



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF WOMEN'S DERMATOLOGY

AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK

TABLE OF CONTENTS

●	Description	p.1
●	Abstracting and Indexing	p.1
●	Editorial Board	p.1
●	Guide for Authors	p.3



ISSN: 2352-6475

DESCRIPTION

The IJWD (**website: www.wdsijwd.org**) publishes articles pertaining to dermatologic medical, surgical and cosmetic issues faced by female patients and their families. We are interested in original research articles, review articles, unusual case reports, new treatments, clinical trials, education, mentorship and viewpoint articles. Very important articles will have accompanying editorials. Topics which our subsections editors look forward to welcoming include:

Women's HealthOncology, Surgery and AestheticsPediatric DermatologyMedical DermatologySociety

Articles dealing with ethical issues in dermatology and medical legal scenarios are also welcome. We aim for rapid peer review from the academic leadership of the WDS as well as experts throughout the world. We will have open access of the accepted peer-reviewed articles even before the final proofs are compiled, allowing the work to be available as soon as possible. We cater to an audience of dermatologists, scientists, educational experts, family practitioners, pediatricians, gynecologists and obstetricians, plastic surgeons, rheumatologists, internists, family physicians and pharmacologists.

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

EDITORIAL BOARD

Co-Editors in Chief

Jenny Murase, University of California San Francisco, California

Dedee Murrell, University of New South Wales, Australia

Deputy Editor

Neil Sadick, Weill Cornell Medicine Department of Dermatology, New York, New York, United States

Managing Editor

Jennifer Ehrhardt

Women's Health

Daniel Butler, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, California, United States

Marcia Driscoll, University of Maryland at College Park, College Park, Maryland, United States

Misha Max Heller, KECK SCHOOL OF MEDICINE UNV OF SC, Los Angeles, California, United States

George Kroumpouzou, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, United States
Mary Gail Mercurio, University of Rochester, Rochester, New York, United States
Ginat Mirowski, Indiana University Purdue University at Indianapolis, Indianapolis, Indiana, United States
Miriam Pomeranz, New York University, New York, New York, United States

Oncology, Surgery and Aesthetics

Murad Alam, Northwestern University - Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, United States
M. Laurin Council, Washington University in Saint Louis School of Medicine, Saint Louis, Missouri, United States
Marie Aleth Richard, La Timone University Children's Hospital, Marseille, France
Jennifer Stein, New York University, New York, New York, United States
Rebecca Clare Tung, Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, United States

Pediatric Dermatology

Kiarash Khosrotehrani, University of Queensland Diamantina Institute for Cancer Immunology and Metabolic Medicine, Brisbane, Australia
Paula Luna, University of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Kelly Park, Pinnacle Dermatology, Joliet, Illinois, USA

Medical Dermatology

Ulrike Blume-Peytavi, Charite University Hospital Berlin, Germany
Maryam Daneshpazhooh, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran, Islamic Republic of
Mette Deleuran, Aarhus University Hospital, Aarhus, Denmark
Pearl Grimes, University of California Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California, United States
Aikaterini Patsatsi, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki School of Medicine, Thessaloniki, Greece
Marti Jill Rothe, University of Connecticut Department of Dermatology, Farmington, Connecticut, United States
Caitriona Ryan, University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland
Rashmi Sarkar, Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi, India
Bethanee Schlosser, Northwestern University - Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, United States

Society

Diane Berson, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, United States
Collin Blattner, Silver Falls Dermatology, Salem, Oregon, United States
Valerie Callender, Howard University, Washington, District of Columbia, United States
Lori Kels, GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, Washington, District of Columbia, United States
Eve Lowenstein, Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center, Brooklyn, New York, United States
Lia Gracey Maniar, Baylor University, Waco, Texas, United States
Vinayak Nahar, University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, Mississippi, United States
Neil Sadick, Weill Cornell Medicine Department of Dermatology, New York, New York, United States

IJWD Advisory Board

Wilma Bergfeld, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio, United States
JudyAnn Bigby, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, United States
Janine Clayton, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, United States
Susan Cooper, Churchill Hospital, Oxford, United Kingdom
Jane M. Grant-Kels, UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT HEALTH CENTER, Farmington, Connecticut, United States
Paula Hillard, STANFORD UNIVERSITY, Stanford, California, United States
William James, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States
Alexa Kimball, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, United States
Mary Maloney, University of Massachusetts System, Boston, Massachusetts, United States
Carolyn Mazure, Yale University, Psychiatry, New Haven, Connecticut, United States
Amy Paller, Northwestern University - Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, United States
Marcia Ramos-de-Silva, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Vermen Verardo Rowell, VMV Skin Research Centre & Clinics, Dermatology, Makati, Philippines
Eli Sprecher, Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, Tel Aviv, Israel
Antonella Tosti, University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida, United States
Victoria Werth, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States
Luitgard Wiest, Charite University Hospital Berlin, Berlin, Germany

GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION

International Journal of Women's Dermatology is a refereed journal designed to meet the continuing education needs of the Women's Dermatology Society members and the entire dermatologic community. The Journal bases its policies on the guidelines set forth by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (<http://www.icmje.org/>).

Disclaimer

Statements and opinions expressed in the articles and communications herein are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of the Editor(s), Publisher, or Women's Dermatology Society (WDS). The Editor(s), Publisher, and WDS disclaim any responsibility or liability for such material and do not guarantee, warrant, or endorse any products or services advertised in this publication, nor do they guarantee any claim made by the manufacturer of such products or services.

Contact Details for Submission

EDITORS

Jenny Murase, M.D.

University of California at San Francisco & Palo Alto Foundation Medical Group, Mountain View, California, USA

jemurase@gmail.com

Dedee Murrell MA, BMBCh, MD, FACD

St George Hospital, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia

d.murrell@unsw.edu.au

DEPUTY EDITOR

Neil Sadick, MD.

Weill Medical College of Cornell University, New York, New York, USA

nssderm@sadickdermatology.com

EDITORIAL OFFICE

Jennifer Ehrhardt, Managing Editor

jenfir@comcast.net

860-985-3066

PUBLISHER

Elsevier Inc.

3251 Riverport Lane

Maryland Heights, MO 63043

ARTICLE CATEGORIES

Womens Health Highlight

This signature article, featured as the first article in each issue of IJWD, is a report, review, or study on a topic related broadly to women's health with relevance across the disciplines of medicine. This article should focus on the dermatologic health of women and their families that would appeal to broad audiences around the world. There is an accompanying Patient Page for each Women's Health Highlight that provides information that can be utilized by patients, summarizing the salient points of this signature article.

Original Research

A report of a study, written by the researchers describing the research or hypothesis, and containing all the back-up information and data to support it.

Review

A current review of a disease or treatment as it relates to women and their families. A structured abstract and highlights should be included.

Manuscripts submitted as a Women's Health Highlight, Original Research, and Review articles should contain an Abstract, be no longer than 3,000 words and up to 8 tables/ graphs. There is no limit on references.

Art of Prevention

This signature article aims to help dermatologists in clinical practice by providing information to clinicians on optimal ways to provide preventative medical care. This may include explanation of time tested "preventative tools," clinical diagnostic pearls, and practical interventions. The AOP series provides a collaborative avenue for fellow clinicians to present and explore the practicalities in dermatologic care that impact women and their families.

Manuscripts submitted for the Art of Prevention series should contain an Abstract, be no longer than 1,500 words and up to 4 tables/graphs. There is no limit on references.

Cases, Pearls, and Research Letters

Case Letters highlight a case of interest to the dermatologic community with an important diagnostic or therapeutic challenge.

Research Letters contain an interesting new treatment or unusual diagnosis, related to dermatologic issues regarding women and their families. Articles about historical women in medicine or historical accounts of the diagnosis or management of dermatologic disease would be appropriate for this category.

Pearls consist of short articles which describe a novel treatment/technique for an existing skin problem or an existing treatment with a novel application to a skin problem. We are particularly interested in practical therapeutic pearls for common dermatological diseases that affect women and their families.

Submissions should be structured with the following subheadings: Clinical problem Therapeutic solution

Manuscripts submitted as Pearls, Case Letters and Research Letters should be up to 500 words, 2 figures/tables, and up to 5 references and not contain an Abstract. Letters should begin as Dear Editors, read like a letter and not contain headings.

Ethics

Two types of submissions are welcomed:

Short case-based articles Dermatoethics consultation requests, in which authors can submit short cases or scenarios for commentary and analysis

Images in Womens Dermatology

This series features one or two clinical photos that are relevant to the dermatologic health of women and their families. The images will illustrate a clinical pearl that will be useful in caring for patients.

Manuscripts submitted for the Images in Women's Dermatology series should contain the following elements: Case summary no more than 150 words "What is your diagnosis?" with 5 single-choice diagnosis options and a single best answer choice Discussion of no more than 450 words Up to 2 additional multiple choice questions following the discussion (ie "What is the next best step in management?", "What are you most likely to see on pathology?")

Further guidelines include that there should be patient permission for photo release if there is identifying information in the photo, ?3 references, ?4 authors, and ?2 figures.

Editorial

Brief, provocative, opinionated communications regarding dermatologic issues for female patients or their families are encouraged. We are specifically interested in ethical issues that impact dermatologists and their patients.

Letter to the Editor

Letters commenting on material previously published in the Journal will be considered.

Article Topics

Articles should be submitted under one of the following sections:

Women's Health

Pregnancy Issues Endocrine Disorders including Menopause and their impact on the skin Aging Considerations in Female Skin Vulvar Disorders Diseases of the Female Breast

Medical Dermatology Acne and Rosacea in Women Inflammatory Issues in Women (Psoriasis, Atopic Dermatitis, Contact Dermatitis) Collagen Vascular Diseases that Impact the Skin of Women Blistering Diseases in Women Tropical Diseases and Infectious Cutaneous Diseases in Women Skin of Color Issues Including Pigmentary Disorders, such as Vitiligo Hair Issues and Alopecia in Female Patients Nail Issues of Female Patients Psychodermatology Issues in Women

Oncology, Surgery, and Aesthetics Skin Cancer and Surgical Issues of Female Patients Lymphoma and Melanoma Pigmented Lesions in Women, Dermoscopy, Confocal Cosmetic Issues and Lasers for Women Aesthetics

Pediatric Dermatology Surgical Issues in our Children Impact of Pediatric Dermatologic Issues on the Family Genetic Conditions Passed on by Mothers

Therapeutics Relevant to Females Clinical Trials of Dermatologic Products Used in Female Patients
Women's Health Therapeutics - Drug Use in Women During Adolescence, Pregnancy, Lactation, Etc.
Workforce Issues Relevant to Women in Dermatology Mentoring Section - Dealing with Working
Moms, Time Management, Life Balancing Issues
Ethics Medical-Legal Literary Ethics Medical-legal Teledermatology Epidemiology
Society Articles profiling WDS leaders or impactful female dermatologists Historical pieces Report on
WDS Sponsored Research Projects, WDS Meeting Reports and Presentation Abstracts

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Ethics in publishing

Please see our information pages on [Ethics in publishing](#) and [Ethical guidelines for journal publication](#).

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. 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.

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:

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. Any relevant conflict of interest should be disclosed in the Author Declaration form and in the Acknowledgments and Disclosures section of the manuscript 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](#).

The Journal requires all authors to acknowledge, in the comments section of EES (<http://ees.elsevier.com/ijwd>), all funding sources that supported their work as well as all institutional or corporate affiliations of the authors. The title page must also include a publishable statement disclosing any associations, current and over the past 5 years, that might pose a conflict of interest. These include but are not limited to employment, royalties, consultant arrangements with a commercial entity, stock or other equity ownership, stock options, patent licensing arrangements, payments for conducting or publicizing a product or study, or consulting relationships with investment companies.

In addition, authors are required to disclose similar associations with companies that make a competing product. When no conflicting or competing interests are present, this should be indicated in the publishable disclosure statement. If the authors have competing or conflicting interests that cannot be disclosed in publishable statements, authors should list them in the comments section of EES (They should also explain these interests as well as the reason for the need for confidentiality in a statement to the Editor. The Editor asks each reviewer to disclose any competing interests or conflicts of interest that might interfere with one's objectivity (or to recuse oneself from acting as a reviewer). The Editors and members of the editorial staff have registered their competing interests,

if any. The Editors and members of the editorial staff will ensure that all conflicts are appropriately resolved. Conflicts that cannot be appropriately resolved will result in rejection of the manuscript or review. Undisclosed conflicts may result in sanctions to include published statements of retraction or removal of a manuscript from the archived journal table of contents and Medline database.

Each author must sign an authorship statement and conflict of interest statement found in the Author Declaration Template. Both of these must be submitted with each manuscript. The form is available for download [here](#).

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

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.

The Journal's authorship criteria are adapted from those of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors and are delineated on the Authorship Statement. Role of writers, "ghost writers," and other "third parties" involved in manuscript development and production.

The involvement, nature of involvement, and affiliation or support of any medical writers, "ghost writers," or other individuals or companies or third parties participating in the development or writing of any papers must be noted and explained in the cover letter and in a publishable statement on the manuscript title page. (This does not include tasks such as typing or photocopying.) This statement will be published as part of the first-page footnotes. All individuals involved in the preparation and writing of each paper who meet the IJWD's authorship criteria (see our Authorship Statement) must be listed as authors. The names, highest academic degree, and affiliations of any persons who contributed to writing the paper or analyzing the data who do not meet authorship criteria must be included in the paper's Acknowledgements along with a disclosure of any pertinent conflicts of interest. Individuals listed in the Acknowledgements because of such contributions to the work should provide written consent. The use of "ghost writers" or any author employed by an entity with a commercial interest in any product discussed is rarely appropriate for any manuscript and is strictly prohibited for any CME-accredited activity.

Reporting clinical trials

Randomized controlled trials should be presented according to the CONSORT guidelines. At manuscript submission, authors must provide the CONSORT checklist accompanied by a flow diagram that illustrates the progress of patients through the trial, including recruitment, enrollment, randomization, withdrawal and completion, and a detailed description of the randomization procedure. The [CONSORT checklist and template flow diagram](#) are available online.

Registration of clinical trials

Registration in a public trials registry is a condition for publication of clinical trials in this journal in accordance with [International Committee of Medical Journal Editors](#) recommendations. Trials must register at or before the onset of patient enrolment. The clinical trial registration number should be included at the end of the abstract of the article. A clinical trial is defined as any research study that prospectively assigns human participants or groups of humans to one or more health-related interventions to evaluate the effects of health outcomes. Health-related interventions include any intervention used to modify a biomedical or health-related outcome (for example drugs, surgical procedures, devices, behavioural treatments, dietary interventions, and process-of-care changes). Health outcomes include any biomedical or health-related measures obtained in patients or participants, including pharmacokinetic measures and adverse events. Purely observational studies (those in which the assignment of the medical intervention is not at the discretion of the investigator) will not require registration.

Copyright

Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete an 'Exclusive License Agreement' (see [more information](#) on this). Permitted third party reuse of open access articles is determined by the author's choice of [user license](#).

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.

Open access

This is an open access journal: all articles will be immediately and permanently free for everyone to read and download. To provide open access, this journal has an open access fee (also known as an article publishing charge APC) which needs to be paid by the authors or on their behalf e.g. by their research funder or institution. Permitted third party (re)use is defined by the following [Creative Commons user licenses](#):

Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY)

Lets others distribute and copy the article, create extracts, abstracts, and other revised versions, adaptations or derivative works of or from an article (such as a translation), include in a collective work (such as an anthology), text or data mine the article, even for commercial purposes, as long as they credit the author(s), do not represent the author as endorsing their adaptation of the article, and do not modify the article in such a way as to damage the author's honor or reputation.

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.

The open access fee for this journal is **USD 800**, excluding taxes. Open access fee waivers will be considered on a case by cases basis. Questions about open access fee waivers should be addressed to Jennifer Ehrhardt at jenfir@comcast.net.

Learn more about Elsevier's pricing policy: <https://www.elsevier.com/journals/international-journal-of-womens-dermatology/2352-6475/open-access-journal>.

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 Author Services.

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.

Submission Requirements Double-space your manuscript Line-number (continuous) your manuscript Your title page should be numbered as page 1 Include a cover letter Include a completed [author declaration form](#) Include figures and tables as attachments in their native format

For Revised Submissions

Include a detailed Response to Reviewers page. Make sure to use either the tracked-changes function in Word, or highlight areas that have been edited.

The original page-numbered copy of the manuscript must be double-spaced. The title page should be numbered page 1. Please line number all submissions before creating the PDF. This continuous line numbering will help our reviewers with writing their comments and should speed the peer-review process. To add line numbers to your Word manuscript file, select File/Page Setup/Layout/Line Numbering/Add line numbering/Continuous, and save the changes.

For revised submissions, please make sure that all changes from the original manuscript are highlighted.

PREPARATION

Peer review

This journal operates a single 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](#).

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.

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 details to allow the work to be reproduced by an independent researcher. Methods that are already published should be summarized, and indicated by a reference. If quoting directly from a previously published method, use quotation marks and also cite the source. Any modifications to existing methods should also 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.

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:

Authors are required to state their names in full, i.e. given name, initial(s) (this is optional), last name. 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 (find the template [here](#)).
- 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](#).

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), initial(s) (this is optional) and family name(s) of each author and check that all names are accurately spelled. You can add your name between parentheses in your own script behind the English transliteration. 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. This responsibility includes answering any future queries about Methodology and Materials. **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.

Highlights

Highlights are optional yet highly encouraged for this journal, as they increase the discoverability of your article via search engines. They consist of a short collection of bullet points that capture the novel results of your research as well as new methods that were used during the study (if any). Please have a look at the examples here: [example Highlights](#).

Highlights 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).

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.

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.

Select at least 6 classifications to facilitate matching the manuscript with reviewers. You can do this in EES by clicking 'Select Document Classifications' to open a window containing a list of the classifications pertaining to the Journal. Then click the check-box next to any classification you wish to select. Click 'Submit' when you are done.

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.
- Ensure that color images are accessible to all, including those with impaired color vision.

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.](#)

Illustration services

[Elsevier's Author Services](#) 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.

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.

Reference links

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. Use of the DOI is highly encouraged.

A DOI is guaranteed never to change, so you can use it as a permanent link to any electronic article. An example of a citation using DOI for an article not yet in an issue is: VanDecar J.C., Russo R.M., James D.E., Ambeh W.B., Franke M. (2003). Aseismic continuation of the Lesser Antilles slab beneath northeastern Venezuela. *Journal of Geophysical Research*, <https://doi.org/10.1029/2001JB000884>. Please note the format of such citations should be in the same style as all other references in the paper.

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.

Data references

This journal encourages you to cite underlying or relevant datasets in your manuscript by citing them in your text and including a data reference in your Reference List. Data references should include the following elements: author name(s), dataset title, data repository, version (where available), year, and global persistent identifier. Add [dataset] immediately before the reference so we can properly identify it as a data reference. The [dataset] identifier will not appear in your published article.

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](#). Using citation 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. If you use reference management software, please ensure that you remove all field codes before submitting the electronic manuscript. [More information on how to remove field codes from different reference management software](#).

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/international-journal-of-womens-dermatology>

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: All citations in the text should refer to:

1. *Single author:* the author's name (without initials, unless there is ambiguity) and the year of publication;
2. *Two authors:* both authors' names and the year of publication;
3. *Three or more authors:* first author's name followed by 'et al.' and the year of publication.

Citations may be made directly (or parenthetically). Groups of references can be listed either first alphabetically, then chronologically, or vice versa.

Examples: 'as demonstrated (Allan, 2000a, 2000b, 1999; Allan and Jones, 1999)... Or, as demonstrated (Jones, 1999; Allan, 2000)... Kramer et al. (2010) have recently shown ...'

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:

Van der Geer J, Hanraads JAJ, Lupton RA. The art of writing a scientific article. *J Sci Commun* 2010;163:51–9. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.Sc.2010.00372>.

Reference to a journal publication with an article number:

Van der Geer J, Hanraads JAJ, Lupton RA. The art of writing a scientific article. *Heliyon*. 2018;19:e00205. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2018.e00205>.

Reference to a book:

Strunk Jr W, White EB. *The elements of style*. 4th ed. New York: Longman; 2000.

Reference to a chapter in an edited book:

Mettam GR, Adams LB. How to prepare an electronic version of your article. In: Jones BS, Smith RZ, editors. Introduction to the electronic age. New York: E-Publishing Inc; 2009. p. 281–304.

Reference to a website:

Cancer Research UK, Cancer statistics reports for the UK. <http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/aboutcancer/statistics/cancerstatsreport/>, 2003 (accessed 13 March 2003).

Reference to a dataset:

[dataset] Oguro M, Imahiro S, Saito S, Nakashizuka T. Mortality data for Japanese oak wilt disease and surrounding forest compositions, Mendeley Data, v1; 2015. <https://doi.org/10.17632/xwj98nb39r.1>. Note shortened form for last page number. e.g., 51–9, and that for more than 6 authors the first 6 should be listed followed by "et al." For further details you are referred to "Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts submitted to Biomedical Journals" (J Am Med Assoc 1997;277:927–34) (see also [Samples of Formatted References](#)).

Journal abbreviations source

Journal names should be abbreviated according to the [List of Title Word Abbreviations](#).

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 file in one of our recommended file formats with a preferred maximum size of 150 MB per file, 1 GB in total. 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.

Supplementary material

Supplementary material such as applications, images and sound clips, can be published with your article to enhance it. Submitted supplementary items are published exactly as they are received (Excel or PowerPoint files will appear as such online). Please submit your material together with the article and supply a concise, descriptive caption for each supplementary file. If you wish to make changes to supplementary material during any stage of the process, please make sure to provide an updated file. Do not annotate any corrections on a previous version. Please switch off the 'Track Changes' option in Microsoft Office files as these will appear in the published version.

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](#).

Supplements

The IWDJ follows the guidelines for supplements established by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors. These guidelines are included in the document entitled "Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals," which can be found at <http://www.icmje.org>. Supplements undergo peer review and are processed in the same fashion as regular submissions to the Journal. All manuscript submission requirements, including clear disclosure of authorship contributions, must be satisfied for each paper. Inquiries about proposed supplements should be directed to the Editor before submitting the supplement. Please note Journal policy on the use of the word "unrestricted" in the description of educational grants: The use of the term "unrestricted" will be limited to situations in which the granting institution has no influence on the selection of the subject, speakers, or authors. In circumstances in which the granting institution has had such influence (as, for example, in organizing a symposium or supplement on a particular subject), it is nonetheless required that the granting organization have no influence over the content of the articles. It is also understood that the authors assume full responsibility for the content of the articles and for complete disclosure of all funding sources, potential conflicts of interest, role of any sponsor, and role of any third parties involved in the preparation or writing of the manuscripts.

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, at no cost, will be provided with a PDF file of the article via e-mail (the PDF file is a watermarked version of the published article and includes a cover sheet with the journal cover image and a disclaimer outlining the terms and conditions of use). 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 Author Services](#).

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>