DESCRIPTION

The Journal of Dentistry is the leading international dental journal within the field of Restorative Dentistry. Placing an emphasis on publishing novel and high-quality research papers, the Journal aims to influence the practice of dentistry at clinician, research, industry and policy-maker level on an international basis.

Topics covered include the management of dental disease, periodontology, endodontology, operative dentistry, fixed and removable prosthodontics, dental biomaterials science, long-term clinical trials including epidemiology and oral health, technology transfer of new scientific instrumentation or procedures, as well as clinically relevant oral biology and translational research.

The Journal of Dentistry will publish original scientific research papers including short communications. It is also interested in publishing review articles and leaders in themed areas which will be linked to new scientific research. Conference proceedings are also welcome and expressions of interest should be communicated to the Editor.

AUDIENCE

Those interested in developments in oral and dental research including practising clinicians, dental researchers, clinical academics, those involved in dental industry, and policy-makers relevant to the practice of dentistry.
ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

PubMed/Medline
Current Contents - Clinical Medicine
Current Titles in Dentistry
Dental Abstracts
BIOSIS Citation Index
Chemical Abstracts
Index Dental Literature
Web of Science
Research Alert
Medical Documentation Service
Current Contents
Dairy Science Abstracts
Index Veterinarius
Inpharma Weekly
Nutrition Abstracts and Reviews Series
Nutrition Research Newsletter
PharmacoEconomics and Outcomes News
Abstracts on Hygiene and Communicable Diseases
Reactions Weekly
Review of Aromatic and Medicinal Plants
Review of Medical and Veterinary Mycology
Science Citation Index
Tropical Diseases Bulletin
Veterinary Bulletin
Chemical Industry Notes
Agris
BIOSIS Previews
CABI Information
Cancerlit
Environmental Studies
Global Health
ISI Science Citation Index
Pascal Francis
Pharm-line
Social SciSearch
TOXFILE
UnCover
Adis Clinical Trials Insight
CSA Life Sciences Abstracts
Dialog Journal Name Finder
ONTAP MEDLINE
Scopus

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor-in-Chief
Christopher Lynch, University College Cork, University Dental School & Hospital, Cork, Ireland

Editor-in-Chief Emeritus
Nairn H. F. Wilson, King's College London, Faculty of Dentistry Oral & Craniofacial Sciences, London, United Kingdom

Anthony Damien Walmsley, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, United Kingdom

Editorial Office

Associate Editors
Raquel Castillo de Oyagüe, Complutense University of Madrid, Department of Conservative and Prosthetic Dentistry, Madrid, Spain
Ridwaan Omar, Kuwait University, Faculty of Dentistry, Safat, Kuwait
Niek Opdam, Radboudumc, Department of Cardiology, Nijmegen, Netherlands
Raquel Osorio, University of Granada, Faculty of Dentistry, Granada, Spain
Mutlu Özcan, University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland
Mangala Patel, Queen Mary University of London, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, London, United Kingdom
Tatiana Pereira-Cenci, Federal University of Pelotas, PELOTAS, Brazil
Sarah Pollington, The University of Sheffield, Sheffield, United Kingdom
Areliis Preciado - Uribe, Complutense University of Madrid, Madrid, Spain
Alessandra Reis, State University of Ponta Grossa, PONTA GROSSA, Brazil
Stephan F Rosenstiel, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, United States of America
Martin Rosentritt, University Hospital Regensburg, Department of Prosthetic Dentistry, Regensburg, Germany
Leili Sadaghiani, Cardiff University School of Dentistry, Cardiff, United Kingdom
Ario Santini, The University of Edinburgh Edinburgh Dental Institute, Edinburgh, United Kingdom
Salvatore Sauro, CEU Cardenal Herrera University Odontology Department, Moncada, Spain
Tais Scaramucci, University of Sao Paulo, SAO PAULO, Brazil
Patrick Schmidlin, University of Zurich Center of Dental Medicine, Zurich, Switzerland
Alastair Sloan, The University of Melbourne Melbourne Dental School, Melbourne, Australia
Loukia Spineli, Hannover Medical School, Hannover, Germany
Manuel Toledano, University of Granada, Granada, Spain
Xiaoyan Wang, Peking University, Beijing, China
Nicola West, University of Bristol Dental School, Bristol, United Kingdom
Bernd Wiestmann, Justus Liebig University Giessen Center for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Giessen, Germany
Rebecca Hung Wong, The University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia
Hockin Xu, University of Maryland Dental School, Baltimore, Maryland, United States of America
Cynthia Yiu, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, Hong Kong
H.M. Ziada, University of Nevada Las Vegas, Las Vegas, Nevada, United States of America

Digital Dentistry Section

Section Editor: Digital Dentistry Section
Francesco Mangano, I M Sechenov First Moscow State Medical University, Moscow, Russian Federation

Associate Editors: Digital Dentistry Section
Samir Abou-Ayash, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
Reinilide Jacobs, KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium
Marta Revilla Leon, University of Washington School of Dentistry, Seattle, Washington, United States of America
Vygandas Rutkunas, Vilnius University, Vilnius, Lithuania

Editorial Board: Digital Dentistry Section
Ashraf Ayoub, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, United Kingdom
Gulce Cakmak, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
Luigi Canullo, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
Maxime Ducret, University of Lyon, Lyon, France
Thomas Fortin, University of Lyon, Lyon, France
Scott Ganz, Rutgers University Newark, Newark, New Jersey, United States of America
Uli Hauschild, Goethe University Frankfurt, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
Tim Joda, University of Basel, Basel, Switzerland
Phophi Kamposiora, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece
Andy Keeling, University of Leeds, Leeds, United Kingdom
Manuel Lagravere, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
Walter Y. H. Lam, The University of Hong Kong, Faculty of Dentistry, Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Andre Ferreira Leite, University of Brasilia, BRASILIA, Brazil
Henriette Lerner, Goethe University Frankfurt, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
Fabrizia Luongo, Rome, Italy
Carlo Mangano, I M Sechenov First Moscow State Medical University, Department of Children's Dentistry and Orthodontics, Moscow, Russian Federation
Eitan Mijiritsky, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel
Jaffar Mouhui, Ibn Zohr University, Agadir, Morocco
Sven Muhlemann, University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland
Katalin Nagy, University of Szeged, Szeged, Hungary
Jasmina Primozic, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia
Rachel Sarig, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel
Martin Schimmel, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
Sebastian Schwindling, Heidelberg University, Heidelberg, Germany
Murali Srinivasan, University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland
Simona Tecco, Vita-Salute San Raffaele University, Milano, Italy
Janos Vag, Semmelweis University, Budapest, Hungary
Burak Yilmaz, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
Lukasz Zadrozny, Medical University of Warsaw, Warszawa, Poland
Fernando Zarone, University of Naples Federico II, Napoli, Italy
INTRODUCTION

Editor-in-Chief
Christopher D. Lynch
University Dental School and Hospital
University College Cork
Wilton
Cork
Ireland
Email: journalofdentistry@hotmail.com

Digital Dentistry Section Editor
Francesco G. Mangano
Department of Prevention and Communal Dentistry
Sechenov First State Medical University
Moscow
Russian Federation
Email: francescoguidomangano@gmail.com

The Journal of Dentistry is the leading international dental journal within the field of Restorative Dentistry. Placing an emphasis on publishing novel and high-quality research papers, the Journal aims to influence the practice of dentistry at clinician, research, industry and policy-maker level on an international basis.

Topics covered include the management of dental disease, periodontology, endodontontology, operative dentistry, fixed and removable prosthodontics, and dental biomaterials science, long-term clinical trials including epidemiology and oral health, dental education, technology transfer of new scientific instrumentation or procedures, as well clinically relevant oral biology and translational research. Submissions are welcomed from other clinically relevant areas, however, the Journal places an emphasis on publishing high-quality and novel research.

From 2021, the Journal of Dentistry has opened a new section entirely dedicated to Digital Dentistry, in cooperation with the Digital Dentistry Society (DDS) International. This section will collect high quality original full-length research, reviews, and short communications on the different areas of Digital Dentistry. The potential topics of this section will include intraoral, desktop, and face scanners; stereophotogrammetry; CBCT, and new imaging techniques in dento-maxillofacial radiology; CAD/CAM softwares in digital dentistry; digital prosthodontics; new materials (zirconia, lithium disilicate, polyetheretherketone and others) in digital dentistry; milling, additive manufacturing, 3D printing and bioprinting in dentistry; static and dynamic guided implant surgery; custom-made implants, scaffolds and meshes for bone regeneration; virtual and augmented reality in dentistry; and digital orthodontics.

Queries in relation to manuscript content should be directed to the Journal Editorial Office in the first instance.

Submissions
Authors are requested to submit their original manuscript and figures via the online submission and editorial system for Journal of Dentistry. Using this online system, authors may submit manuscripts and track their progress through the system to publication. Reviewers can download manuscripts and submit their opinions to the editor. Editors can manage the whole submission/review/revise/publish process. Please register at: https://www.editorialmanager.com/JJOD/default.aspx

Types of paper
Contributions falling into the following categories will be considered for publication:
- Original Research Reports: maximum length 6 printed pages approximately 20 word processed pages, including illustrations and tables.
- Review articles: maximum length 10 printed pages, approximately 33 word processed pages, including illustrations and tables.
- Short communication for rapid publication: maximum length 2 printed pages, approximately 7 word processed pages, including illustrations.
- Digital Dentistry Section: Full Length Articles: maximum length 6 printed pages approximately 20 word processed pages, including illustrations and tables.
- Digital Dentistry Section: Review Articles: maximum length 10 printed pages, approximately 33 word processed pages, including illustrations and tables.
- Digital Dentistry Section: Short Communications: maximum length 2 printed pages, approximately 7 word processed pages, including illustrations.

Please note the Journal of Dentistry does not accept Case Reports and these will be removed from the system if submitted.

**Authorship**

Only those persons who have made a significant contribution to the manuscript submitted should be listed as authors. The Editor-in-Chief expects that a manuscript should normally have no more than 6 authors, unless a case is made by the corresponding author within the article cover letter to include other authors. All of the named authors should have been involved in the work leading to the publication of the paper and should have read the paper before it is submitted for publication.

**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:

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
- 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](#).

**BEFORE YOU BEGIN**

**Ethics in publishing**

Please see our information on [Ethics in publishing](#).

**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 Research Council's Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals 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.

**Declaration of competing 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 conflicts of interest include employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent applications/registrations, and grants or other funding. Authors should complete the declaration of competing interest statement using this template and upload to the submission system at the Attach/Upload Files step. **Note: Please do not convert the .docx template to another file type. Author signatures are not required.** If there are no interests to declare, please choose the first option in the template. More information.

**Declaration of generative AI in scientific writing**

The below guidance only refers to the writing process, and not to the use of AI tools to analyse and draw insights from data as part of the research process.

Where authors use generative artificial intelligence (AI) and AI-assisted technologies in the writing process, authors should only use these technologies to improve readability and language. Applying the technology should be done with human oversight and control, and authors should carefully review and edit the result, as AI can generate authoritative-sounding output that can be incorrect, incomplete or biased. AI and AI-assisted technologies should not be listed as an author or co-author, or be cited as an author. Authorship implies responsibilities and tasks that can only be attributed to and performed by humans, as outlined in Elsevier's [AI policy for authors](#).

Authors should disclose in their manuscript the use of AI and AI-assisted technologies in the writing process by following the instructions below. A statement will appear in the published work. Please note that authors are ultimately responsible and accountable for the contents of the work.

**Disclosure instructions**

Authors must disclose the use of generative AI and AI-assisted technologies in the writing process by adding a statement at the end of their manuscript in the core manuscript file, before the References list. The statement should be placed in a new section entitled 'Declaration of Generative AI and AI-assisted technologies in the writing process'.

Statement: *During the preparation of this work the author(s) used [NAME TOOL / SERVICE] in order to [REASON]. After using this tool/service, the author(s) reviewed and edited the content as needed and take(s) full responsibility for the content of the publication.*

This declaration does not apply to the use of basic tools for checking grammar, spelling, references etc. If there is nothing to disclose, there is no need to add a statement.

**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 compliance, your article may be checked by [Crossref Similarity Check](#) and other originality or duplicate checking software.
Use of inclusive language
Inclusive language acknowledges diversity, conveys respect to all people, is sensitive to differences, and promotes equal opportunities. Content should make no assumptions about the beliefs or commitments of any reader; contain nothing which might imply that one individual is superior to another on the grounds of age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, disability or health condition; and use inclusive language throughout. Authors should ensure that writing is free from bias, stereotypes, slang, reference to dominant culture and/or cultural assumptions. We advise to seek gender neutrality by using plural nouns ("clinicians, patients/clients") as default/wherever possible to avoid using "he, she," or "he/she." We recommend avoiding the use of descriptors that refer to personal attributes such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, disability or health condition unless they are relevant and valid. When coding terminology is used, we recommend to avoid offensive or exclusionary terms such as "master", "slave", "blacklist" and "whitelist". We suggest using alternatives that are more appropriate and (self-) explanatory such as "primary", "secondary", "blocklist" and "allowlist". These guidelines are meant as a point of reference to help identify appropriate language but are by no means exhaustive or definitive.

Reporting sex- and gender-based analyses
Reporting guidance
For research involving or pertaining to humans, animals or eukaryotic cells, investigators should integrate sex and gender-based analyses (SGBA) into their research design according to funder/sponsor requirements and best practices within a field. Authors should address the sex and/or gender dimensions of their research in their article. In cases where they cannot, they should discuss this as a limitation to their research's generalizability. Importantly, authors should explicitly state what definitions of sex and/or gender they are applying to enhance the precision, rigor and reproducibility of their research and to avoid ambiguity or confabulation of terms and the constructs to which they refer (see Definitions section below). Authors can refer to the Sex and Gender Equity in Research (SAGER) guidelines and the SAGER guidelines checklist. These offer systematic approaches to the use and editorial review of sex and gender information in study design, data analysis, outcome reporting and research interpretation - however, please note there is no single, universally agreed-upon set of guidelines for defining sex and gender.

Definitions
Sex generally refers to a set of biological attributes that are associated with physical and physiological features (e.g., chromosomal genotype, hormonal levels, internal and external anatomy). A binary sex categorization (male/female) is usually designated at birth ("sex assigned at birth"), most often based solely on the visible external anatomy of a newborn. Gender generally refers to socially constructed roles, behaviors, and identities of women, men and gender-diverse people that occur in a historical and cultural context and may vary across societies and over time. Gender influences how people view themselves and each other, how they behave and interact and how power is distributed in society. Sex and gender are often incorrectly portrayed as binary (female/male or woman/man) and unchanging whereas these constructs actually exist along a spectrum and include additional sex categorizations and gender identities such as people who are intersex/have differences of sex development (DSD) or identify as non-binary. Moreover, the terms "sex" and "gender" can be ambiguous—thus it is important for authors to define the manner in which they are used. In addition to this definition guidance and the SAGER guidelines, the resources on this page offer further insight around sex and gender in research studies.

Author contributions
For transparency, we require corresponding authors to provide co-author contributions to the manuscript using the relevant CRediT roles. The CRediT taxonomy includes 14 different roles describing each contributor’s specific contribution to the scholarly output. The roles are: Conceptualization; Data curation; Formal analysis; Funding acquisition; Investigation; Methodology; Project administration; Resources; Software; Supervision; Validation; Visualization; Roles/Writing - original draft; and Writing - review & editing. Note that not all roles may apply to every manuscript, and authors may have contributed through multiple roles. More details and an example.

Changes to authorship
Authors are expected to consider carefully the list and order of authors before submitting their manuscript and provide the definitive list of authors at the time of the original submission. Any addition, deletion or rearrangement of author names in the authorship list should be made only before the manuscript has been accepted and only if approved by the journal Editor. To request such
a change, the Editor must receive the following from the corresponding author: (a) the reason for the change in author list and (b) written confirmation (e-mail, letter) from all authors that they agree with the addition, removal or rearrangement. In the case of addition or removal of authors, this includes confirmation from the author being added or removed. Only in exceptional circumstances will the Editor consider the addition, deletion or rearrangement of authors after the manuscript has been accepted. While the Editor considers the request, publication of the manuscript will be suspended. If the manuscript has already been published in an online issue, any requests approved by the Editor will result in a corrigendum.

Clinical trial results
In line with the position of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors, the journal will not consider results posted in the same clinical trials registry in which primary registration resides to be prior publication if the results posted are presented in the form of a brief structured (less than 500 words) abstract or table. However, divulging results in other circumstances (e.g., investors' meetings) is discouraged and may jeopardise consideration of the manuscript. Authors should fully disclose all posting in registries of results of the same or closely related work.

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.

Article transfer service
This journal uses the Elsevier Article Transfer Service to find the best home for your manuscript. This means that if an editor feels your manuscript is more suitable for an alternative journal, you might be asked to consider transferring the manuscript to such a journal. The recommendation might be provided by a Journal Editor, a dedicated Scientific Managing Editor, a tool assisted recommendation, or a combination. If you agree, your manuscript will be transferred, though you will have the opportunity to make changes to the manuscript before the submission is complete. Please note that your manuscript will be independently reviewed by the new journal. More information.

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.

Subscribers may reproduce tables of contents or prepare lists of articles including abstracts for internal circulation within their institutions. Permission of the Publisher is required for resale or distribution outside the institution and for all other derivative works, including compilations and translations. If excerpts from other copyrighted works are included, the author(s) must obtain written permission from the copyright owners and credit the source(s) in the article. Elsevier has preprinted forms for use by authors in these cases.

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, it is recommended to state this.

Open access
Please visit our Open Access page 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 Language Editing service available from Elsevier's Language Services.

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.

Submit your article
Please submit your article via: https://www.editorialmanager.com/JJOD/default.aspx

Suggesting reviewers
Please submit the names and institutional e-mail addresses of several potential reviewers.

You should not suggest reviewers who are colleagues, or who have co-authored or collaborated with you during the last three years. Editors do not invite reviewers who have potential competing interests with the authors. Further, in order to provide a broad and balanced assessment of the work, and ensure scientific rigor, please suggest diverse candidate reviewers who are located in different countries/regions from the author group. Also consider other diversity attributes e.g. gender, race and ethnicity, career stage, etc. Finally, you should not include existing members of the journal's editorial team, of whom the journal are already aware.

Note: the editor decides whether or not to invite your suggested reviewers.

PREPARATION

Queries
For questions about the editorial process (including the status of manuscripts under review) or for technical support on submissions, please visit our Support Center.

Peer review
This journal operates a double anonymized 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. Editors are not involved in decisions about papers which they have written themselves or have been written by family members or colleagues or which relate to products or services in which the editor has an interest. Any such submission is subject to all of the journal's usual procedures, with peer review handled independently of the relevant editor and their research groups. More information on types of peer review.
Double anonymized review

This journal uses double anonymized 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.

Anonymized 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.

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.

Introduction

The introduction must be presented in a structured format, covering the following subjects, although not under subheadings: succinct statements of the issue in question, and the essence of existing knowledge and understanding pertinent to the issue. In keeping with the house style of Journal of Dentistry, the final paragraph of the introduction should clearly state the aims and/or objective of the work being reported. Prospective authors may find the following form of words to be helpful: "The aim of this paper is to ..." Where appropriate, a hypothesis (e.g. null or a priori) should then be stated.

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) 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.

The title page should contain the following information:
- Title of paper
- Short title
- Name(s), job titles and address(es) of author(s) (no academic degrees necessary)
- Name, address, telephone, fax and e-mail of the corresponding author
- Up to 6 keywords

Spelling: International English.

Authors are urged to write as concisely as possible.
The house style of Journal of Dentistry requires that articles should be arranged in the following order: Title, Abstract, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions, Acknowledgements, References, Tables, Figures. A cover letter should accompany the new manuscript submission, within which the authors should indicate the significance of the work being submitted in a statement no more than 100 words.

**Abstract:** should not exceed 250 words and should be presented under the following subheadings: Objectives, Methods; Results; Conclusions; Clinical Significance (For Reviews: Objectives; Data; Sources; Study selection; Conclusions; Clinical Significance). A 50 word 'Clinical Significance' statement is in addition to the 250 word Abstract and should appear at the end of the Abstract advising readers of the clinical importance and relevance of their work under the Abstract subheading "Clinical Significance". These subheadings should appear in the text of the abstract. Please repeat the title of the article at the top of the abstract page.

**Introduction:** must be presented in a structured format, covering the following subjects, although not under subheadings: succinct statements of the issue in question, and the essence of existing knowledge and understanding pertinent to the issue. In keeping with the house style of Journal of Dentistry, the final paragraph of the introduction should clearly state the aims and/or objective of the work being reported. Prospective authors may find the following form of words to be helpful: "The aim of this paper is to ..." Where appropriate, a hypothesis (e.g. null or a priori) should then be stated.

**Keywords:** up to 6 keywords should be supplied.

**Abbreviations and acronyms:** terms and names to be referred to in the form of abbreviations or acronyms must be given in full when first mentioned.

**Units:** SI units should be used throughout. If non-SI units must be quoted, the SI equivalent must immediately follow in parentheses.

The complete names of individual teeth must be given in the test. In tables and legends for illustrations individual teeth should be identified using the FDI two-digit system.

**Statistics**
Statistical methods should be described with enough detail to enable a knowledgeable reader with access to the original data to verify the reported results. When possible, findings should be quantified and appropriate measures of error or uncertainty (such as confidence intervals) given. Details about eligibility criteria for subjects, randomization and the number of observations should be included. The computer software and the statistical method(s) used should be specified with references to standard works when possible (with pages specified). See [http://www.icmje.org/manuscript_jprepare.html](http://www.icmje.org/manuscript_jprepare.html) for more detailed guidelines.

**Illustrations:** should be submitted electronically using appropriate commercial software. Prospective authors should follow the relevant guidelines (available from: [https://www.elsevier.com/artworkinstructions](https://www.elsevier.com/artworkinstructions)). In addition, it is noted that while authors sometimes need to manipulate images for clarity, manipulation for purposes of deception or fraud will be seen as scientific ethical abuse and will be dealt with accordingly. For graphical images, journals published by Elsevier apply the following policy: no specific feature within an image may be enhanced, obscured, moved, removed, or introduced. Adjustments of brightness, contrast, or color balance are acceptable if and as long as they do not obscure or eliminate any information present in the original. Nonlinear adjustments (e.g. changes to gamma settings) must be disclosed in the figure legend.

**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 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
The Abstract should not exceed 250 words and should be presented under the following subheadings: Objectives, Methods; Results; Conclusions. A 50 word 'Clinical Significance' statement must also be included within the Abstract and should appear at the end of the Abstract advising readers of the clinical importance and relevance of their work. These subheadings should appear in the text of the abstract. Please repeat the title of the article at the top of the abstract page.

For Review Articles the abstract should be presented under the following subheadings: Objectives; Data; Sources; Study selection; Conclusions.

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.

Keywords
Provide a maximum of 6 keywords, using British 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.

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, it is recommended to include the following sentence:

This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

Artwork
Image manipulation
Whilst it is accepted that authors sometimes need to manipulate images for clarity, manipulation for purposes of deception or fraud will be seen as scientific ethical abuse and will be dealt with accordingly. For graphical images, this journal is applying the following policy: no specific feature within an image may be enhanced, obscured, moved, removed, or introduced. Adjustments of brightness, contrast, or color balance are acceptable if and as long as they do not obscure or eliminate any information present in the original. Nonlinear adjustments (e.g. changes to gamma settings) must be disclosed in the figure legend.

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.

**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.

**Preprint references**

Where a preprint has subsequently become available as a peer-reviewed publication, the formal publication should be used as the reference. If there are preprints that are central to your work or that cover crucial developments in the topic, but are not yet formally published, these may be referenced. Preprints should be clearly marked as such, for example by including the word preprint, or the name of the preprint server, as part of the reference. The preprint DOI should also be provided.

**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.

**Reference style**

**Text:** Indicate references by number(s) in square brackets in line with the text. The actual authors can be referred to, but the reference number(s) must always be given. Example: '..... as demonstrated [3,6]. Barnaby and Jones [8] obtained a different result ....'

**List:** Number the references (numbers in square brackets) in the list in the order in which they appear in the text.

**Examples:**

Reference to a journal publication:

Reference to a journal publication with an article number:

Reference to a book:

Reference to a chapter in an edited book:

Reference to a website:

Reference to a dataset:
Reference to software:

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.

Data visualization
Include interactive data visualizations in your publication and let your readers interact and engage more closely with your research. Follow the instructions here to find out about available data visualization options and how to include them with your article.

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, which may also include 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).

**Research Elements**
This journal enables you to publish research objects related to your original research – such as data, methods, protocols, software and hardware – as an additional paper in a Research Elements journal.

Research Elements is a suite of peer-reviewed, open access journals which make your research objects findable, accessible and reusable. Articles place research objects into context by providing detailed descriptions of objects and their application, and linking to the associated original research articles. Research Elements articles can be prepared by you, or by one of your collaborators.

During submission, you will be alerted to the opportunity to prepare and submit a manuscript to one of the Research Elements journals.

More information can be found on the Research Elements 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**

**Online proof correction**
To ensure a fast publication process of the article, we kindly ask authors to provide us with their proof corrections within two days. Corresponding authors will receive an e-mail with a link to our online proofing system, allowing annotation and correction of proofs online. The environment is similar to MS Word: in addition to editing text, you can also comment on figures/tables and answer questions from the Copy Editor. Web-based proofing provides a faster and less error-prone process by allowing you to directly type your corrections, eliminating the potential introduction of errors.

If preferred, you can still choose to annotate and upload your edits on the PDF version. All instructions for proofing will be given in the e-mail we send to authors, including alternative methods to the online version and PDF.

We will do everything possible to get your article published quickly and accurately. 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. 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 will, at no cost, receive a customized Share Link providing 50 days free access to the final published version of the article on ScienceDirect. The Share Link can be used for sharing the article via any communication channel, including email and social media. For an extra charge, paper offprints can be ordered via the offprint order form which is sent once the article is accepted for publication. Corresponding authors who have published their article gold open access do not receive a Share Link as their final published version of the article is available open access on ScienceDirect and can be shared through the article DOI link.

**The decision of the Editor-in-Chief is final in relation to all manuscript submissions.**
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