a theoretical basis.

**Results**
Results should be clear and concise.

**Discussion**
This should explore the significance of the results of the work, not repeat them. A combined Results and Discussion section is often appropriate. Avoid extensive citations and discussion of published literature.

**Conclusions**
The main conclusions of the study may be presented in a short Conclusions section, which may stand alone 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. Formulae and equations in appendices should be given separate numbering: Eq. (A.1), Eq. (A.2), etc.; in a subsequent appendix, Eq. (B.1) and so on. Similarly for tables and figures: Table A.1; Fig. A.1, etc.

Essential title page information

• **Title.** Concise (ideally fewer than 120 characters, spaces included) 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), family name(s) and degrees(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 lower-case 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, if available, the e-mail address of each author.

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Mandatory highlights

Highlights are mandatory for this journal as they help increase the discoverability of your article via search engines. They consist of a short collection of bullet points that capture the novel results of your research as well as new methods that were used during the study (if any). Please have a look at the examples here: example Highlights.

Highlights should be submitted in a separate editable file in the online submission system. Please use 'Highlights' in the file name and include 3 to 5 bullet points (maximum 85 characters, including spaces, per bullet point). Abbreviations are not allowed in the highlights.

Abstract

A concise and factual structured abstract (Background, Objectives, Methods, Results, and Conclusion[s]) is required for Original articles. 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.

Graphical abstract

Although a graphical abstract is optional, its use is encouraged as it draws more attention to the online article. The graphical abstract should summarize the contents of the article in a concise, pictorial form designed to capture the attention of a wide readership. Graphical abstracts should be submitted as a separate file in the online submission system. Image size: Please provide an image with a minimum of 531 × 1328 pixels (h × w) or proportionally more. The image should be readable at a size of 5 × 13 cm using a regular screen resolution of 96 dpi. Preferred file types: TIFF, EPS, PDF or MS Office files. You can view Example Graphical Abstracts on our information site.

Keywords

Immediately after the abstract, provide a maximum of 6 keywords, using British or American spelling, depending on what is used in the rest of the paper, and avoiding general and plural terms and multiple concepts (avoid, for example, 'and', 'of'). Be sparing with abbreviations: only abbreviations firmly established in the field may be eligible. These keywords will be used for indexing purposes.

Abbreviations

Provide abbreviations meaning list on the first page of the article. Each abbreviation must be defined at its first mention there. Ensure consistency of abbreviations throughout the article.
Acknowledgements
Collate acknowledgements in a separate section at the end of the article before the references and do not, therefore, include them on the title page, as a footnote to the title or otherwise. List here those individuals who provided help during the research (e.g., providing language help, writing assistance or proof reading the article, etc.).

Formatting of funding sources
List funding sources in this standard way to facilitate compliance to funder's requirements:

Funding: This work was supported by the National Institutes of Health [grant numbers xxxx, yyyy]; the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle, WA [grant number zzzz]; and the United States Institutes of Peace [grant number aaaa].

It is not necessary to include detailed descriptions on the program or type of grants and awards. When funding is from a block grant or other resources available to a university, college, or other research institution, submit the name of the institute or organization that provided the funding.

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This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

Manuscript formatting
Word format 2.5 cm margin Arial 11 Double-spaced Page numbering

Units
Follow internationally accepted rules and conventions: use the international system of units (SI). If other units are mentioned, please give their equivalent in SI.

Statistical data
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