JOURNAL OF GINSENG RESEARCH

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DESCRIPTION

*Journal of Ginseng Research (JGR)* is an official, open access journal of the Korean Society of Ginseng and is the only international journal publishing scholarly reports on ginseng research in the world. The journal is a bimonthly peer-reviewed publication featuring high-quality studies related to basic, pre-clinical, and clinical researches on ginseng to reflect recent progresses in ginseng research (1st of January, March, May, July, September and November).

*JGR* publishes papers, either experimental or theoretical, that advance our understanding of ginseng science, including plant sciences, biology, chemistry, pharmacology, toxicology, pharmacokinetics, veterinary medicine, biochemistry, manufacture, and clinical study of ginseng since 1976. It also includes the new paradigm of integrative research, covering alternative medicinal approaches. Article types considered for publication include review articles, original research articles, and brief reports.

*JGR* helps researchers to understand mechanisms for traditional efficacy of ginseng and to put their clinical evidence together. It provides balanced information on basic science and clinical applications to researchers, manufacturers, practitioners, teachers, scholars, and medical doctors.

IMPACT FACTOR

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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION

*Journal of Ginseng Research (JGR)* is an official, open access journal of the Korean Society of Ginseng and is the only international journal publishing scholarly reports on ginseng research in the world. The journal is a bimonthly peer-reviewed publication featuring high-quality studies related to basic, pre-clinical, and clinical researches on ginseng to reflect recent progresses in ginseng research (1st of January, March, May, July, September and November).

*JGR* publishes papers, either experimental or theoretical, that advance our understanding of ginseng science, including plant sciences, biology, chemistry, pharmacology, toxicology, pharmacokinetics, veterinary medicine, biochemistry, manufacture, and clinical study of ginseng since 1976. It also includes the new paradigm of integrative research, covering alternative medicinal approaches. Article types considered for publication include review articles, original research articles, and brief reports.

**TYPES OF ARTICLES**

*JGR* publishes editorials, commentaries, Research Articles, review articles, special articles, short communications, research notes, and letter to the editor.

**Editorials**

Editorials provide solicited perspectives on the topics of *Journal of Ginseng Research (JGR)*, dealing with very active fields of research, current interests, novel insights and debates. An abstract is not required, but a brief unstructured text should be prepared. Although editorials are normally invited or written by an editor, unsolicited editorials may be submitted. The typical length of an editorial is usually up to 1,000 words and 20 references.

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Research articles report the results of areas covered by *JGR* and investigations that are thoroughly documented. Section headings should be written in the following format: title page; abstract and keywords; introduction; materials and methods; results; discussion; conclusions (if any); Acknowledgments; references; tables and figures. The results and discussion sections may be combined.

The introduction should provide brief background information on the study and allow the readers to gain better understanding of the study without detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.

Materials and methods should contain detailed description of the study procedure including investigation period, methods of subject selection, information on subjects such as age, gender, and other significant features, where the study could be replicated. Procedures which have already been published or standardized shall be briefly described using literature citations. Clinical trials or experiments involving laboratory animals or pathogens must elaborate on animal care, use and experimental protocols, in addition to mentioning approval from relevant committees. The sources of special equipment and chemicals must be stated with the name and location of the manufacturer (city and country). Provide a citation for all information derived from other resources. Do not include extensive details unless there is substantial modification to the methods. For commonly used materials and methods, a simple reference is sufficient. If several alternative methodologies are commonly employed, it is useful to briefly identify the methods and cite all sources. Describe new methods completely and provide the source of the chemicals, equipment or microbial strains used. When using products manufactured by KGC, describe the nutrition factors and the analysis of the 11 ginsenoside components provided by KGC. Otherwise, describe the analysis of the 8 ginsenoside components (ginsenoside-Rb1, -Rb2, -Rc, -Rd, -Re, -Rf, -Rg1, -Rg2). All statistical procedures used in the study and the criteria for determining statistical significance must be described. Specify the statistical software package(s) and versions used.

The Theory/Calculation should expand on and provide the foundation for further investigation, rather than repeat the background information of the article already stated in the introduction. In contrast, the calculation should be a practical development based on the theory.

The results should be presented in a logical sequence. Only the most important observations/results should be emphasized and summarized where the primary finding is mentioned first. Tables and figures must be kept to a minimum and numbered in the order they are cited in the text without
being repeated. Supplementary materials and other details can be separately cited in the appendix. State the statistical methods used for the results analysis (including p-values) with the probabilities stated in parentheses. The statistical analysis package program should also be stated.

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Typical length: Up to 5,000 words and 60 references, and 6 figures (including tables). The word count includes manuscript text, as well as the title page, abstract, and figure legends.

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Review articles may be voluntarily submitted or solicited. Previously published material should be incorporated into our current understanding of review topic. Topics that are in consensus or controversy in the research community may be dealt with in the reviews. A review is organized as follows: Title page, Introduction, Body Text, Conclusion, Acknowledgments, References, Tables & Figures and Figure Legends.

Mini-reviews are brief summaries (limited to 8 printed pages) of developments in hot issues of ginseng research. Mini-reviews may be either voluntarily submitted by the authors or solicited by the editorial committee but are all subject to editorial review. There is no standard format for mini-reviews. However, the tables and citation should follow the regular research articles guidelines.

Typical length: One paragraph with maximum of 200 words for the abstract; maximum of 6,500 words from introduction to conclusion; maximum of 100 references, 10 figures and 10 tables.

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Letters to the editor should include brief yet constructive comments concerning previously published articles and case studies. Letters to the editor should be submitted within 3 months of the paper being published. Cover pages should be formatted in the same manner as those of ginseng research articles. Do not include a title page. The corresponding author should be the first author. Letters may be edited by the Editorial Board, and if necessary, the author's response may be provided.

Typical length: Maximum of 500 words.

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The Editorial Office of *JGR* receives and reviews all submitted manuscripts which are considered confidential. The authors, investigators and peer-review referees are kept anonymous during the editorial and peer-review process. The submitted manuscripts are initially screened for compliance to the 'Instructions for Authors'. Once the manuscript is provisionally accepted, it is reviewed by at least two reviewers. The reviewers are selected by the editor (associate editor or editor-in-chief) from the Editorial Board's database or the board members' recommendation. The reviewers will evaluate based on originality, validity, presentation, significance and interest. If necessary, the statistical analysis will also be reviewed.

Acceptance of a manuscript depends on the evaluation, critiques, and decisions made by the reviewers. A reviewer may recommend 'accept', 'minor revision', 'major revision', or 'reject'. In case of conflicting decisions between reviewers, the Associate Editor or Editor-in-Chief has the full right to determine the publication of the manuscript.
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PAGE PROOFS
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Manuscripts to JGR, as outlined above, cannot have been published previously, and are not being considered for publication by other journals.

Original raw data must be available for review by the editorial board when required. All authors of a manuscript must have agreed to submit the manuscript to JGR and are responsible for the entire content, including literature citations and Acknowledgments. The authors must also have agreed that the corresponding author has the authority to act on their behalf on all matters pertaining to the publication of the paper, and that it is their responsibility to comply with copyright laws. When a manuscript is published in JGR, it is understood that authors have agreed to JGR's rights to protect the manuscript from misappropriation of their work, and that the manuscript becomes the permanent property of JGR, which may not be published elsewhere without official permission.

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ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS
Research ethics
All manuscripts should be prepared under strict observation of research and publication ethics guidelines recommended by the Council of Science Editors, International Committee of Medical Journal Editors and the World Association of Medical Editors. Any study including human subjects or human data must be reviewed and approved by a responsible institutional review board (IRB). For further information on investigations involving human material, please refer to the principles in the Declaration of Helsinki (http://www.wma.net/e/policy/b3.htm).
Animal experiments should also be reviewed by an appropriate committee (IACUC: Institutional Animal Care and use Committee) for the care and the use of animals. Studies involving pathogens requiring a high degree of biosafety should pass review of a relevant committee (IBC: Institutional Biosafety Committee). The editor of JGR may request submission of copies of informed consents from human subjects in all studies or IRB approval documents.

**Conflict of interest**
The corresponding author must inform the editor of any potential conflicts of interest that could influence the author's interpretation of the data. Examples of potential conflicts of interest are financial support from pharmaceutical companies or other connections, political pressure from interest groups, and academically related issues. Conflict of interest statements will be published at the end of the article before the 'References' section. Please consult the COPE guidelines (http://www.publicationethics.org) on conflict of interest. If there are no conflicts of interest, authors should state that none exists. When the manuscript is accepted for publication, JGR will decide whether the disclosure will be communicated in the published paper (after consulting with the corresponding author).

**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. These guidelines are meant as a point of reference to help identify appropriate language but are by no means exhaustive or definitive.

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All authors must meet the authorship criteria of 'Uniform Requirement for Manuscript Submitted to Biomedical Journals' listed on http://www.icmje.org. Qualifying for authorship is required for all authors and the order of authorship is to be decided between the coauthors. The authorship credit should be based on substantial contributions to: (1) Conception and design of the study, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data; (2) Drafting of the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and (3) Final approval of the version to be published. Authors should meet all conditions.

One author should be chosen to act as a corresponding author. The corresponding author does not have to be the first author. The corresponding author will be responsible for the entire communications to/from the Editorial Office, editors and etc. In case of multicenter studies, a corporate author directly responsible for the manuscript should be appointed.

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If all or part of the study population has been reported previously, it should be declared in the materials and methods and must be appropriately referenced. In cases where authors are concerned with any overlap with currently reviewed or published manuscripts, the authors must include a letter explaining how the manuscript submitted to JGR significantly differs from other manuscripts. For more information, please refer to 'Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals: Writing and Editing for Biomedical Publication' (Available at: http://www.icmje.org/2006_urm.pdf).
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MANUSCRIPT PREPARATION AND FORMAT
All manuscripts must be in grammatically correct English with American spelling conventions and prepared in accordance with the "Uniform Requirement for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals" updated in October 2008 (http://www.icmje.org). In addition to the Uniform Requirements, JGR requires all authors to comply with all the reporting guidelines which have been developed by groups of experts to facilitate reporting of research studies or clinical trials (http://www.equator-network.org/resource-centre/library-of-health-research-reporting/library/).
The manuscripts should be created using MS Word. It must be double-spaced and written in an A4 page format. Do not leave a space between paragraphs. Only a single font (preferably Times New Roman) should be used in 12 point with margin of 1 inch, do insert line numbers. Any manuscript without page and line numbers will not be considered and will be returned immediately to the author. Latin origin words should not be italicized and all pages including the title page should be paginated consecutively. All numbers should be written in Arabic numerals throughout the manuscript except for the first word of the sentence. Texts should be justified on both sides and not hyphenated and headings should be in bold letters, aligned in the center. If possible, avoid using abbreviated words in the beginning of sentences.

Regarding the description of ginseng, Panax ginseng C. A. Meyer or Panax ginseng Meyer should be written as Panax ginseng only in the title page and as Panax ginseng Meyer when appearing for the first time in the manuscript, and then as P. ginseng in the rest of the manuscript. When referring to Korean White ginseng or Korean Red ginseng, the first letters of White and Red should also be capitalized. Otherwise, when referring to white or red ginseng, the first letters of white or red does not need to be capitalized.

Appendices
If there is more than one appendix, they should be identified as A, B, etc. Formulae and equations in appendices should be given separate numbering: Eq. (A.1), Eq. (A.2), etc.; in a subsequent appendix, Eq. (B.1) and so on.

Title page
The title page should include: (1) the title of the article (less than 50 words); (2) name of the authors (first name, middle initial, last name in capital) and institutional affiliation including name of department(s) and institution(s) of each author; (3) name, full address (including the postal code) of the institutional affiliation, telephone and fax numbers, and email address of the corresponding author, using an asterisk (*) after the name of the corresponding author; (4) A running title, 40 characters or less including blank; and (5) any disclaimers.

Abstract
An abstract and up to 5 relevant keywords (in alphabetical order) are required for the following article categories: Review Article, Original Article, and Case Report. Abstracts should be no more than 250 words in length. Abstracts for Research Articles should be structured, with the section headings: Background, Methods, Results and Conclusion. Abstracts for Review Articles and Case Reports are unstructured in one single paragraph. But for Case Reports, it should include the significance and purpose of the case presentation, the diagnostic methods of the case, the key data, and brief comments and suggestions with regard to the case.

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A graphical abstract is mandatory for this journal. It should summarize the contents of the article in a concise, pictorial form designed to capture the attention of a wide readership online. Authors must provide images that clearly represent the work described in the article. Graphical abstracts should be submitted as a separate file in the online submission system. Image size: please provide an image with a minimum of 531 × 1328 pixels (h × w) or proportionally more. The image should be readable at a size of 5 × 13 cm using a regular screen resolution of 96 dpi. Preferred file types: TIFF, EPS, PDF or MS Office files. You can view Example Graphical Abstracts on our information site. Authors can make use of Elsevier's Illustration Services to ensure the best presentation of their images also in accordance with all technical requirements.

Keywords

Main Text
The text for Research Articles, for example, should include the following sections: Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, and Discussion. The introduction should be as concise as possible without subheadings. The methods section should be sufficiently detailed. Subheadings may be used to organize the results and discussion. Each section should begin on a new page.
Abbreviations
If a term/definition is referred to repeatedly (i.e. 3 times or more in the text), it is written in full when it first appears followed by the abbreviation in parentheses (even if it was previously defined in the abstract); thereafter, the abbreviation is used. For standard abbreviations generally used (d, wk, mo, yr, m.p., b.p., K, s, min, h, µL, mL, L, µg, mg, g, kg, nm, µm, cm, ppm, mmol, HPLC, TLC, GC, UV, CD, IR, GC/MS, LC/M, and NMR), their full names are not to be presented.

Acknowledgments
All persons who have made a significant contribution to the article but are not eligible for authors should be explicitly stated. Examples of persons that may be named in the acknowledgment include those who have provided purely technical help, writing assistance and general support. In case of writing assistance, the entity paid for the assistance must be disclosed. In addition to this, all sources of funding must also be stated. The authors are obliged to declare the study sponsors' roles in any part of preparing, conducting, writing, and submitting the manuscript. If there was no involvement from the study sponsors, the authors should state this.

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

Units
Système International (SI) units must be used with the exception of blood pressure, which are to be reported in mmHg. Please use the metric system for length, area, mass and volume. There should be a space between the numerals and the unit symbol. When indicating time, the 24 hour system should be used.

Math formulae
Present simple formulae in the line of normal text where possible and use the solidus (/) instead of a horizontal line for small fractional terms, e.g., X/Y. In principle, variables are to be presented in italics. Powers of e are often more conveniently denoted by exp. Number consecutively any equations that have to be displayed separately from the text (if referred to explicitly in the text).

Footnote
A footnote appears at the bottom of the first page of the article, and includes the received date of the manuscript, date of acceptance for publication, and the e-mail address of the corresponding author. Any changed affiliation of authors should be noted.

Tables and figures
The main text, tables, figures and images should be prepared in separate files. Figures and images that are drawn or photographed professionally should be sent as JPG or PPT files. When the manuscript is accepted to be published, the corresponding author may be asked to submit higher resolution figure files.

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Nomenclature of ginseng
In general, P. ginseng stands for ginseng or Korean ginseng. In case of clarifying cultivation area, describe the cultivation area in detail such as 'ginseng cultivated in Korea', 'ginseng cultivated in China', 'ginseng cultivated in USA', 'American ginseng cultivated in Canada', etc.. In particular, since 'Korean Red Ginseng' is a trade mark, just use as 'Korean Red Ginseng'. More detailed nomenclature
of ginseng is described as follows: Panax ginseng (ginseng or Korean ginseng); Panax quinquefolius (American ginseng); Panax notoginseng (Chinese ginseng); Panax japonicum (Janpanese ginseng or Bamboo ginseng); Panax vietnamensis (Vietnamese ginseng); Panax pseudoginseng (Hymalayan ginseng).

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