DESCRIPTION

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The *European Journal of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery* is aimed primarily at vascular surgeons dealing with patients with arterial, venous and lymphatic diseases. Contributions are included on the diagnosis, investigation and management of these vascular disorders. Papers that consider the technical aspects of vascular surgery are encouraged, and the journal includes invited state-of-the-art articles.

Reflecting the increasing importance of endovascular techniques in the management of vascular diseases and the value of closer collaboration between the vascular surgeon and the vascular radiologist, the journal has now extended its scope to encompass the growing number of contributions from this exciting field. Articles describing endovascular method and their critical evaluation are included, as well as reports on the emerging technology associated with this field.

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Additional information
Design
Authors should set out clearly the objectives of the study and state whether the study was retrospective or prospective. Randomised trials must include the items included in the CONSORT statement (see 'Randomised Controlled Trials', above).

Presentation
Wherever possible a graphical presentation should be used to illustrate the main findings of a study. Base the graph on data points unless the sample sizes are very large. When plotting life tables always indicate the numbers of individuals at risk at the various times of follow-up. Avoid the use of 'error bars' showing 1 standard deviation or standard error.

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There should be a clear description of which methods were used, and any analyses not in common usage should be supported by references. In general, 'non-parametric' analyses should be used, e.g. the Mann-Whitney test for comparing two groups and the Wilcoxon test for comparing the changes to a group.

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Statistical significance should not be confused with clinical relevance. Use confidence intervals to assess clinical relevance, especially when interpreting a 'negative' finding. Do not place undue emphasis on secondary analyses, especially when they were suggested by an inspection of the data.

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