DESCRIPTION

*Clinical Simulation in Nursing* is an international, peer reviewed journal published online monthly. *Clinical Simulation in Nursing* is the official journal of the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation & Learning (INACSL) and reflects the mission INACSL.

Clinical Simulation in Nursing has a 2015 Impact Factor of 1.360, ranking favorably in the Nursing category. All articles are listed in the Science Citation Index Expanded, Journal Citation Reports/Science Edition, Social Science Citation Index, Journal Citation Reports/Social Sciences Edition, and Current Contents/Social and Behavioral Health Sciences.

We will review and accept articles from other health provider disciplines, if they are determined to be of interest to our readership. The journal accepts manuscripts meeting one or more of the following criteria: Research articles and systematic reviews about simulation, Innovative teaching/learning strategies using simulation, Articles updating guidelines, regulations, and legislative policies that impact simulation, Leadership for simulation, Simulation operations, Real world (practice) and academic uses of simulation.

**Benefits to authors**

We also provide many author benefits, such as free PDFs, a liberal copyright policy, special discounts on Elsevier publications and much more. Please click here for more information on our author services.

Please see our Guide for Authors for information on article submission. If you require any further information or help, please visit our support pages: http://service.elsevier.com

IMPACT FACTOR

2017: 1.640 © Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Reports 2018

EDITORIAL BOARD

*Editor-in-Chief*

Nicole Harder, PhD, RN, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
Associate Editor
Tracy Levett-Jones, PhD, RN, MEd, BN, University of Technology Sydney, Australia

Assistant Editors
Michelle Aebersold, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA
Laura T. Gantt, RN, PhD, CEN, NE-BC, East Carolina College of Nursing, Greenville, NC
Kim Leighton, ITQAN Clinical Simulation & Innovation Center, Doha, Qatar
Kristina Thomas Dreifuerst, PhD, RN, CNE, ANEF, Marquette University College of Nursing, Milwaukee, WI

Editor Emeriti:
Suzan (Suzie) Kardong-Edgren, PhD, RN, ANEF, CHSE, FAAN, The RISE Center, Robert Morris University, Moon Township, PA
Linda Haynes, PhD, RN

Editorial Board and Reviewers
Faisal H. Aboul-Enein, University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
Katie A. Adamson, University of Washington, Tacoma, Washington, USA
Mary Ann Cantrell, Villanova University, Villanova, Pennsylvania, USA
Leslie D. Catron, Valley Children’s Hospital, LeMere, California, USA
Cecelia L. Crawford, Kaiser Permanente, California, USA
Peter Dieckmann, Herlev Hospital, Denmark
Chaoyan Dong, Ph.D, Sengkang Health, Singapore
Cynthia Foronda, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, USA
Juan Manuel Fraga-Sastrias, Universidad Anahuac Querétaro, Querétaro, Mexico
Sandra Goldsworthy, RN, MSc, CNCC, CMSN, PhD(c), University of Calgary, Alberta, CA
Teresa N. Gore, Auburn University, Auburn, AL
Suzanne Hetzel Campbell, PhD, RN, University of British Columbia, CA
Valerie Howard, EdD, RN, The RISE Center, Robert Morris University, Moon Township, PA
Michelle Kelly, RN, PhD, Curtin University, Perth, AUS
Ruth Anne Kuiper, RN, PhD, CCRN, University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Wilmington, NC
Marian Luctkar-Flude, RN, MScN, PhD (student), Queen’s University, Kingston, Ontario, CA
Cate Nicholas, EdD, MS, PA, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT
Ed Rovera, San Francisco State University (SFSU), San Francisco, California, USA
Patricia A. Sharpnack, Breen School of Nursing, Ursuline College, Pepper Pike, Ohio, USA
Elsa Soyland, RN, CCN, MSCs, SAFER, Stavanger, Norway
Marilyn Stoner, RNC, BC, PhD, RN, California State University at San Bernardino, Beaumont, CA
Cynthia Thomas, EdD, RN, Ball State University, Muncie, IN
Nuala Walshe, CSSRC, School of Nursing and Midwifery, University College Cork, Cork City, Ireland
GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION
Clinical Simulation in Nursing is an international, peer-reviewed journal published online monthly. CSN is the official journal of the International Nursing Association of Clinical and Simulation & Learning (INACSL) and reflects the mission of INACSL to advance the science of healthcare simulation.

The journal has a 2017 Impact Factor of 1.640, ranking favorably in the Nursing category. All articles are listed in the Science Citation Index Expanded, Journal Citation Reports/Science Edition, Social Science Citation Index, Journal Citation Reports/Social Sciences Edition, and Current Contents/Social and Behavioral Health Sciences.

We will review and accept articles from other health provider disciplines, if they are determined to be of interest to our readership. The journal accepts manuscripts meeting one or more of the following criteria:

- Research articles and literature reviews (e.g. systematic, scoping, umbrella, integrative, etc.) about simulation
- Innovative teaching/learning strategies using simulation
- Articles updating guidelines, regulations, and legislative policies that impact simulation
- Leadership for simulation
- Simulation operations
- Clinical and academic uses of simulation

We encourage papers to include higher levels of evaluation and outcomes that extend beyond confidence, self-efficacy, and perceived confidence. Papers that include these as outcomes should have a strong argument about the need to publish this kind of work. We also encourage studies to expand beyond a one-group pre-test, post-test evaluation, unless there is strong rationale supporting the need for these kinds of studies.

EDITORIAL POLICY
Most papers are read by the Editor-in-Chief before being sent out for review. Some papers that are written far below the standard for publication will be rejected by the Editor-in-Chief without obtaining peer review. The decision of the Editor-in-Chief regarding acceptance or rejection is final. The journal has adopted word limit for all articles as detailed below.

WORD LIMIT FOR ARTICLE CATEGORIES (excludes abstracts and references)
- Original paper- 3500 (4 tables and/or 4 figures)
- Review article - 4000 (8 tables)
- Research brief - 1750 words (2 tables)
- Innovations in Simulation - 1750 words (2 tables)
- Short communication - 1500 (3 tables)
- Book/software/product review - 1200 words
- Letter to the Editor - 200 words

REFERENCE LIMIT
- Original paper - 40
- Review article - 75
- Short communication - 20
- Research brief - 10
- Innovations in Simulation - 10

MANUSCRIPT PREPARATION
Manuscripts should focus on any area that advances nursing knowledge through simulation or technology. Research submissions must include appropriate analysis tables. Manuscripts must conform to the following guidelines. Upload your manuscript in Microsoft Word format and not as a PDF file. Follow the word limits for manuscript type noted earlier. Figures and/or tables should not be embedded into the text document. Complete instructions for electronic submission can be found at www.elsevier.com/authors.

Style
The Journal follows the style guidelines delineated in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th ed., 2010, with the exception that manuscript pages should be numbered.

Double-blind review
This journal uses double-blind review, which means that both the reviewer and author name(s) are not allowed to be revealed to one another for a manuscript under review. The identities of the authors are concealed from the reviewers, and vice versa. More information is available on our website. To facilitate this, please include the following separately:
Title page (with author details): This should include the title, authors' names and affiliations, and a complete address for the corresponding author including an e-mail address.
Blinded manuscript (no author details): The main body of the paper (including the references, figures, tables and any Acknowledgements) should not include any identifying information, such as the authors' names or affiliations.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ALL MANUSCRIPTS

Turn on continuous line numbering.

Abstract
Research manuscripts require a structured abstract. Other article manuscripts require a general abstract.

Highlights
Highlights are mandatory for this journal. They consist of a short collection of bullet points that convey the core findings of the article 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.

Key Points
Provide three key point statements that summarize the main points of your article.

Key Words
Identify no fewer than five (5) key words that literature searches would use to locate your manuscript if it were published.

Acknowledgments
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.).

ESSENTIAL TITLE PAGE INFORMATION FOR ALL ARTICLE TYPES

- 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.

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.

**SPECIFIC INFORMATION FOR RESEARCH ARTICLES**


For systematic or other types of review papers, we encourage authors to use a protocol, such as the JBI review protocol or the PRISMA guidelines.

For Quality Improvement papers, we encourage authors to review the SQUIRE reporting guidelines.

**Turn on continuous line numbering FOR THE ABSTRACT AND BODY OF THE PAPER**

**Abstract**

Research articles should include a structured abstract of approximately 100 words with a focus on findings and conclusions under the following headings: Background, Methods, Results, and Conclusions.

**Introduction or background**

Divide your article into clearly defined sections. Each subsection is given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line.

**Theoretical framework**

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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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. These may be included in online extras.

**SPECIFIC INFORMATION FOR RESEARCH BRIEF GUIDELINES**

Research Briefs are reports of small-scale studies (e.g., pilot studies, studies with small samples and limited generalizability, quality improvement/scholarship of teaching and learning, research conducted in a single setting and case reports etc.) that may stimulate further investigations and alert other investigators of work in progress.

Documents should include the following headings: Background, Sample, Method, Results, and Conclusion. Each subsection is given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line. Manuscripts may not exceed 1750 words in length, excluding abstract and references (separate documents). References are restricted to the most essential and limited to one page in length.

All Research Briefs must include a structured abstract of approximately 150 words (does not count toward page limit), using the following headings: Background, Sample, Method, Results, and Conclusion.

Tables and figures are discouraged and only used at the editor's discretion.
Highlights are mandatory for this journal. They consist of a short collection of bullet points that convey the core findings of the article and should be submitted in a separate editable file in the online submission system. Please use 'Highlights' in the file name and include 2-3 bullet points (maximum 85 characters, including spaces, per bullet point). This does not count toward the page limit. Provide 1-2 key point statements that summarize the main points of your article. List no fewer than three (3) key words that literature searches would use to locate your manuscript if it were published.

**SPECIFIC INFORMATION FOR INNOVATIONS IN SIMULATION MANUSCRIPTS**

Innovations in Simulation manuscripts are short descriptions of innovative and creative ways that simulation has been implemented in a variety of settings. For example, an article can include descriptions of simulation props that have been developed, how simulation was integrated into a curriculum, or how hybrid simulation experiences were developed. These do not need to be research papers, however they do need to be grounded in the evidence and current literature. Authors should make it clear when statements are based on their own personal experience and not based on research findings.

Submissions should be original articles and should not exceed 1750 words, with no more than 10 references (only the most current and relevant). Manuscript must be typed double-spaced, with 1-in. (2.54-cm) margins on all sides. Pages must be numbered consecutively. Because the review is a blind process, do not include the authors’ names or affiliations on manuscript pages or in running headers or footers. Include a narrative abstract no more than 100 words. The abstract and title page do not add to the page count.

**SPECIFIC INFORMATION FOR OTHER KINDS OF MANUSCRIPTS**

For other kinds of manuscripts: general articles, review articles, book review, short communications, letter to the editors, follow the instructions for all manuscripts and the essential title page information for all manuscripts.

**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)
• Relevant declarations of interest have been made
• 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

**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.

Illustration services
Elsevier’s WebShop offers Illustration Services to authors preparing to submit a manuscript but concerned about the quality of the images accompanying their article. Elsevier’s expert illustrators can produce scientific, technical and medical-style images, as well as a full range of charts, tables and graphs. Image 'polishing' is also available, where our illustrators take your image(s) and improve them to a professional standard. Please visit the website to find out more.

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.

References
References must conform to APA style. The author must assume responsibility for the accuracy of references. Increased discoverability of research and high quality peer review are ensured by online links to the sources cited. In order to allow us to create links to abstracting and indexing services, such as Scopus, CrossRef and PubMed, please ensure that data provided in the references are correct. Please note that incorrect surnames, journal/book titles, publication year and pagination may prevent link creation. When copying references, please be careful as they may already contain errors. Provide DOI number for all applicable references

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:
External link http://open.mendeley.com/use-citation-style/clinical-simulation-in-nursing

When preparing your manuscript, you will then be able to select this style using the Mendeley plug-ins for Microsoft Word or LibreOffice.

Reference style

Text: Citations in the text should follow the referencing style used by the American Psychological Association. You are referred to the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, Sixth Edition, ISBN 978-1-4338-0561-5, copies of which may be ordered online or APA Order Dept., P.O.B. 2710, Hyattsville, MD 20784, USA or APA, 3 Henrietta Street, London, WC3E 8LU, UK.

List: References should be arranged first alphabetically and then further sorted chronologically if necessary. More than one reference from the same author(s) in the same year must be identified by the letters 'a', 'b', 'c', etc., placed after the year of publication.

Examples:
Reference to a journal publication:

Reference to a book:

Reference to a chapter in an edited book:

Reference to a website:

Video

Elsevier accepts video material and animation sequences to support and enhance your scientific research. Authors who have video or animation files that they wish to submit with their article are strongly encouraged to include links to these within the body of the article. This can be done in the same way as a figure or table by referring to the video or animation content and noting in the body text where it should be placed. All submitted files should be properly labeled so that they directly relate to the video file’s content. In order to ensure that your video or animation material is directly usable, please provide the files in one of our recommended file formats with a preferred maximum size of 150 MB. Video and animation files supplied will be published online in the electronic version of your article in Elsevier Web products, including ScienceDirect. Please supply 'stills' with your files: you can choose any frame from the video or animation or make a separate image. These will be used instead of standard icons and will personalize the link to your video data. For more detailed instructions please visit our video instruction pages. Note: since video and animation cannot be embedded in the print version of the journal, please provide text for both the electronic and the print version for the portions of the article that refer to this content.

Ethics in publishing

Please see our information pages on Ethics in publishing and Ethical guidelines for journal publication.

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 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. The sex of animals must be indicated, and where appropriate, the influence (or association) of sex on the results of the study.

**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 competing interests include employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent applications/registrations, and grants or other funding. Authors must disclose any interests in two places: 1. A summary declaration of interest statement in the title page file (if double-blind) or the manuscript file (if single-blind). If there are no interests to declare then please state this: 'Declarations of interest: none'. This summary statement will be ultimately published if the article is accepted. 2. Detailed disclosures as part 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.

**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, a published lecture or academic thesis, see 'Multiple, redundant or concurrent publication' 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 Crossref Similarity Check.

**Use of inclusive language**

Inclusive language acknowledges diversity, conveys respect to all people, is sensitive to differences, and promotes equal opportunities. Articles should make no assumptions about the beliefs or commitments of any reader, should contain nothing which might imply that one individual is superior to another on the grounds of race, sex, culture or any other characteristic, and should use inclusive language throughout. Authors should ensure that writing is free from bias, for instance by using 'he or she', 'his/her' instead of 'he' or 'his', and by making use of job titles that are free of stereotyping (e.g. 'chairperson' instead of 'chairman' and 'flight attendant' instead of 'stewardess').

**Authorship**

CSN follows the ICMJE guidelines for definition of authorship: "Authorship credit should be based on 1) substantial contributions to conception and design, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data; 2) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and 3) final approval of the version to be published (retrieved from http://www.icmje.org/ethical_1author.html).

**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 'Journal Publishing Agreement' (see [more information on this]). An e-mail will be sent to the corresponding author confirming receipt of the manuscript together with a 'Journal Publishing Agreement' form or a link to the online version of this agreement.

Subscribers may reproduce tables of contents or prepare lists of articles including abstracts for internal circulation within their institutions. [Permission of the Publisher is required for resale or distribution outside the institution and for all other derivative works, including compilations and translations. 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 has [preprinted forms] for use by authors in these cases.]

**Author rights**
As an author you (or your employer or institution) have certain rights to reuse your work. [More information.]

**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 gold 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**
This journal offers authors a choice in publishing their research:

**Subscription**
- Articles are made available to subscribers as well as developing countries and patient groups through our [universal access programs].
- No open access publication fee payable by authors.
- The Author is entitled to post the [accepted manuscript] in their institution's repository and make this public after an embargo period (known as green Open Access). The [published journal article] cannot be shared publicly, for example on ResearchGate or Academia.edu, to ensure the sustainability of peer-reviewed research in journal publications. The embargo period for this journal can be found below.

**Gold open access**
- Articles are freely available to both subscribers and the wider public with permitted reuse.
- A gold open access publication fee is payable by authors or on their behalf, e.g. by their research funder or institution.

Regardless of how you choose to publish your article, the journal will apply the same peer review criteria and acceptance standards.

For gold open access articles, permitted third party (re)use is defined by the following [Creative Commons user licenses]:

---

AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK  17 Apr 2019   www.elsevier.com/locate/ecsn
**Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs (CC BY-NC-ND)**
For non-commercial purposes, let 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.

The gold open access publication fee for this journal is **USD 1700**, excluding taxes. Learn more about Elsevier's pricing policy: [https://www.elsevier.com/openaccesspricing](https://www.elsevier.com/openaccesspricing).

**Green open access**
Authors can share their research in a variety of different ways and Elsevier has a number of green open access options available. We recommend authors see our open access page for further information. Authors can also self-archive their manuscripts immediately and enable public access from their institution's repository after an embargo period. This is the version that has been accepted for publication and which typically includes author-incorporated changes suggested during submission, peer review and in editor-author communications. Embargo period: For subscription articles, an appropriate amount of time is needed for journals to deliver value to subscribing customers before an article becomes freely available to the public. This is the embargo period and it begins from the date the article is formally published online in its final and fully citable form. Find out more.

This journal has an embargo period of 12 months.

**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.

**Informed consent and patient details**
Studies on patients or volunteers require ethics committee approval and informed consent, which should be documented in the paper. Appropriate consents, permissions and releases must be obtained where an author wishes to include case details or other personal information or images of patients and any other individuals in an Elsevier publication. Written consents must be retained by the author but copies should not be provided to the journal. Only if specifically requested by the journal in exceptional circumstances (for example if a legal issue arises) the author must provide copies of the consents or evidence that such consents have been obtained. For more information, please review the Elsevier Policy on the Use of Images or Personal Information of Patients or other Individuals. Unless you have written permission from the patient (or, where applicable, the next of kin), the personal details of any patient included in any part of the article and in any supplementary materials (including all illustrations and videos) must be removed before submission.

**Submission**
Our online submission system guides you stepwise through the process of entering your article details and uploading your files. The system converts your article files to a single PDF file used in the peer-review process. Editable files (e.g., Word, LaTeX) are required to typeset your article for final publication. All correspondence, including notification of the Editor's decision and requests for revision, is sent by e-mail.

Submit your article
All manuscripts must be submitted through the online submission Web site [https://www.evise.com/profile/api/navigate/NURSINGSIMULATION](https://www.evise.com/profile/api/navigate/NURSINGSIMULATION).

The Journal requires all authors to acknowledge, on the title page of their manuscript, all funding sources and/or granting agencies that supported their work, as well as all institutional or corporate affiliations of all the authors. Authors are also required to disclose to the Editor, in a covering letter at the time of submission, any commercial associations that could pose a conflict of interest or financial bias. These include consultation fees, patent licensing arrangements, company stock, payments for conducting or publicizing a study, travel, honoraria, gifts, or meals. If the article is accepted for publication, the Editor will determine how any conflict of interest should be disclosed. Authors are expected to fulfill the requirements of their employer's publication policy before submitting their manuscript. The Journal follows the ICMJE's Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals ([http://www.icmje.org](http://www.icmje.org)).
**Peer review**
This journal operates a double blind 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.](#)

**Double-blind review**
This journal uses double-blind review, which means the identities of the authors are concealed from the reviewers, and vice versa. [More information](#) is available on our website. To facilitate this, please include the following separately:

*Title page (with author details):* This should include the title, authors' names, affiliations, acknowledgements and any Declaration of Interest statement, and a complete address for the corresponding author including an e-mail address.

*Blinded manuscript (no author details):* The main body of the paper (including the references, figures, tables and any acknowledgements) should not include any identifying information, such as the authors' names or affiliations.

**Abstract**
All manuscripts must include an abstract. Research articles should include a structured abstract of approximately 100 words with a focus on findings and conclusions under the following headings: Background, Methods, Results, and Conclusions. Other articles should include an unstructured abstract summarizing the main points of the article.

**Key Points**
Provide three key point statements that summarize the main points of your article.

**Key Words**
Identify no fewer than five (5) key words that literature searches would use to locate your manuscript if it were published.

**References**
References must conform to APA style. The author must assume responsibility for the accuracy of references.

Increased discoverability of research and high quality peer review are ensured by online links to the sources cited. In order to allow us to create links to abstracting and indexing services, such as Scopus, CrossRef and PubMed, please ensure that data provided in the references are correct. Please note that incorrect surnames, journal/book titles, publication year and pagination may prevent link creation. When copying references, please be careful as they may already contain errors. Provide DOI number for all applicable references

Users of Mendeley Desktop can easily install the reference style for this journal by clicking the following link:

When preparing your manuscript, you will then be able to select this style using the Mendeley plug-ins for Microsoft Word or LibreOffice.

**Research data**
This journal encourages and enables you to share data that supports your research publication where appropriate, and enables you to interlink the data with your published articles. Research data refers to the results of observations or experimentation that validate research findings. To facilitate reproducibility and data reuse, this journal also encourages you to share your software, code, models, algorithms, protocols, methods and other useful materials related to the project.

Below are a number of ways in which you can associate data with your article or make a statement about the availability of your data when submitting your manuscript. If you are sharing data in one of these ways, you are encouraged to cite the data in your manuscript and reference list. Please refer to the "References" section for more information about data citation. For more information on depositing, sharing and using research data and other relevant research materials, visit the research data page.
**Data linking**
If you have made your research data available in a data repository, you can link your article directly to the dataset. Elsevier collaborates with a number of repositories to link articles on ScienceDirect with relevant repositories, giving readers access to underlying data that gives them a better understanding of the research described.

There are different ways to link your datasets to your article. When available, you can directly link your dataset to your article by providing the relevant information in the submission system. For more information, visit the database linking page.

For supported data repositories a repository banner will automatically appear next to your published article on ScienceDirect.

In addition, you can link to relevant data or entities through identifiers within the text of your manuscript, using the following format: Database: xxxx (e.g., TAIR: AT1G01020; CCDC: 734053; PDB: 1XFN).

**Mendeley Data**
This journal supports Mendeley Data, enabling you to deposit any research data (including raw and processed data, video, code, software, algorithms, protocols, and methods) associated with your manuscript in a free-to-use, open access repository. During the submission process, after uploading your manuscript, you will have the opportunity to upload your relevant datasets directly to Mendeley Data. The datasets will be listed and directly accessible to readers next to your published article online.

For more information, visit the Mendeley Data for journals page.

**Data statement**
To foster transparency, we encourage you to state the availability of your data in your submission. This may be a requirement of your funding body or institution. If your data is unavailable to access or unsuitable to post, you will have the opportunity to indicate why during the submission process, for example by stating that the research data is confidential. The statement will appear with your published article on ScienceDirect. For more information, visit the Data Statement page.

**AFTER ACCEPTANCE**

**Online proof correction**
Corresponding authors will receive an e-mail with a link to our online proofing system, allowing annotation and correction of proofs online. The environment is similar to MS Word: in addition to editing text, you can also comment on figures/tables and answer questions from the Copy Editor. Web-based proofing provides a faster and less error-prone process by allowing you to directly type your corrections, eliminating the potential introduction of errors.

If preferred, you can still choose to annotate and upload your edits on the PDF version. All instructions for proofing will be given in the e-mail we send to authors, including alternative methods to the online version and PDF.

We will do everything possible to get your article published quickly and accurately. 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. 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, at no cost, receive a customized Share Link providing 50 days free access to the final published version of the article on ScienceDirect. The Share Link can be used for sharing the article via any communication channel, including email and social media. 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. Corresponding authors who have published their article gold open access do not receive a Share Link as their final published version of the article is available open access on ScienceDirect and can be shared through the article DOI link.

**MORE INFORMATION**
For more information, email us at Nicole.Harder@umanitoba.ca
AUTHOR INQUIRIES
Visit the Elsevier Support Center to find the answers you need. Here you will find everything from Frequently Asked Questions to ways to get in touch. You can also check the status of your submitted article or find out when your accepted article will be published.

© Copyright 2018 Elsevier | https://www.elsevier.com