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### DESCRIPTION

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Integrative Medicine Research (IMR) is the official journal of the Korea Institute of Oriental Medicine. The journal is a quarterly, peer-reviewed, subsidized open access journal focused on evidence-based scientific research in integrative medicine, and traditional and complementary medicine, consisting of nonpharmacological interventions and practices as well as herbal medicines. The journal aims to provide new research perspectives on holistic integrative health, innovative health preservation approaches and convergence for clinical practice and biomedical sciences.

IMR aims to publish high-quality papers that are of interest to an international readership including researchers, clinical practitioners, administrators and others concerned with clinical best practice, research methodology, and education and policy development in integrative medicine. The current focus of the journal is globally diversified and IMR welcomes papers of international research collaborations and papers from all over the world.

IMR publishes articles of applied research and clinical research, including randomized controlled trials, intervention studies, cohort studies, observational studies, diagnostic test accuracy and reliability studies, qualitative and mixed method studies, animal studies, systematic reviews and narrative reviews. The types of publications considered are editorials, review articles, original research articles, case reports, letters to the editor, commentaries, study protocols, and short communications relating to integrative medicine.

## ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

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Science Citation Index Expanded  
Embase  
CrossRef  
CINAHL  
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Current Contents - Clinical Medicine  
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Korea Citation Index (KCI)  
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## GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

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### INTRODUCTION

*Integrative Medicine Research* (IMR) is the official journal of the Korea Institute of Oriental Medicine. The journal is a quarterly, peer-reviewed, subsidized open access journal focused on evidence-based scientific research in integrative medicine, traditional medicine, and complementary and alternative medicine. The journal aims to provide new research perspectives on holistic integrative health, innovative health preservation approaches, and convergence for clinical medicine and biomedical sciences.

IMR aims to publish high-quality papers that are of high interest to an international readership, consisting of researchers, clinical practitioners, and others concerned with clinical practice, research methodology, and education and policy development in integrative medicine.

IMR publishes articles of basic science research and clinical research, such as randomized controlled trials, intervention studies, cohort studies, observational studies, diagnostic test accuracy and reliability studies, qualitative and mixed method studies, animal studies, systematic reviews and narrative reviews. The types of publications considered are review articles, original research manuscripts, case reports, letters to the editor, commentaries, study protocols, and short communications relating to integrative medicine.

IMR is indexed and archived in PubMed(PMC), Web of Science(ESCI), Embase, EBSCO(CINAHL Complete), DOAJ, KCI, ScienceDirect, and Google Scholar.

### **Manuscript Submission**

\* Manuscripts for *Integrative Medicine Research* may be submitted via the EVISE Editorial System (<https://www.evise.com/profile/api/navigate/IMR>). For editorial questions, please contact us via email at [imr@kiom.re.kr](mailto:imr@kiom.re.kr), telephone (+82 42 868 9392), or fax (+82 42 869 2720). There are no article processing charges or publication fees.

**Important information** Articles should be prepared in the simplest form possible and submitted in Microsoft Word (\*.doc or \*.docx). Manuscripts must be typed in English, double-spaced and 10 or 12-point type, and all pages must be numbered consecutively. You may use automatic page numbering, but do NOT use other kinds of automatic formatting such as footnotes. Put text, references, tables, and legends in one file, with each table on a new page. Authors are required to be in compliance with the Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals, which are compiled by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE), available at [www.icmje.org](http://www.icmje.org). Authors are required to adhere their manuscripts to recognized reporting guidelines (refer to 3.1 Reporting guidelines).

Please ensure that the following submission documents are also included, where applicable:

- (1) A cover letter. It must include your name, address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail address, and state that all authors have contributed to the paper and have never submitted the manuscript, in whole or in part, to other journals.
- (2) A conflict of interest disclosure statement (see relevant section below).
- (3) Articles covering the use of human samples in research and human experiments must be approved by relevant research ethics review committees and their approval should be indicated in the manuscript.
- (4) Articles covering the use of animals in experiments must be approved by the relevant authorities.
- (5) Articles where human subjects can be identified in descriptions, photographs or pedigrees must be accompanied by a signed statement of informed consent to publish (in print and online) the descriptions, photographs and pedigrees from each subject who can be identified (see relevant section below).
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- (7) Where material has been reproduced from other copyrighted sources, the letter(s) of permission from the copyright holder(s) to use the copyrighted sources must be supplied.

(8) Articles should be written in English (using American English spelling) and meet the following basic criteria: the material is original, the information is important, the writing is clear, concise and grammatically correct, the study methods are appropriate, the data are valid, and the conclusions are reasonable and supported by the data. For non-native English-speaking authors, we suggest that manuscripts be checked and edited by a native English speaker or by professional English editing services.

There are no article processing charges or publication fees.

### **Types of article**

#### **Editorials**

Editorials are invited articles or comments concerning a specific paper in the Journal or a topical issue in the field. Although editorials are normally invited or written by an Editor, unsolicited editorials may be submitted. Typical length: 1,500-2,000 words, 20-40 references.

#### **Review Articles**

These should aim to provide the reader with a balanced overview of an important and topical subject within the Journals aims and scope. The review should have a clear methodology of reviewing the contents for systematic reviews, narrative reviews and any other types of reviews. Most reviews are solicited by the editors, but unsolicited submissions may also be considered for publication.

No more than 100 references.

#### **Original Articles**

These may be clinical trials, intervention or diagnostic test accuracy studies, laboratory and animal studies, cohort studies, cost-effectiveness analyses, surveys, and historical, social, or policy studies on integrative medicine and health, which represent new and significant contributions to the field.

#### **Case Reports**

These are short discussions of a case or case series with unique features not previously described that make an important teaching point or scientific observation. Refer to the CARE guidelines and submit CARE checklist with the case report manuscript. Only the well-reported and informative case studies which follow the CARE guideline are considered for publication. Informed consent and/or IRB approval must be disclosed in the case report.

#### **Letters to the Editor**

These include brief constructive comments concerning previously published articles in the journal or very brief research reports. Letters are edited, sometimes extensively, to sharpen their focus. They may be sent for peer review at the discretion of the Editors.

No more than 10 references.

#### **Commentaries**

These are short, opinion articles which focus on current research topics and highlight articles of interest previously published elsewhere. Commentaries are generally invited by the Editors, but interested contributors with unsolicited commentaries are encouraged to submit them.

No more than 10 references.

#### **Study Protocols**

These describe detailed plans for conducting clinical studies, including randomized controlled trials, observational studies (cohort, case-control, cross-sectional studies), other clinical trials and systematic reviews. Study protocols should include the purpose and methodology of the study as well as the importance or significance of the study. We only published pre-registered studies in national clinical trial registries or PROSPERO registry. Clinical trial registration number, PROSPERO registry number and SPIRIT or PRISMA-P checklist are required for submission depending on the types of protocols.

#### **Short Communications**

These are short reports of significant research. Short communications may include up to 2 figures or tables.

No more than 20 references.

## **BEFORE YOU BEGIN**

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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.

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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](#).

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### ***Authorship***

All authors should have made substantial contributions to all of the following: (1) the conception and design of the study, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data, (2) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content, (3) final approval of the version to be submitted.

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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

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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.

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### **Conflicts of Interest**

The corresponding author must inform the editor of any potential conflicts of interest that could influence the authors interpretation of the data. Examples of potential conflicts of interest are financial support from or connections to pharmaceutical companies, political pressure from interest groups, and academically related issues. Conflict of interest statements will be published at the end of the text of the article, before the References section. Please consult the COPE guidelines (<http://www.publicationethics.org/>) on conflict of interest. Even when there is no conflict of interest, it should also be stated.

### **English Proofing**

Articles should be written in English (using American English spelling) and the English proofing should be taken before submission by the author.

### **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.

### **Manuscript Preparation**

*Title page*

The title page should include: category of paper, article title, names (spelled out in full) of all authors, academic degrees, the institutions with which they are affiliated (only 1 affiliation per author is permitted); indicate all affiliations with a superscripted lowercase number after the authors name and in front of the appropriate affiliation, short running title not exceeding 30 characters, separate word count for abstract and text, and the corresponding author details (name, address, phone and fax, e-mail information).

#### *Abstract and Keywords*

An abstract and 3-5 relevant keywords (in alphabetical order) are required for the following article categories: Review Article, Original Article, and Case Report. Abstracts should be no more than 250 words in length. Abstracts for Original Articles and Short Communications should be structured, with the section headings: Background, Methods, Results and Conclusion. Abstracts for Review Articles and Case Reports should be unstructured in one single paragraph. But for Case Reports, it should include the significance and purpose of the case presentation, the diagnostic methods of the case, the key data, and brief comments and suggestions with regard to the case. Abstract for Study Protocols should be structured: Background, Methods, and Discussion. For selecting keywords, refer to the Index Medicus Medical Subject Headings (National Library of Medicine (US). MeSH [Internet]. Bethesda (MD): National Library of Medicine (US); 1954 [updated 2009, cited 2009 Nov 1]. Available from: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/MBrowser.html>.

#### *Main Text*

The text for Original Articles, for example, should include the following sections: Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion. The Introduction should be as concise as possible, without subheadings. The Methods section should be sufficiently detailed. Subheadings may be used to organize the Results and Discussion. Each section should begin on a new page.

#### *Abbreviations*

Where a term/definition is continually referred to (i.e. . 3 times in the text), it is written in full when it first appears, followed by the subsequent abbreviation in parentheses (even if it was previously defined in the abstract); thereafter, the abbreviation is used.

#### *Gene nomenclature*

Current standard international nomenclature for genes should be adhered to. Genes should be typed in italic font and include the accession number. For human genes, use genetic notation and symbols approved by the HUGO Gene Nomenclature Committee (<http://www.genenames.org/>) or refer to PubMed (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez>).

#### *Units*

Systeme International (SI) units must be used, with the exception of blood pressure values which are to be reported in mmHg. Please use the metric system for the expression of length, area, mass, and volume.

#### *References*

Authors are responsible for the accuracy and completeness of their references and for correct text citation.

#### *In the main text, tables and figure legends*

References should be identified using superscripted numbers, in numerical order, and be placed after punctuation.

References cited in tables or figure legends should be included in sequence at the point where the table or figure is first mentioned in the main text.

Do not cite abstracts unless they are the only available reference to an important concept.

Uncompleted work or work that has not yet been accepted for publication (i.e., unpublished observation, personal communication) should not be cited as references.

#### *In the references list*

References should be limited to those cited in the text and listed in the order in which they appear in the text.



References should include, in order, authors surnames and initials, article title, abbreviated journal name, year, volume and inclusive page numbers. The last names and initials of all the authors up to 6 should be included, but when authors number 7 or more, list the first 6 authors only followed by et al. Abbreviations for journal names should conform to those used in MEDLINE.

If citing a website, provide the author information, article title, website address and the date you accessed the information.

Reference to an article that is in press must state the journal name and, if possible, the year and volume.

Examples are given below.

*Standard journal article:*

Bisdas T, Pichlmaier M, Wilhelmi M, Bisdas S, Haverich A, Teebken O. Effects of the ABO-mismatch between donor and recipient of cryopreserved arterial homografts. *Int Angiol* 2011;30:247-55.

*Journal supplement*

Kaplan NM. The endothelium as prognostic factor and therapeutic target: what criteria should we apply? *J Cardiovasc Pharmacol* 1998;32(Suppl 3):S78-80.

*Journal article not in English but with English abstract*

Kawai H, Ishikawa T, Moroi J, Hanyu N, Sawada M, Kobayashi N, et al. Elderly patient with cerebellar malignant astrocytoma. *No Shinkei Geka* 2008;36:799-805. [In Japanese, English abstract]

*Book with edition*

Bradley EL. Medical and surgical management. 2nd ed. Philadelphia: Saunders; 1982, p. 72-95. Book with editors Letheridge S, Cannon CR, editors. Bilingual education: teaching English as a second language. New York: Praeger; 1980.

*Book chapter in book with editor and edition*

Greaves M, Culligan DJ. Blood and bone marrow. In: Underwood JCE, editor. General and systematic pathology. 4th ed. London: Churchill Livingstone; 2004, p. 615-72.

*Book series with editors*

Wilson JG, Fraser FC, editors. Handbook of teratology, vols. 1-4. New York: Plenum Press; 1977-78.

*Bulletin*

World Health Organization. World health report 2002: reducing risk, promoting healthy life. Geneva, Switzerland: World Health Organization; 2002.

*Electronic publications*

Duchin JS. Can preparedness for biological terrorism save us from pertussis? *Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med* 2004;158(2). Available from: <http://archpedi.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/full/158/2/106>. Accessed June 12, 2004.

Smeeth L, Iliffe S. Community screening for visual impairment in the elderly. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev* 2002(2):CD001054. Doi:10.1002/14651858.CD1001054.

*Item presented at a meeting but not yet published*

Khuri FR, Lee JJ, Lippman SM. Isotretinoin effects on head and neck cancer recurrence and second primary tumors. In: Proceedings from the American Society of Clinical Oncology, May 31-June 3, 2003; Chicago, IL. Abstract 359.

*Item presented at a meeting and published*

Cionni RJ. Color perception in patients with UV- or bluelightfiltering IOLs. In: Symposium on cataract, IOL, and refractive surgery. San Diego, CA: American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery; 2004. Abstract 337.

*Thesis*

Ayers AJ. Retention of resin restorations by means of enamel etching and by pins [MSD thesis]. Indianapolis: Indiana University; 1971.

*Website*

American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. Wisdom teeth. AAOMS Website. [http://www.aaoms.org/wisdom\\_teeth.php](http://www.aaoms.org/wisdom_teeth.php). Published 2008. Accessed September 25, 2010.

*Company/manufacturer publication/pamphlet*

Eastman Kodak Company, Eastman Organic Chemicals. Catalog no. 49. Rochester, NY: Eastman Kodak; 1977, p. 2-3.

*Acknowledgments*

General acknowledgments for consultations, statistical analysis, etc., should be listed after main body of text, before the references, including the names of the individuals involved. All financial and material support for the research and the work should be stated here clearly explicitly.

*Tables*

Tables are numbered consecutively, in the order of their citation in the text. Table legend example: **Table 1.** Demographic characteristics of patients [note: **Table 1.** in bold font with end period; no end period after legend]. Shortening of some words inside table (NOT in table legend): year(s) · yr; month(s) · mo; day(s) · d; hour(s) · hr; minute(s) · min; second(s) · sec; and · &. Use en dashes for empty entries. Footnotes are indicated using these symbols (in order of appearance): \*, †, ‡, §, ||, ¶, \* \* [note: when > 10 footnotes, use superscripted lowercase letters]. Abbreviations used in the table, even when already dened in the text, should be defined and placed after the footnotes and presented like in this example: CT, computed tomography; MRI, magnetic resonance imaging. [note: the use of "," with a space on either side, semi-colon to separate, and a period after the last].

*Figures*

Figure legends should be submitted for all figures and should be brief and specific and placed on a separate sheet after the reference section. Figures must be in numerical order using Arabic numerals in the order of their citation in the text. Figures should be uploaded as separate files, not embedded in the manuscript file.

Regardless of the application used, 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):

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## **REVIEW AND ACTION**

### **The Editorial and Peer Review Process**

As a general rule, the receipt of a manuscript will be acknowledged within 2 weeks of submission; authors will be provided with a manuscript reference number for future correspondence. If an acknowledgment is not received in a reasonable period of time, the author should contact the Editorial Office.

Submissions are reviewed by the Editorial Office to ensure that it contains all parts. Submissions will be rejected if the author has not supplied all the material and documents as outlined in the Journal's author guidelines. Manuscripts are then reviewed by the Editors, who make an initial assessment. If the manuscript does not appear to be of sufficient merit or is not appropriate for the Journal, the manuscript will be rejected without review. All other manuscripts are sent to 2 or more expert consultants for double-blind peer review. Authors will usually be notified within 12 weeks of the initial acknowledgment of whether the manuscript is accepted for publication, rejected, or subject to revision before acceptance. However, do note that delays are sometimes unavoidable.

### **Roles of Editors and Editorial Board Members**

#### *Editor-in-Chief*

- Responsible for the whole journal content
- Select, appoint and manage associate editors and editorial board members
- Attract high-quality manuscripts

#### *Associate Editors*

- Assist EiC in getting manuscripts reviewed and published
- Handle articles by subject areas
- Promote the journal

#### *Managing Editor*

- Assist EiC and AEs
- Handle day-to-day paperwork
- Perform technical check on all submitted manuscripts

#### *Advisory Editorial Board*

- A group of respected scholars in the field of Traditional Medicine, Complementary and Alternative Medicine, and Systems Medicine.
- Advise on policy and scope of the journal

#### *Editorial Board*

- A group of respected scholars in the field of Traditional Medicine, Complementary and Alternative Medicine, and Systems Medicine.
- Assist with peer review
- Encourage others to submit manuscripts
- Submit their own work
- Suggest ideas for special issues

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