DESCRIPTION

The *International Journal of Obstetric Anesthesia* is the only journal publishing original articles devoted exclusively to **obstetric anesthesia** and bringing together all three of its principal components; anesthesia care for **operative delivery** and the **perioperative period**, pain relief in **labour** and care of the critically ill obstetric patient.

- Original research (both clinical and laboratory), short reports and case reports will be considered.
- The journal also publishes invited review articles and debates on topical and controversial subjects in the area of obstetric anesthesia.
- Articles on related topics such as **perinatal physiology** and **pharmacology** and all subjects of importance to obstetric anaesthetists/anesthesiologists are also welcome.

The journal is peer-reviewed by international experts. Scholarship is stressed to include the focus on discovery, application of knowledge across fields, and informing the medical community. Through the peer-review process, we hope to attest to the quality of scholarships and guide the Journal to extend and transform knowledge in this important and expanding area.

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INTRODUCTION

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Original articles include randomised controlled trials, observational prospective and retrospective studies, meta-analyses, case-controlled studies, case series, systematic and narrative reviews. Short reports will also be considered for an original article when the aim, outcome and findings are presented succinctly with one illustrative Table or Figure. Each of these is associated with specific guidelines with regard to content and construct, such as provided by the CONSORT and STROBE guidelines. Please see Registration of clinical trials and journal governance. Int J Obstet Anesth 2014;23:204-5.

Submitting case reports
As discussed in Case reports and consent to publication. Int J Obstet Anesth 2016;28:1-2, the International Journal of Obstetric Anesthesia understands the importance of case reports in our subspecialised field. To be accepted for publication, individual case reports need to have important and novel learning points; a simple narrative of a complex or challenging patient(s) or a patient with a rare condition is insufficient. Case series dealing with important areas of practice with a thorough review of the relevant literature will be considered. When writing the case report it is recommended that authors describe the salient features of the case, their novel clinical/technical solutions or features, and a short review of prior knowledge of these cases. Please see guidelines such as those at www.CARE-statement.org. Authors may choose to combine a number of similar cases (usually greater than 3) and write a case series and review article. Submissions of case reports, or correspondence in which a potentially identifiable patient is described, without written consent of the patient, will not be considered for publication (see Ethics in Publishing below).

Invited review articles
The journal publishes review articles and debates on topical and controversial subjects in the area of obstetric anaesthesia. Reviews are often commissioned, although authors may contact the Editor-in-Chief if they wish to discuss potential topics.

Surveys
Surveys will be considered provided they are likely to be of broad interest, well designed and conducted, adequately representative of the anaesthesia community, and have a response rate that is approximately 70% or more. Surveys with a lower response rate will be considered for publication as a letter or occasionally considered for publication as an article, depending on the importance of the topic surveyed and at the editors' discretion.

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