DESCRIPTION

The *Journal of Dental Sciences (JDS)*, published quarterly, is the official and open access publication of the *Association for Dental Sciences of the Republic of China (ADS-ROC)*. The precedent journal of the *JDS* is the Chinese Dental Journal (CDJ) which had already been covered by MEDLINE in 1988. As the CDJ continued to prove its importance in the region, the ADS-ROC decided to move to the international community by publishing an English journal. Hence, the birth of the *JDS* in 2006. The *JDS* is indexed in the SCI Expanded since 2008. It is also indexed in Scopus, and EMCare, ScienceDirect, SIIC Data Bases.

The topics covered by the *JDS* include all fields of basic and clinical dentistry. Some manuscripts focusing on the study of certain endemic diseases such as dental caries and periodontal diseases in particular regions of any country as well as oral pre-cancers, oral cancers, and oral submucous fibrosis related to betel nut chewing habit are also considered for publication. Besides, the *JDS* also publishes articles about the efficacy of a new treatment modality on oral verrucous hyperplasia or early oral squamous cell carcinoma.

In addition, we also publish the scientific researches evaluating the use of new biomaterials, new drugs and new methods for treatment of patients with different kinds of oral and maxillofacial diseases or defects, the diagnosis of oral and maxillofacial diseases with new methods, etc. Moreover, researches on the quality of life, psychological interventions, improving disease treatment outcomes, the prevention, diagnosis and management of cancer therapeutic complications, rehabilitation, palliative and end of life care, and support teamwork for cancer care and oral health care for old patients are also welcome, due to remarkable increase of elder patients above 60 years old in the north-east region of Asia. In short, the *JDS* publishes the scientific dental articles that bring new knowledge, new observations, new techniques, new diagnosis and treatment modalities, and new clinical trials to all the readers of this journal.

The target audience of the *JDS* includes researchers, dental practitioners or clinicians, oral and dental policy-makers, dental educators, hard-tissue scientists, dental students, and other health professionals. The *JDS* accepts Perspectives, Review articles, Original articles, Case reports, Short communications, Research letters, Correspondence and Letters to the Editor.

**Benefits to authors**

We also provide many author benefits, such as free PDFs, a liberal copyright policy, special discounts on Elsevier publications and much more. Please click here for more information on our author services.
IMPACT FACTOR
2018: 0.798 © Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Reports 2019

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING
PubMed Central
Science Citation Index Expanded
ScienceDirect
Scopus
EMCARE
PubMed/Medline
SIIC Data Bases
EBSCOhost
ProQuest
Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

EDITORIAL BOARD

Publisher
Wei-Jen Chang, Taipei Medical University College of Oral Medicine

Editor-in-Chief
Chun-Pin Chiang, National Taiwan University Department of Dentistry

Associate Editors
Kuo-Wei Chang, National Yang-Ming University School of Dentistry
Yu-Chao Chang, Chung Shan Medical University Department of Dentistry
Yuk-Kwan Chen, Kaohsiung Medical University College of Dental Medicine
Tsui Hsien Huang, Chung Shan Medical University Department of Endodontics
Bor-Shiunn Lee, National Taiwan University School of Dentistry
Tzer-Min Lee, Kaohsiung Medical University College of Dental Medicine
Li-Deh Lin, National Taiwan University Department of Dentistry
Yi-Shing Shieh, National Defense Medical Center School of Dentistry

Executive Editors
Hsien-Chung Chiu, National Defense Medical Center School of Dentistry
Yuan-Ling Lee, National Taiwan University Hospital Department of Dentistry
Wen-Liang Lo, National Yang-Ming University School of Dentistry
Nai-Chia Teng, Taipei Medical University College of Oral Medicine
Kenko, Jian-Hong Yu, China Medical University Department of Orthodontics

Editorial Board
Min-Huey Chen, National Taiwan University College of Medicine
Hsin-Chung Cheng, Taipei Medical University, Coll. of Oral Medicine
Lin-Yang Chi, National Yang-Ming University Department of Dentistry
Heng-Li Huang, China Medical University School of Dentistry
Shun-Te Huang, Kaohsiung Medical University, Coll. of Dental Medicine
Chun-Cheng Hung, Kaohsiung Medical University Hospital, Department of Prosthodontics
Chia-Tze Kao, Chung Shan Medical University College of Oral Medicine
Keng-Liang Ou, Taipei Medical University Research Center for Biomedical Devices and Prototyping Production
Dar-Bin Shieh, National Cheng Kung University Institute of Oral Medicine
Andy Yan-Tung Teng, Kaohsiung Medical University, Coll. of Dental Medicine
Ming-Gene Tu, China Medical University
Yi-Bing Wang, National Defense Medical Center Department of Oral Biology

International Editorial Board
Chih Kuang (Casey) Chen, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California, United States
Alex (Siu Lun) Fok, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota, United States
Reinhard Hickel, Dental School of the Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Department of Restorative Dentistry, Munich, Germany
Yiming Li, Loma Linda University School of Dentistry, Loma Linda, California, United States
GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION
The Journal of Dental Sciences (JDS), published quarterly, is the official and open access publication of the Association for Dental Sciences of the Republic of China (ADS-ROC). The precedent journal of the JDS is the Chinese Dental Journal (CDJ) which had already been covered by MEDLINE in 1988. As the CDJ continued to prove its importance in the region, the ADS-ROC decided to move to the international community by publishing an English journal. Hence, the birth of the JDS in 2006. The JDS is indexed in the SCI Expanded since 2008. It is also indexed in Scopus, and EMCare, ScienceDirect, SIIC Data Bases.

The topics covered by the JDS include all fields of basic and clinical dentistry. Some manuscripts focusing on the study of certain endemic diseases such as dental caries and periodontal diseases in particular regions of any country as well as oral pre-cancers, oral cancers, and oral submucous fibrosis related to betel nut chewing habit are also considered for publication. Besides, the JDS also publishes articles about the efficacy of a new treatment modality on oral verrucous hyperplasia or early oral squamous cell carcinoma.

In addition, we also publish the scientific researches evaluating the use of new biomaterials, new drugs and new methods for treatment of patients with different kinds of oral and maxillofacial diseases or defects, the diagnosis of oral and maxillofacial diseases with new methods, etc. Moreover, researches on the quality of life, psychological interventions, improving disease treatment outcomes, the prevention, diagnosis and management of cancer therapeutic complications, rehabilitation, palliative and end of life care, and support teamwork for cancer care and oral health care for old patients are also welcome, due to remarkable increase of elder patients above 60 years old in the north–east region of Asia. In short, the JDS publishes the scientific dental articles that bring new knowledge, new observations, new techniques, new diagnosis and treatment modalities, and new clinical trials to all the readers of this journal.

The target audience of the JDS includes researchers, dental practitioners or clinicians, oral and dental policy-makers, dental educators, hard-tissue scientists, dental students, and other health professionals. The JDS accepts Perspectives, Review articles, Original articles, Case reports, Short communications, Research letters, Correspondence and Letters to the Editor.

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

The Editorial Board requires authors to be in compliance with the Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals (URMs), which are compiled by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE); current URMs are available at http://www.icmje.org.

The Guide for Authors will be revised periodically by the Editors as needed. Authors should consult a recent issue of the Journal or visit http://www.e-jds.com for the latest version of these instructions. Any manuscript not prepared according to these instructions will be returned immediately to the author(s) without review.

Types of article

Types of article
The categories of articles that are published in the Journal are listed and described below. Please select the category that best describes your paper. If your paper does not fall into any of these categories, please contact the Editorial Office.

Perspectives
These are comments on recent news or groundbreaking work and should provide a short review of the current state of research and explain the importance of the new findings. Perspectives on papers previously published in the JDS should add a different viewpoint to the research and should not merely be a repetitive summary of the original paper. Although many of the Perspectives published in the Journal are normally invited, unsolicited Perspectives are welcome and will be given due consideration.
As these are meant to express a personal commentary, with rare exceptions.

Format guide

- Authors: up to 3
- Word limit: 1000 words
- References: up to 10
- Tables/Figures: 1 maximum

**Review Articles**

These should aim to provide the reader with a balanced overview of an important and topical issue in research or clinical practice. They should cover aspects of a topic in which scientific consensus exists as well as aspects that remain controversial and are the subject of ongoing scientific research. All articles and data sources reviewed should include information about the specific type of study or analysis, population, intervention, exposure, and tests or outcomes. All articles or data sources should be selected systematically for inclusion in the review and critically evaluated. *Please note that review articles are submitted by invitation only.

Format guide

- Abstract: required, up to 250 words, unstructured (i.e., no subheadings)
- Keywords: up to 10
- Word limit: 3500 words
- References: up to 100
- Tables/Figures: 1 maximum

**Original Articles**

These articles typically include randomized trials, intervention studies, studies of screening and diagnostic tests, laboratory and animal studies, cohort studies, cost-effectiveness analyses, case-control studies, and surveys with high response rates, which represent new and significant contributions to the field.

Section headings should be: Abstract, Introduction, Materials and methods, Results, Discussion, Conflicts of Interest Statement, Acknowledgments (if any), and References.

The Introduction should provide a brief background to the subject of the paper, explain the importance of the study, and state a precise study question or purpose.

The Materials and methods section should describe the study design and methods (including the study setting and dates, patients/participants with inclusion and exclusion criteria, patient samples or animal specimens used, the essential features of any interventions, the main outcome measures, the laboratory methods followed, or data sources and how these were selected for the study), and state the statistical procedures employed in the research.

The Results section should comprise the study results presented in a logical sequence, supplemented by tables and/or figures. Take care that the text does not repeat data that are presented in tables and/or figures. Only emphasize and summarize the essential features of the main outcome measures, and the main results.

The Discussion section should be used to emphasize the new and important aspects of the study, placing the results in context with published literature, the implications of the findings, and the conclusions that follow from the study results.

Format guide

- Abstract: required, up to 250 words
- Keywords: up to 10
- Word limit: 2500 words
- References: up to 40

**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. They may describe novel techniques or use of equipment, or new information on diseases of importance. Section headings should be: Abstract, Introduction, Case Report, Discussion, Conflicts of Interest Statement (if any), Acknowledgments (if any), and References.
The Introduction should describe the purpose of the present report, the significance of the disease and its specificity, and briefly review the relevant literature.

The Case Report should include statements of the problem, patient history, diagnosis, treatment, outcome and any other information pertinent to the case(s).

The Discussion should compare, analyze and discuss the similarities and differences between the reported case and similar cases reported in other published articles. The importance or specificity of the case should be restated when discussing the differential diagnoses. Suggest the prognosis of the disease and possibility of prevention.

Case reports should have no more than 6 authors. The maximum length is 1500 words, and the number of references should not exceed 10.

*The JDS is currently not accepting any submissions of Case Reports due to the large number of as yet unpublished but accepted Case Reports. Once this backlog of Case Reports has been cleared, the Editors will reassess the situation. Please watch this space for further updates.

**Short Communications**

These reports should be concise presentations of preliminary experimental results, instrumentation and analytical techniques, or aspects of clinical or experimental practice that are not fully investigated, verified or perfected but which may be of widespread interest or application. The Editors reserve the right to decide what constitutes a Short Communication.

Format guide

- Authors: up to 6
- Abstract: required, up to 150 words
- Keywords: up to 10
- Word limit: 1500 words
- References: up to 10
- Tables/Figures: 2 maximum

**Research Letters**

These typically include interesting cases that do not meet the requirement of being truly exceptional.

Format guide

- Abstract: not required
- Word limit: 1000 words
- References: up to 10

**Correspondence**

These include short case reports, technical or clinical notes and short comments on previously published articles. The Editors reserve the right to decide what constitutes a Correspondence.

Format guide

- Number of authors: up to 4
- Abstract: not required
- Keywords: up to 10
- Word limit: 500 words
- References: up to 5
- Tables/Figures: 1 maximum

**Letters to the Editor**

Brief letters of constructive comments in response to previously published JDS articles are welcome. Ensure that the corresponding author's mailing and e-mail addresses are included. Letters are edited, sometimes extensively, to sharpen their focus. They may be sent for peer review at the discretion of JDS Editors. Letters are selected based on clarity, significance, and space.

Format guide

- Author: up to 3
BEFORE YOU BEGIN

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

**Studies in humans and animals**
If the work involves the use of human subjects, the author should ensure that the work described has been carried out in accordance with The Code of Ethics of the World Medical Association (Declaration of Helsinki) for experiments involving humans. The manuscript should be in line with the Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals and aim for the inclusion of representative human populations (sex, age and ethnicity) as per those recommendations. The terms sex and gender should be used correctly.

Authors should include a statement in the manuscript that informed consent was obtained for experimentation with human subjects. The privacy rights of human subjects must always be observed.

All animal experiments should comply with the ARRIVE guidelines and should be carried out in accordance with the U.K. Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act, 1986 and associated guidelines, EU Directive 2010/63/EU for animal experiments, or the National Institutes of Health guide for the care and use of Laboratory animals (NIH Publications No. 8023, revised 1978) and the authors should clearly indicate in the manuscript that such guidelines have been followed. The sex of animals must be indicated, and where appropriate, the influence (or association) of sex on the results of the study.

**Ethical Approval of Studies and Informed Consent**
For human or animal experimental investigations, appropriate institutional review board or ethics committee approval is required, and such approval should be stated in the methods section of the manuscript. For those investigators who do not have formal ethics review committees, the principles outlined in the Declaration of Helsinki should be followed (World Medical Association. Declaration of Helsinki: ethical principles for medical research involving human subjects. Available at: http://www.wma.net/en/30publications/10policies/b3/17c.pdf).

For investigations in humans, state explicitly in the methods section of the manuscript that informed consent was obtained from all participating adults and from parents or legal guardians for minors or incapacitated adults, together with the manner in which informed consent was obtained (ex. oral or written).

For work involving animals, the guidelines for their care and use that were followed should be stated in the methods section of the manuscript. For those investigators who do not have formal institutional guidelines relating to animal experiments, the European Commission Directive 86/609/EEC for animal experiments (available at http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/lab_animals/legislation_en.htm) should be followed and the same should be stated in the methods section of the manuscript.

**Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest**
A conflict of interest occurs when an individual's objectivity is potentially compromised by a desire for financial gain, prominance, professional advancement or a successful outcome. JDS Editors strive to ensure that what is published in the Journal is as balanced, objective and evidence-based as possible. Since it is difficult to distinguish between an actual conflict of interest and a perceived conflict of interest, the Journal requires authors to disclose all and any potential conflicts of interest. Conflicts of interest may be financial or non-financial. Financial conflicts include financial relationships such as honoraria; educational grants; participation in speakers' bureaus; membership, employment, consultancies, stock ownership, or other equity interest; expert testimony or patent-licensing arrangements. Non-financial conflicts include personal or professional relationships, affiliations, academic competition, intellectual passion, knowledge or beliefs that might affect objectivity.

Please ensure that the name of each author listed in your manuscript appears in either Section I or Section II on the page 2 of the JDS Authorship & Conflicts of Interest Statement form (an author’s name cannot appear in both Section I and Section II of the form).

**Conflicts of Interest Statement and/or Funding/Support Statement**
Since it is difficult to distinguish between an actual conflict of interest and a perceived conflict of interest, the JDS requires authors to disclose all and any potential conflicts of interest and let readers judge for themselves. Therefore, please ensure that you provide information about any potential financial and non-financial conflicts of interest (see Section 2 for more information) in a concise paragraph after the main text. All financial and material support for the research, work, writing and editorial assistance from internal or external agencies, including commercial companies, should be clearly and completely identified in a Funding/Support Statement.

**Declaration of interest**

All authors must disclose any financial and personal relationships with other people or organizations that could inappropriately influence (bias) their work. Examples of potential competing interests include employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent applications/registrations, and grants or other funding. Authors must disclose any interests in two places: 1. A summary declaration of interest statement in the title page file (if double-blind) or the manuscript file (if single-blind). If there are no interests to declare then please state this: 'Declarations of interest: none'. This summary statement will be ultimately published if the article is accepted. 2. Detailed disclosures as part of a separate Declaration of Interest form, which forms part of the journal's official records. It is important for potential interests to be declared in both places and that the information matches. More information.

**Submission declaration and verification**

Submission of an article implies that the work described has not been published previously (except in the form of an abstract, a published lecture or academic thesis, see 'Multiple, redundant or concurrent publication' for more information), that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, that its publication is approved by all authors and tacitly or explicitly by the responsible authorities where the work was carried out, and that, if accepted, it will not be published elsewhere in the same form, in English or in any other language, including electronically without the written consent of the copyright-holder. To verify originality, your article may be checked by the originality detection service Crossref Similarity Check.

**Use of inclusive language**

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

**Reporting Clinical Trials**

All randomized controlled trials submitted for publication should include a completed Consolidated Standards of Reporting Trials (CONSORT) flow chart (please go to http://www.consort-statement.org for more information). The JDS has adopted the ICMJE proposal that requires, as a condition of consideration for publication of clinical trials, registration in a public trials registry. 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.

For this purpose, 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, behavioral 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. Further information can be found at http://www.icmje.org.

**Copyright**

Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete a 'Journal Publishing Agreement' (see more information on this). An e-mail will be sent to the corresponding author confirming receipt of the manuscript together with a 'Journal Publishing Agreement' form or a link to the online version of this agreement.
**Author rights**
As an author you (or your employer or institution) have certain rights to reuse your work. [More information](#).

Manuscripts published in the JDS become the permanent property of the Association for Dental Sciences of the Republic of China. All articles published in the Journal are protected by copyright, which covers the exclusive rights to reproduce and distribute the article, as well as translation rights. No JDS article, in part or whole, may be reproduced, stored in any retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, by photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without prior written permission from the Association for Dental Sciences of the Republic of China. This journal has an embargo period of 12 months.

**Open Access**
This journal is a peer reviewed, open access journal. Starting from August 1, 2019, the publication fee will be adjusted to the following: US$1,000 for original articles and review articles; US$500 for short communications and research letters. No publication fee will be charged for perspectives, correspondences, and letters to the editor. In the event that a manuscript is accepted, the corresponding author will be instructed by the Editorial Office on how to transmit their payment to the Journal. The accepted article will be processed to the next stage only upon receipt of payment.

**User Rights**
All articles published open access will be immediately and permanently free for everyone to read, download, copy and distribute. Permitted reuse is defined by the following user license: [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs (CC BY-NC-ND)](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/): 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.

Elsevier supports responsible sharing
Find out how you can [share your research](https://www.elsevier.com/locate/jdental) published in Elsevier journals.

**Open access**
Please visit our Open Access page from the Journal Homepage for more information.

**Elsevier Researcher Academy**
**Researcher Academy** is a free e-learning platform designed to support early and mid-career researchers throughout their research journey. The "Learn" environment at Researcher Academy offers several interactive modules, webinars, downloadable guides and resources to guide you through the process of writing for research and going through peer review. Feel free to use these free resources to improve your submission and navigate the publication process with ease.

**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](https://www.elsevier.com/locate/jdental) available from Elsevier's Author Services.

**Identification of Patients in Descriptions, Photographs and Pedigrees**
A signed statement of informed consent to publish (in print and online) patient descriptions, photographs and pedigrees should be obtained from all persons (parents or legal guardians for minors) who can be identified (including by the patients themselves) in such written descriptions, photographs or pedigrees. Such persons should be shown the manuscript before its submission. Omitting data or making data less specific to de-identify patients is acceptable, but changing any such data is not acceptable. State explicitly in the methods section of the manuscript that informed consent was obtained from all participating adult subjects or from parents or legal guardians for minors or incapacitated adults, together with the manner in which informed consent was obtained (i.e., oral or written).

**Manuscript Submission**
**Online Submission**
Manuscripts (meaning all submission items, including all text, tables, artwork, cover letter, conflicts of interest disclosures, and any other required documents/material) must be submitted online to the JDS through Elsevier's Editorial System (EVISE). This system can be accessed at [www.elsevier.com/locate/jdental](https://www.elsevier.com/locate/jdental).
Important Information Articles should be in Microsoft Word document format and prepared in the simplest form possible. We will add in the correct font, font size, margins and so on according to the journal's style. You may use automatic page numbering, but do NOT use other kinds of automatic formatting such as footnotes, headers and footers. References especially should NOT be formatted using the MS Word "endnotes" or "footnotes" function; instead, you may use the commercially available EndNote or Reference Manager software to manage your references. Put text, references, table headings and tables, and figure legends in one file. Figures must be submitted as separate picture files, at the correct resolution and named according to the figure number, e.g., "Fig1.tif", "Fig2.jpg". Please see section "Figures" for more information.

Supporting Documents
The following documents must be included in your submission (refer also to the Checklist that is available at http://www.e-jds.com. Items (1), (2) and (3) are mandatory. Items (4), (5), (6) and (7) are required only if they are applicable to your manuscript. Cover Letter. This must include the following information: title of the manuscript corresponding author details (name, e-mail, mailing address, telephone and fax numbers) a statement that the material contained in the manuscript has not been previously published and is not being concurrently submitted elsewhere persons who do not fulfill the requirements to be listed as authors but who nevertheless contributed to the manuscript (such as those who provided writing assistance, for example) should be disclosed list of manuscripts that have been published, submitted, or are in press that are similar to the submission to the JDS (and include in your submission copies of those similar manuscripts so that JDS Editors can be assured there is no overlap) your signature and those of ALL your coauthors

Optional: if you have a list of reviewers who you wish to review or not to review your manuscript, you may include this list in the cover letter Authorship & Conflicts of Interest Statement. Each author's contribution to the manuscript should be listed. Any and all potential and actual conflicts of interest should also be listed (see Section 2 for more information). Please use the JDS Authorship & Conflicts of Interest Statement form that is provided on the Journal's website at http://www.e-jds.com. Your signature and those of ALL your coauthors must be included. Copyright Transfer Agreement. In the event that your manuscript is accepted for publication in the JDS, you are required to transfer all copyright ownership in and relating to the work to Association for Dental Sciences of the Republic
of China. Please use the *JDS Copyright Transfer Agreement* form that is provided on the Journal's website at [http://www.e-jds.com](http://www.e-jds.com). Your signature and those of ALL your coauthors must be included.

**Ethics Statement.** Articles covering the use of human or animal samples in research, or human or animal experiments must be accompanied by a letter of approval from the relevant review committee or authorities. See Section 3 for more information. Consolidated Standards of Reporting Trials (CONSORT) flow chart for randomized controlled trials submitted for publication. See Section 4 for more information. Signed Statement of Informed Consent. 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 Section 5 for more information. Copyright Permission. If you have reproduced or adapted material from other copyrighted sources, the letter(s) of permission from the copyright holder(s) to reproduce or adapt the copyrighted sources must be supplied. Otherwise, such material must be removed from your manuscript.

**Previous Publication or Duplicate Submission**

Submitted manuscripts are considered with the understanding that they have not been published previously in print or electronic format (except in abstract or poster form) and are not under consideration in totality or in part by another publication or electronic medium.

**Basic Criteria**

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 and concise, the study methods are appropriate, the data are valid, and the conclusions are reasonable and supported by the data.

Submit your article
Please submit your article via [http://ees.elsevier.com/jds](http://ees.elsevier.com/jds).

**PREPARATION**

The Editorial and Peer Review Process

**Preparation for Publication**

Once a manuscript has been accepted for publication and completed English editing/polishing, authors should submit the final version of their manuscript in MS Word format, with all tables/figures as applicable, via the EVISE. Accepted manuscripts are then presented to the Publisher to be copyedited according to the Journal's style and the galley proofs in the form of a PDF file are sent by the Publisher to the corresponding author for final approval. Authors are responsible for all statements made in their work, including changes made by the copy editor. Proofreading is solely the authors' responsibility. Note that the Editorial Board reserves the right to make revisions to the manuscript and the Publisher may proceed with the publication of your article if no response from the author(s) is received.

**Changes to Authorship**

This policy concerns the addition, deletion, or rearrangement of author names in the authorship of accepted manuscripts. Before the accepted manuscript is published online, requests to add or remove an author, or to rearrange the author names, must be sent to the Journal Manager from the corresponding author of the accepted manuscript and must include: (i) the reason the name should be added or removed, or the author names rearranged; and (ii) an updated Authorship & Conflicts of Interest Statement with signatures from all authors that they agree with the addition, removal or rearrangement. In the case of addition or removal of author names, this must include confirmation from the author(s) being added or removed. Requests that are not sent by the corresponding author will be forwarded by the Journal Manager to the corresponding author, who must follow the procedures as described above. Note that: (1) Journal Managers will inform the Journal Editors of any such requests and (2) online publication of the accepted manuscript is suspended until authorship has been agreed. After the accepted manuscript is published online, any requests to add, remove, or rearrange author names in an article will follow the same policies as detailed above and result in a corrigendum.

**Peer review**

This journal operates a double blind review process. All contributions are typically sent to a minimum of two independent expert reviewers to assess the scientific quality of the paper. The Editor is responsible for the final decision regarding acceptance or rejection of articles. The Editor's decision is final. More information on types of peer review.
Double-blind review
This journal uses double-blind review, which means the identities of the authors are concealed from the reviewers, and vice versa. More information is available on our website. To facilitate this, please include the following separately:

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

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

Manuscript Preparation
Text should be typed double-spaced on one side of white A4 (297 × 210 mm) paper, with outer margins of 2.5 cm. A manuscript should include a title page, abstract, text, references, conflicts of interest statement (if any), acknowledgments (if any), and figures and tables as appropriate. Each section of the manuscript should begin on a new page. Pages should be numbered consecutively, beginning with the title page.

Title Page
The title page should contain the following information (in order, from the top to bottom of the page): article category article title names (spelled out in full) of all authors*, and the institutions with which they are affiliated†; indicate all affiliations with a superscripted lowercase letter after the author's name and in front of the matching affiliation corresponding author details (name, e-mail, mailing address, telephone and fax numbers) running title not exceeding 50 characters *The name of each author should be written with the family name last, e.g. Wan-Lin Chang and authorship is restricted only to direct participants who have contributed significantly to the work; †each author may list a maximum of 3 affiliations only.

Abstract and Keywords
An abstract (no longer than 300 words) and 3-5 relevant keywords (in alphabetical order) are required for the following article categories: Review Articles, Original Articles, Case Reports and Short Communications.

Abstracts for Review Articles, Case Reports and Short Communications should be unstructured (in one single paragraph with no section headings), and include information on the background/purpose of the report, methods, results (or case report), and conclusions

Abstracts for Original Articles should be structured into the following sections. Background/Purpose: briefly explain the importance of the study topic and state a precise study question or purpose. Materials and methods: briefly introduce the methods used to perform the study; include information on the study design, setting, subjects, interventions, outcome measures and analyses as appropriate. Results: briefly present the significant results, with data and statistical details such as p values where appropriate; be sure that information in the abstract matches that in the main text. Conclusion: state the meaning of your findings, being careful to address the study question directly and to confine your conclusions to aspects covered in the abstract; give equal emphasis to positive and negative findings.

Keywords should be taken from the Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) list of Index Medicus (http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/meshhome.html).

No abstract or keywords are required for Perspectives, Research Letters, Correspondence and Letters to the Editor.

Main Text
The text for Original Articles and Short Communications should be organized into the following sections: Introduction, Materials (or Patients) and methods, Results, Discussion, Conflicts of interest statement, Acknowledgments (if any), and References. Subheadings in long papers are acceptable if needed for clarification and ease of reading. Sections for Case Reports are: Introduction, Case report, Discussion, Conflicts of interest statement (if any), Acknowledgments (if any), and References. Each section should begin on a new page.
Abbreviations
Where a term/definition will be continually referred to, it must be written in full when it first appears in the text, followed by the subsequent abbreviation in parentheses. Thereafter, the abbreviation may be used. An abbreviation should not be first defined in any section heading; if an abbreviation has previously been defined in the text, then the abbreviation may be used in a subsequent section heading. Restrict the number of abbreviations to those that are absolutely necessary and ensure consistency of abbreviations throughout the article. Ensure that an abbreviation so defined does actually appear later in the text (excluding in figures/tables), otherwise, it should be deleted.

Numbers
Numbers that begin a sentence or those that are less than 10 should be spelled out using letters. Centuries and decades should be spelled out, e.g., the Eighties or nineteenth century. Laboratory parameters, time, temperature, length, area, mass, and volume should be expressed using digits.

Units
Système 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. Temperatures are to be given in degrees Celsius.

Names of drugs, devices and other products
Use the Recommended International Nonproprietary Name (rINN) for medicinal substances, unless the specific trade name of a drug is directly relevant to the discussion. Generic drug names should appear in lowercase letters in the text. If a specific proprietary drug needs to be identified, the brand name may appear only once in the manuscript in parentheses following the generic name the first time the drug is mentioned in the text. For devices and other products, the specific brand or trade name, the manufacturer and their location (city, state, country) should be provided the first time the device or product is mentioned in the text, for example, ""SPSS version 11 was used (SPSS Inc., Chicago, IL, USA)"". Thereafter, the generic term (if appropriate) should be used.

Gene nomenclature
Current standard international nomenclature for genes should be adhered to. For human genes, use genetic notation and symbols approved by the HUGO Gene Nomenclature Committee (http://www.genenames.org). You may also refer to the resources available on PubMed at http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/guide/genes-eK65K56K39xpression. The Human Genome Variation Society has a useful site that provides guidance in naming mutations at http://www.hgvs.org/mutnomen/index.html. In your manuscript, genes should be typed in italic font and include the accession number.

Statistical requirements
Statistical analysis is essential for all research papers except Case Reports. Use correct nomenclature of statistical methods (e.g., two sample t test, not unpaired t test). Descriptive statistics should follow the scales used in data description. Inferential statistics are important for interpreting results and should be described in detail. All p values should be presented to the third decimal place for accuracy. The smallest p value that should be expressed is \(p < 0.001\), since additional zeros do not convey useful information; the largest p value that should be expressed is \(p > 0.99\).

Personal communications and unpublished data
These sources cannot be included in the references list but may be described in the text. The author(s) must give the full name and highest academic degree of the person, the date of the communication, and indicate whether it was in oral or written (letter, fax, e-mail) form. A signed statement of permission should be included from each person identified as a source of information in a personal communication or as a source for unpublished data.

Tables
Tables should supplement, not duplicate, the text. They should have a concise table heading, be self-explanatory, and numbered consecutively in the order of their citation in the text. Items requiring explanatory footnotes should be denoted using superscripted lowercase letters (a, b, c, etc.), with the footnotes arranged under the table in alphabetical order. Asterisks (*, **) are used only to indicate
the probability level of tests of significance. Abbreviations used in the table must be defined and placed after the footnotes in alphabetical order. If you include a block of data or table from another source, whether published or unpublished, you must acknowledge the original source.

Figures

General guidelines
The number of figures should be restricted to the minimum necessary to support the textual material. Figures should have an informative figure legend and be numbered in the order of their citation in the text. All symbols and abbreviations should be defined in the figure legend in alphabetical order. Items requiring explanatory footnotes should follow the same style as that for tables as described in Section "Tables".

Unless you have written permission from the patient (or, where applicable, the next of kin), the personal details (such as their name and date of birth) of the patient must be removed. If their face is shown, use a black bar to cover their eyes so that they cannot be identified (for further information, see https://www.elsevier.com/patientphotographs).

All lettering should be done professionally and should be in proportion to the drawing, graph or photograph. Photomicrographs must include an internal scale marker, and the legend should state the type of specimen, original magnification and stain.

Figures must be submitted as separate picture files at the correct resolution (see Section 9.8.2 below). The files should be named according to the figure number, e.g., “Fig1.tif”, “Fig2.jpg”.

Formats
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): EPS: Vector drawings. Embed the font or save the text as “graphics”. TIFF: Color or grayscale photographs (halftones) — always use a minimum of 300 dpi. TIFF: Bitmapped line drawings — use a minimum of 1000 dpi. TIFF: Combination of bitmapped line/halftone (color or grayscale) — a minimum of 600 dpi. DOC, XLS or PPT: If your electronic artwork is created in any of these Microsoft Office applications, please supply “as is”.

Please do not: Supply files that do not meet the resolution requirements detailed above; Supply files that are optimized for screen use (such as GIF, BMP, PICT, WPG) as the resolution is too low; Submit graphics that are disproportionately large for the content.

A detailed guide on electronic artwork is available at https://www.elsevier.com/artworkinstructions. Please note that the cost of color illustrations will be charged to the author. (see Section 12 for more information)

Acknowledgments
After the Conflicts of Interest Statement and/or Funding/Support Statement, general acknowledgments for consultations and statistical analyses should be listed concisely, including the names of the individuals who were directly involved. Consent should be obtained from those individuals before their names are listed in this section. Those acknowledged should not include secretarial, clerical or technical staff whose participation was limited to the performance of their normal duties.

References
Authors are responsible for the accuracy and completeness of their references and for correct in-text citation. If massive corrections to the references are found to be necessary in the event that your manuscript is accepted, JDS Editors reserve the right to rescind the accept decision and reject the article.

In the main text, tables, figure legends References should be indicated by superscripted numbers according to order of appearance in the text, and placed after punctuation. [The actual authors can be referred to, but the reference number(s) must always be given.] 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. Do not cite uncompleted work or work that has not yet been accepted for publication (i.e., “unpublished observation”, “personal communication”) as references. Also see Section 9.3.7.
In the references list References should be limited to those cited in the text and listed in numerical order, NOT alphabetical order. References should include, in order, authors’ surnames and initials, article title, abbreviated journal name, year, volume and inclusive page numbers. The surnames and initials of all the authors up to 6 should be included, but when authors number 7 or more, list the first 3 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. Authors are responsible for the accuracy and completeness of their references and for correct text citation.

Examples of the most common reference types are provided below. (Please pay particular attention to the formatting, word capitalization, spacing and style.)

**Standard journal articles**


**Journal supplement**

**Journal article not in English but with English abstract**

**Book with edition**

**Book with editors**

**Book chapter in book with editor and edition**

**Book series with editors**

**Bulletin**

**Electronic publications**


**Items presented at a meeting but not yet published**
Item presented at a meeting and published

Theses

Website

Company/manufacturer publication/pamphlet

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.

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

Below are a number of ways in which you can associate data with your article or make a statement about the availability of your data when submitting your manuscript. If you are sharing data in one of these ways, you are encouraged to cite the data in your manuscript and reference list. Please refer to the "References" section for more information about data citation. For more information on depositing, sharing and using research data and other relevant research materials, visit the research data page.

Data linking
If you have made your research data available in a data repository, you can link your article directly to the dataset. Elsevier collaborates with a number of repositories to link articles on ScienceDirect with relevant repositories, giving readers access to underlying data that gives them a better understanding of the research described.

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

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

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

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

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

AFTER ACCEPTANCE
Publication Charges and Reprints
Authors of accepted articles will be charged a publication fee as follows: US$400 for Original Articles and Review Articles; US$200 for Short Communications and Research Letters. Please be noted, starting from 1 December 2018, the publication fee will be adjusted to the following: US$500 for original articles and review articles; US$300 for short communications and research letters. No publication fee will be charged for perspectives, correspondences, and letters to the editor. Authors will also be charged US$84 per illustration, figure or table that is in color.
Starting from August 1, 2019, the publication fee will be adjusted to the following: US$1,000 for original articles and review articles; US$500 for short communications and research letters. No publication fee will be charged for perspectives, correspondences, and letters to the editor.
In the event that a manuscript is accepted, the corresponding author will be instructed by the Editorial Office on how to transmit their payment to the Journal. The accepted article will be processed to the next stage only upon receipt of payment.
Professional reprints (which include a cover page) of your article may be ordered at prices based on the cost of production. Reprint order request please go to http://webshop.elsevier.com/myarticleservices/offprints/

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.

FORMS
Publication Checklist Authorship & Conflict of Interest Statement Copyright Transfer Statement
© Copyright 2018 Elsevier | https://www.elsevier.com