TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Description p.1
- Abstracting and Indexing p.1
- Editorial Board p.2
- Guide for Authors p.4

DESCRIPTION

Asian Journal of Urology (AJUR), launched in October 2014, is an international peer-reviewed Open Access journal jointly founded by Shanghai Association for Science and Technology (SAST) and Second Military Medical University (SMMU). AJUR aims to build a communication platform for international researchers to effectively share scholarly achievements. It focuses on all specialties of urology both scientifically and clinically, with article types widely covering editorials, opinions, perspectives, reviews and mini-reviews, original articles, cases reports, rapid communications, and letters, etc.

Fields of particular interest to the journal including, but not limited to:
- Surgical oncology
- Endourology
- Calculi
- Female urology
- Erectile dysfunction
- Infertility
- Pediatric urology
- Renal transplantation
- Reconstructive surgery
- Radiology
- Pathology
- Neurourology

Indexed in ESCI and Embase.

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

Google Scholar
EMBASE
Scopus
Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)
Primo Central Index
TDOne (TDNet)
Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI)
AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK 14 Oct 2017  www.elsevier.com/locate/ajur

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editors-in-Chief
Yinghao Sun, Shanghai Changhai Hospital, Department of Urology, Shanghai, China

Honorary-Editors-in-Chief
Leland W. K. Chung, Dept. of Medicine, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, California, USA
Michael J. Droller, Department of Urology, Mount Sinai Medical Center, New York, NY, USA

Associate Editors-In-Chief
Per-Anders Abrahamsson, Division of Urological Cancer, University Hospital Malmö, Malmö, Sweden
Allen W. Chiu, School of Medicine, National Yang Ming University, Taipei
Mahesh Desai, Dept. of Urology, Muljibhai Patel Urological Hospital, Nadiad, India
Jalil Hosseini, Shohada-e-Tajrish Hospital and Infertility and Reproductive Health Research Center, Reconstructive Urology Division, Tehran, Iran
Tom F. Lue, Dept. of Urology, School of Medicine, University of California at San Francisco (UCSF), San Francisco, California, USA
Seiji Naito, Graduate School of Medical Science, Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan
Arthur D. Smith, North Shore Long Island Jewish Medical Center, The Arthur Smith Institute for Urology, New York, USA
Gyung Tak Sung, Department of Urology, Dong-A Medical Center, Pushan National University, Busan, The Republic of Korea

Associate Editor
Gonghong Wei, Faculty of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine, University of Oulu, Oulu, Finland

Editorial Advisors
Walter Artibani, Department of Urology, University of Verona, Padova, Italy
Christopher Chapple, Sheffield Hallam University, Royal Hallamshire Hospital, Sheffield, Sheffield, England, UK
Haojie Huang, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, Department of Urology, Rochester, Minnesota, USA
Jiaotui Huang, Dept. of Pathology, Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, North Carolina, USA
Eric A. Klein, Zegerar-Pollock Professor of Surgery; Institute Vice Chair for Surgical Innovations, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio, USA
Philip S. Li, Cornell University, Weill Medical College, New York, New York, USA
Francesco Montorsi, Ospedale San Raffaele, Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele, Milan, Italy
Howard R. Soule, Prostate Cancer Foundation, Santa Monica, California, USA
Hein Van Poppel, Department of Urology, University Hospital, Leuven, Belgium
Manfred Wirth, Department of Urology, Technische Universität Dresden, Dresden, Germany
Jianfeng Xu, Center for Cancer Genomics, Wake Forest School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, USA

Assistant Editor
Shancheng Ren, Shanghai Changhai Hospital, Department of Urology, Shanghai, China

Editorial Board
Aziz Abdullah, Liaquat National Hospital, Karachi, Pakistan
Hideyuki Akaza, Research Centre for Advanced Science and Technology, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan
Neil Bhowmick, Dept. of Medicine, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, California, USA
Gerald Brock, Dept. of Urology, University of Western Ontario, London, Canada
Arthur Burnett, Dept. of Urology, Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, Baltimore, Maryland, USA
William Catalona, Urology, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, Illinois, USA
Myung-Soo Choo, Asan Medical Center, University of Ulsan College of Medicine, Seoul, The Republic of Korea
Yao-Chi Chuang, Dept. of Urology, Kaohsiung Chang Gung Memorial Hospital, Keelung, Taiwan, Taiwan
Ralph Clayman, Dept. of Urology, University of California at Irvine, Orange, California, USA
Jean de la Rosette, Dept. of Urology, Universiteit van Amsterdam, Academisch Medisch Centrum (AMC), Amsterdam, Netherlands
John Denstedt, Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada
Colin P. Dinney, Anderson Cancer Center, University of Texas, Houston, Texas, USA
Shin Egawa, Dept. of Urology, Jikei University School of Medicine, Tokyo, Japan
El-Attar, National Cancer Institute, Cairo University, Giza, Egypt
Robert Alan Figlin, Samuel Oschin Comprehensive Cancer Institute, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, California, USA
Keong Tatt Foo, Dept. of Urology, Singapore General Hospital, Singapore, Singapore
Michael Freeman, Dept. of Surgery, Division Urology, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, California, USA
Xin Gao, Third Affiliated Hospital, Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou, China
Martin Gleave, The Vancouver Prostate Centre and Department of Urological Sciences, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada
Andreas Gross, Dept. of Urology, Asklepios Klinik Barmbek, Hamburg, Germany
Narmada Gupta, Department of Urology, Medanta Kidney and Urology Institute, Delhi, India
Jia He, Department of Health Statistics, Second Military Medical University, Shanghai
Jian Huang, Second Affiliated Hospital, Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou, China
Lap Hong Ian, University of Macau, Macau, China
Adrian Joyce, Pyrah Dept. of Urology, St James’s University Hospital, Leeds, England, UK
Steven A. Kaplan, Weill Cornell Medical College, Cornell University, New York, New York, USA
Louis R. Kavoussi, Chairman, Dept. of Urology, The Smith Institute for Urology, New York City, New York, USA
Elijah Kehinde, Dept. of Surgery, Nazarbayev University, Astana, Kazakhstan
Deeprak Kirpekar, Seth Ramdas Shah Memorial Hospital, Pune, India
Chuize Kong, First Hospital, China Medical University, Shenyang, China
Rajeev Kumar, Dept. of Urology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India
Hann-Chorng Kuo, Hualien Tzu Chi Hospital, Taiwan
Natasha Kyprianou, University of Kentucky College of Medicine, Lexington, Kentucky, USA
Richard Lee, Dept. of Stem Cell and Regenerative Biology, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA
Toh Khai Lee, Toh Khai Lee Urology Clinic, Mount Elizabeth Medical Centre, Singapore, Singapore
Hong Li, Sichuan University, Chengdu, China
Kirk Lo, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Tadashi Matsuda, Kansai Medical University, Osaka, Japan
Mani Menon, Vattikuti Urology Institute, Henry Ford Health System, Detroit, Michigan, USA
Yuanjie Niu, Dept. of Urology, Tianjin Medical University Cancer Institute & Hospital, Tianjin, China
David J. Ralph, Dept. of Urology, University College London/University College Hospitals Trust, England, UK
Douglas Scherr, Dept. of Urology, Weill Medical College and the New York Presbyterian Hospital, New York, New York, USA
David Schulsinger, Dept. of Urology, Stony Brook University, New York, New York, USA
Marshall Leedy Stoller, Dept. of Urology, School of Medicine, University of California at San Francisco (UCSF), San Francisco, California, USA
Yeh-Hong Tan, Department of Urology, Mount Elizabeth Hospital, Singapore, Singapore
Cigdem Tanrikut, Cornell Institute for Reproductive Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital & Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts, USA
Guan Chou Teh, Department of Urology, Sarawak General Hospital, Kuching, Malaysia
Timothy Thompson, Dept. of Urology, University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas, USA
Rainy Umbas, Faculty of Medicine, University of Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia
Rakesh Verma, Bir Hospital; Dept. of Surgery, National Academy of Medical Sciences, Kathmandu, Nepal
Jianye Wang, Beijing Hospital, Beijing, China
Qiang Wei, Dept. of Urology, Sichuan University, Chengdu, China
David Winkle, School of Medicine, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia
Henry Woo, Sydney Adventist Hospital Clinical School, The University of Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
Shujie Xia, Department of Urology, Shanghai General Hospital, Shanghai, China
Liping Xie, Department of Urology, The First Affiliated Hospital, School of Medicine, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China
Dingwei Ye, Dept. of Urology, Fudan University, Shanghai, China
Zhangguang Ye, Tongji Medical College; Dept. of Urology, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan, China
Ming Kwong Yiu, Queen Mary Hospital, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Weiye Zhong, Department of Urology, Guangzhou First People’s Hospital, Guangzhou, China
GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

**Types of article**

Contributions falling into the following categories will be considered for publication:

**Editorials** usually provide commentary and analysis concerning an article in the issue of the Journal in which they appear. They may include 1 figure or table. They are nearly always solicited, although unsolicited editorials may occasionally be considered. Editorials are limited to 750 words, with up to 10 references.

**Reviews** should include the urological questions or issues which are importance for biomedical research, clinical practice, special practice, or public health; description of how the relevant evidence was identified, assessed for quality, and selected for inclusion; synthesis of the available evidence such that the best-quality evidence (e.g., randomized clinical trials, meta-analyses, systematic reviews, and high-quality prospective cohort studies) should receive the greatest emphasis; and discussion of controversial aspects and unresolved issues. Authors will be asked to describe characteristics of the literature search performed for their review. A narrative (unstructured) or structured abstract is required and should not exceed 250 words. Maximum length: 6000 words of text (not including abstract, tables, figures, references, and online-only material), with no more than a total of 4 tables and/or figures and no more than 50-75 references.

**Mini-reviews** are much more focused than Reviews. A Mini-review introduces the reader to a particular area of an author's research through a concise overview of a selected topic. The content should balance scope with depth, and references to important works from others that are significant to the topic, should be included. It is shorter (approximately 2000 words) and does not contain a frontispiece or biographical sketch(es). However, it should still have an Abstract (no more than 150 words) that should similarly arouse the readers' interest.

**Original articles** typically include basic research, randomized trials, intervention studies, cohort studies, case-control studies, epidemiologic assessments, other observational studies, surveys with high response rates, cost-effectiveness analyses and decision analyses, and studies of screening and diagnostic tests. These articles should be arranged as follows: Title Page, Abstract, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions, References, Tables, Legends. The title page should contain a concise, descriptive title, the names and affiliations of all authors, and a brief descriptive runninghead not to exceed 50 characters. Three to eight key words should be typed at the bottom of the title page. A structured abstract no more than 250 words is required and must conform to the following style: Purpose, Materials and Methods, Results and Conclusions. Maximum length: 5000 words of text (not including abstract, tables, figures, references, and online-only material). There is no limit to the tables or figures.

**Clinical experiences** report the experience for diagnosis, treatment or prevention of urological diseases. A structured abstract is required. Maximum length: 2000 words of text (not including abstract, tables, figures, references, and online-only material) with no more than a total of 5 tables and/or figures.

**Clinical images** are intended to provide a visual image of an interesting and unique urological observation. A 500-word description (including acknowledgment, all text, tables, figure legends, and references) of the clinical issue, the patient's urological findings, and the image should be included. There should be no more than 2 images and 4 references.

**Case reports** include short reports or original studies or evaluations or unique, first-time reports or clinical cases (individual or a series). Maximum length: 1000-2000 words (including acknowledgment, abstract, all text, tables, figure legends, and references), with no more than 15 references and 4 tables and/or figures.

**Letters** should be useful to urological practitioners. The length should not exceed 500 words. Only Letters concerning articles published in the Journal within the last year are considered.
Rapid communications describe an important issue in clinical medicine, public health, health policy, or medical research in a scholarly, thorough, well-referenced, systematic, and evidence-based manner. A narrative (unstructured) abstract of no more than 200 words is required. Maximum length: 3000 words of text (not including tables, figures, or references) with no more than a total of 4 tables and/or figures and no more than 50 references.

Special feature

Urological data include 1) the number, distribution and features of urological institutes, equipments, and researching faculty in various countries in the world, 2) the data analysis of international cutting-edge researches on urology, such as new theories, techniques, projects, clinical trials, awards, patents, and outcomes transforming, and 3) quantitative analysis on urological literatures to provide references for future researches. Submissions could be research article (3000-4000 words), commentary (1000-2000 words), or meta analysis (4000-6000 words).

Asian focus welcomes epidemiological, genetic and regional papers, as well as occupational, clinical or health policy studies from Asian countries and regions. For Asian Focus, we prefer for the name of the country or region to be included in the title. Submissions could be research article (3000-4000 words), review (4000-6000 words), commentary (1000-2000 words), opinion or view points (1000-2000 words).

Please ensure that you select the appropriate article type from the list of options when making your submission. Authors contributing to special issues should ensure that they select the special issue article type from this list.

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

Ensure that the following items are present:

One author has been designated as the corresponding author with contact details:
- E-mail address
- Full postal address

All necessary files have been uploaded:
Manuscript:
- Include keywords
- All figures (include relevant captions)
- All tables (including titles, description, footnotes)
- Ensure all figure and table citations in the text match the files provided
- Indicate clearly if color should be used for any figures in print

Graphical Abstracts / Highlights files (where applicable)
Supplemental files (where applicable)

Further 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.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN
Ethics in publishing
All materials must adhere to high ethical and animal welfare standards. Any use of animals must be based on ethological knowledge and respect for species-specific requirements for health and well-being. For investigations of human subjects, an appropriate institutional review board approved the project and the informed consent was obtained from the study participants.

For information on Ethics in Publishing and Ethical guidelines for journal publication see http://www.elsevier.com/publishingethics and http://www.elsevier.com/ethicalguidelines.

Human and animal rights
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; Uniform Requirements for manuscripts submitted to Biomedical journals. 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 Institutes of Health guide for the care and use of Laboratory animals (NIH Publications No. 8023, revised 1978) and the authors should clearly indicate in the manuscript that such guidelines have been followed.

Declaration of interest
All authors must disclose any financial and personal relationships with other people or organizations that could inappropriately influence (bias) their work. Examples of potential conflicts of interest include employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent applications/registrations, and grants or other funding. If there are no conflicts of interest then please state this: 'Conflicts of interest: none'. More information.

Submission declaration and verification
Submission of an article implies that the work described has not been published previously (except in the form of an abstract or as part of a published lecture or academic thesis or as an electronic preprint, see 'Multiple, redundant or concurrent publication' section of our ethics policy for more information), that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, that its publication is approved by all authors and tacitly or explicitly by the responsible authorities where the work was carried out, and that, if accepted, it will not be published elsewhere in the same form, in English or in any other language, including electronically without the written consent of the copyright-holder. To verify originality, your article may be checked by the originality detection service CrossCheck.

Changes to authorship
Authors are expected to consider carefully the list and order of authors before submitting their manuscript and provide the definitive list of authors at the time of the original submission. Any addition, deletion or rearrangement of author names in the authorship list should be made only before the manuscript has been accepted and only if approved by the journal Editor. To request such a change, the Editor must receive the following from the corresponding author: (a) the reason for the change in author list and (b) written confirmation (e-mail, letter) from all authors that they agree with the addition, removal or rearrangement. In the case of addition or removal of authors, this includes confirmation from the author being added or removed. Only in exceptional circumstances will the Editor consider the addition, deletion or rearrangement of authors after the manuscript has been accepted. While the Editor considers the request, publication of the manuscript will be suspended. If the manuscript has already been published in an online issue, any requests approved by the Editor will result in a corrigendum.

Article transfer service
This journal is part of our Article Transfer Service. This means that if the Editor feels your article is more suitable in one of our other participating journals, then you may be asked to consider transferring the article to one of those. If you agree, your article will be transferred automatically on your behalf with no need to reformat. Please note that your article will be reviewed again by the new journal. More information.
Copyright
Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete a "License to Publish". Acceptance of the license will ensure the widest possible dissemination of information. An e-mail will be sent to the corresponding author confirming receipt of the manuscript together with a “License to Publish” form or a link to the online version of this license. Permission of the journal is required for resale or distribution outside the institution and for all other derivative works, including compilations and translations (please consult ajurology@smmu.edu.cn). If excerpts from other copyrighted works are included, the author(s) must obtain written permission from the copyright owners and credit the source(s) in the article.

Elsevier supports responsible sharing
Find out how you can share your research published in Elsevier journals.

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

Funding body agreements and policies
Elsevier has established a number of agreements with funding bodies which allow authors to comply with their funder's open access policies. Some funding bodies will reimburse the author for the Open Access Publication Fee. Details of existing agreements are available online.

After acceptance, open access papers will be published under a noncommercial license. For authors requiring a commercial CC BY license, you can apply after your manuscript is accepted for publication.

Open access
A CC user license which manages the reuse of the article (see http://www.elsevier.com/about/open-access/open-access-policies/oa-license-policy).

All articles will be published under the CC BY-NC-ND license: Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs (CC BY-NC-ND): for non-commercial purposes, lets others distribute and copy the article, and to include in a collective work (such as an anthology), as long as they credit the author(s) and provided they do not alter or modify the article.

Elsevier Publishing Campus
The Elsevier Publishing Campus (www.publishingcampus.com) is an online platform offering free lectures, interactive training and professional advice to support you in publishing your research. The College of Skills training offers modules on how to prepare, write and structure your article and explains how editors will look at your paper when it is submitted for publication. Use these resources, and more, to ensure that your submission will be the best that you can make it.

Language (usage and editing services)
Please write your text in good English (American or British usage is accepted, but not a mixture of these). Authors who feel their English language manuscript may require editing to eliminate possible grammatical or spelling errors and to conform to correct scientific English may wish to use the English Language Editing service available from Elsevier’s WebShop.

Submission
Submission to this journal proceeds totally online. Use the following guidelines to prepare your article. Via the homepage of this journal (http://www.ajurology.com, http://mc03.manuscriptcentral.com/aju) you will be guided stepwise through the creation and uploading of the various files. The system automatically converts source files to a single Adobe Acrobat PDF version of the article, which is used in the peer-review process. Please note that even though manuscript source files are converted to PDF at submission for the review process, these source files are needed for further processing after acceptance. All correspondence, including notification of the Editor's decision and requests for revision, takes place by e-mail and via the author's homepage, removing the need for a hard-copy paper trail. If you are unable to provide an electronic version, please contact the editorial office prior to submission (e-mail: ajurology@smmu.edu.cn)

Process for Manuscript Submission
Submitted manuscripts should be accompanied by a covering letter giving details of: 1) the title of the manuscript and its main point; 2) a statement that the manuscript has not been published in part or whole (except in the form of abstract) or is under consideration for publication elsewhere in any
language; 3) a statement that all authors have agreed to be so listed and have seen and approved the manuscript, its consent and its submission to AJU; 4) a full current postal address, telephone and fax numbers, and current e-mail address. We usually communicate with authors by e-mail. Authors must specify if they wish to exclude a method of communication. Authors may suggest 2-3 reviewers. Please provide the name, postal address, e-mail address, telephone and fax numbers, and fields of interest. Authors may also suggest that specific individuals not be involved as reviewers, but AJU reserves the right of final selection.

**Manuscript Status**

Upon receipt of the manuscript, the AJU Editorial Office will immediately assign a code number, which is strongly recommended for use in subsequent correspondence. A letter acknowledging receipt will be sent to the corresponding author. After being pre-reviewed by the editors, most of the submitted manuscripts will be sent to expert referees for peer-review. All manuscripts are subject to editorial modifications. AJU disclaims any liability for statements made by authors or advertisers.

**Reference Style**

**Citation in text**

Please ensure that every reference cited in the text is also present in the reference list (and vice versa). Any references cited in the abstract must be given in full. Unpublished results and personal communications are not recommended in the reference list, but may be mentioned in the text. If these references are included in the reference list they should follow the standard reference style of the journal and should include a substitution of the publication date with either "Unpublished results" or "Personal communication". Citation of a reference as "in press" implies that the item has been accepted for publication.

**Web references**

As a minimum, the full URL should be given and the date when the reference was last accessed. Any further information, if known (DOI, author names, dates, reference to a source publication, etc.), should also be given. Web references can be listed separately (e.g., after the reference list) under a different heading if desired, or can be included in the reference list.

**References in a special issue**

Please ensure that the words 'this issue' are added to any references in the list (and any citations in the text) to other articles in the same Special Issue.

**Reference management software**

Authors are responsible for the accuracy and completeness of their references and for correct text citation. Number references in the order they appear in the text; do not alphabetize. Unpublished data, classified periodicals, and personal communications may not be used as references. Identify references in text, tables, and legends by superscript of Arabic numerals in parentheses. The titles of journals should be abbreviated according to the style used in MEDLINE/PubMed. List all authors and/or editors up to 6 (if more than 6, list the first 6 followed by "et al."). title of the article, name of the journal or book, year, volume (issue) and the first and last pages.

**Examples:**

**Reference to a journal publication:**


**Reference to a book:**

Reference to a chapter in an edited book:


**PREPARATION**

*Peer review*

This journal operates a single blind review process. All contributions are 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.

*Author rights*

As an author you (or your employer or institution) have certain rights to reuse your work. For more information on author rights please see [http://www.elsevier.com/copyright](http://www.elsevier.com/copyright).

*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.

*LaTeX*

You are recommended to use the Elsevier article class `elsarticle.cls` to prepare your manuscript and BibTeX to generate your bibliography. Our [LaTeX site](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ajur) has detailed submission instructions, templates and other information.

**Article structure**

*Subdivision - numbered sections*

Divide your article into clearly defined and numbered sections. Subsections should be numbered 1.1 (then 1.1.1, 1.1.2, ...), 1.2, etc. (the abstract is not included in section numbering). Use this numbering also for internal cross-referencing: do not just refer to 'the text'. Any subsection may be given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line.

*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 detail to allow the work to be reproduced. Methods already published should be indicated by a reference: only relevant modifications should 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 and informative. Titles are often used in information-retrieval systems. Avoid abbreviations and formulae where possible.
- **Author names and affiliations.** Please clearly indicate the given name(s) and family name(s) of each author and check that all names are accurately spelled. 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.
- **Corresponding author.** Clearly indicate who will handle correspondence at all stages of refereeing and publication, also post-publication. Ensure that the e-mail address is given and that contact details are kept up to date by the corresponding author.
- **Present/permanent address.** If an author has moved since the work described in the article was done, or was visiting at the time, a 'Present address' (or 'Permanent address') may be indicated as a footnote to that author's name. The address at which the author actually did the work must be retained as the main, affiliation address. Superscript Arabic numerals are used for such footnotes.

Abstract
A concise and factual abstract is required. 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.

Authors can make use of Elsevier's Illustration Services to ensure the best presentation of their images and in accordance with all technical requirements.

Highlights
Highlights are a short collection of bullet points that convey the core findings of the article. Highlights are optional and 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). You can view example Highlights on our information site.

Keywords
Immediately after the abstract, provide a maximum of 6 keywords, using American spelling 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
Define abbreviations that are not standard in this field in a footnote to be placed on the first page of the article. Such abbreviations that are unavoidable in the abstract must be defined at their first mention there, as well as in the footnote. 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.

If no funding has been provided for the research, please include the following sentence:

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

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.

Math formulae
Please submit math equations as editable text and not as images. Present simple formulae in line with normal text where possible and use the solidus (/) instead of a horizontal line for small fractional terms, e.g., X/Y. In principle, variables are to be presented in italics. Powers of e are often more conveniently denoted by exp. Number consecutively any equations that have to be displayed separately from the text (if referred to explicitly in the text).

Footnotes
Footnotes should be used sparingly. Number them consecutively throughout the article. Many word processors can build footnotes into the text, and this feature may be used. Otherwise, please indicate the position of footnotes in the text and list the footnotes themselves separately at the end of the article. Do not include footnotes in the Reference list.

Artwork
Electronic artwork
General points
• Make sure you use uniform lettering and sizing of your original artwork.
• Embed the used fonts if the application provides that option.
• Aim to use the following fonts in your illustrations: Arial, Courier, Times New Roman, Symbol, or use fonts that look similar.
• Number the illustrations according to their sequence in the text.
• Use a logical naming convention for your artwork files.
• Provide captions to illustrations separately.
• Size the illustrations close to the desired dimensions of the published version.
• Submit each illustration as a separate file.
A detailed guide on electronic artwork is available.

You are urged to visit this site; some excerpts from the detailed information are given here.

Formats
If your electronic artwork is created in a Microsoft Office application (Word, PowerPoint, Excel) then please supply 'as is' in the native document format.
Regardless of the application used other than Microsoft Office, when your electronic artwork is finalized, please 'Save as' or convert the images to one of the following formats (note the resolution requirements for line drawings, halftones, and line/halftone combinations given below):
EPS (or PDF): Vector drawings, embed all used fonts.
TIFF (or JPEG): Color or grayscale photographs (halftones), keep to a minimum of 300 dpi.
TIFF (or JPEG): Bitmapped (pure black & white pixels) line drawings, keep to a minimum of 1000 dpi.
TIFF (or JPEG): Combinations bitmapped line/half-tone (color or grayscale), keep to a minimum of 500 dpi.

Please do not:
- Supply files that are optimized for screen use (e.g., GIF, BMP, PICT, WPG); these typically have a low number of pixels and limited set of colors;
- Supply files that are too low in resolution;
- Submit graphics that are disproportionately large for the content.

Color artwork
Please make sure that artwork files are in an acceptable format (TIFF (or JPEG), EPS (or PDF), or MS Office files) and with the correct resolution. If, together with your accepted article, you submit usable color figures then Elsevier will ensure, at no additional charge, that these figures will appear in color online (e.g., ScienceDirect and other sites) regardless of whether or not these illustrations are reproduced in color in the printed version. For color reproduction in print, you will receive information regarding the costs from Elsevier after receipt of your accepted article. Please indicate your preference for color: in print or online only. Further information on the preparation of electronic artwork.

Figure captions
Ensure that each illustration has a caption. Supply captions separately, not attached to the figure. A caption should comprise a brief title (not on the figure itself) and a description of the illustration. Keep text in the illustrations themselves to a minimum but explain all symbols and abbreviations used.

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

References
Citation in text
Please ensure that every reference cited in the text is also present in the reference list (and vice versa). Any references cited in the abstract must be given in full. Unpublished results and personal communications are not recommended in the reference list, but may be mentioned in the text. If these references are included in the reference list they should follow the standard reference style of the journal and should include a substitution of the publication date with either 'Unpublished results' or 'Personal communication'. Citation of a reference as 'in press' implies that the item has been accepted for publication.

Web references
As a minimum, the full URL should be given and the date when the reference was last accessed. Any further information, if known (DOI, author names, dates, reference to a source publication, etc.), should also be given. Web references can be listed separately (e.g., after the reference list) under a different heading if desired, or can be included in the reference list.

References in a special issue
Please ensure that the words 'this issue' are added to any references in the list (and any citations in the text) to other articles in the same Special Issue.

Reference management software
Most Elsevier journals have their reference template available in many of the most popular reference management software products. These include all products that support Citation Style Language styles, such as Mendeley and Zotero, as well as EndNote. Using the word processor plug-ins from these products, authors only need to select the appropriate journal template when preparing their article, after which citations and bibliographies will be automatically formatted in the journal's style. If no template is yet available for this journal, please follow the format of the sample references and citations as shown in this Guide.

Users of Mendeley Desktop can easily install the reference style for this journal by clicking the following link:
http://open.mendeley.com/use-citation-style/asian-journal-of-urology
When preparing your manuscript, you will then be able to select this style using the Mendeley plug-ins for Microsoft Word or LibreOffice.
Journal abbreviations source
Journal names should be abbreviated according to the List of Title Word Abbreviations.

Virtual Microscope
The journal encourages authors to supplement in-article microscopic images with corresponding high resolution versions for use with the Virtual Microscope viewer. The Virtual Microscope is a web based viewer that enables users to view microscopic images at the highest level of detail and provides features such as zoom and pan. This feature for the first time gives authors the opportunity to share true high resolution microscopic images with their readers. More information and examples. Authors of this journal will receive an invitation e-mail to create microscope images for use with the Virtual Microscope when their manuscript is first reviewed. If you opt to use the feature, please contact virtualmicroscope@elsevier.com for instructions on how to prepare and upload the required high resolution images.

AFTER ACCEPTANCE

Proofs
One set of page proofs (as PDF files) will be sent by e-mail to the corresponding author (if we do not have an e-mail address then paper proofs will be sent by post) or, a link will be provided in the e-mail so that authors can download the files themselves. Elsevier now provides authors with PDF proofs which can be annotated; for this you will need to download the free Adobe Reader, version 9 (or higher). Instructions on how to annotate PDF files will accompany the proofs (also given online). The exact system requirements are given at the Adobe site. If you do not wish to use the PDF annotations function, you may list the corrections (including replies to the Query Form) and return them to Elsevier in an e-mail. Please list your corrections quoting line number. If, for any reason, this is not possible, then mark the corrections and any other comments (including replies to the Query Form) on a printout of your proof and scan the pages and return via e-mail. Please use this proof only for checking the typesetting, editing, completeness and correctness of the text, tables and figures. Significant changes to the article as accepted for publication will only be considered at this stage with permission from the Editor. We will do everything possible to get your article published quickly and accurately. It is important to ensure that all corrections are sent back to us in one communication: please check carefully before replying, as inclusion of any subsequent corrections cannot be guaranteed. Proofreading is solely your responsibility.

Offprints
The corresponding author will be notified and receive a link to the published version of the open access article on ScienceDirect. This link is in the form of an article DOI link which can be shared via email and social networks. For an extra charge, paper offprints can be ordered via the offprint order form which is sent once the article is accepted for publication. Both corresponding and co-authors may order offprints at any time via Elsevier’s Webshop. Authors requiring printed copies of multiple articles may use Elsevier Webshop's 'Create Your Own Book' service to collate multiple articles within a single cover.

Author Inquiries
For inquiries relating to the submission of articles (including electronic submission) please visit this journal's homepage (http://www.ajurology.com). Contact details for questions arising after acceptance of an article, especially those relating to proofs, will be provided by the Editorial Office.

Page Charge and Color Charge
In 2014-2015, we are waiving all fees for authors, including page charge, cost for color photos and cover images.

© Copyright 2014 Elsevier | http://www.elsevier.com