



# JOURNAL OF INFECTION AND PUBLIC HEALTH

The Official Publication of the Saudi Arabian Ministry of National Guard Health Affairs,  
King Saud Bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences and Saudi Association for Public  
Health

## AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK

### TABLE OF CONTENTS



ISSN: 1876-0341

### DESCRIPTION

The *Journal of Infection and Public Health*, first official journal of the [Saudi Arabian Ministry of National Guard Health Affairs](#), [King Saud Bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences](#) and the Saudi Association for Public Health, aims to be the foremost scientific, peer-reviewed journal encompassing **infection prevention and control, microbiology, infectious diseases, public health and the application of healthcare epidemiology to the evaluation of health outcomes**. The point of view of the journal is that **infection** and **public health** are closely intertwined and that advances in one area will have positive consequences on the other.

The journal will be useful to all health professionals who are partners in the management of patients with **communicable diseases**, keeping them up to date. The journal is proud to have an international and diverse editorial board that will assist and facilitate the publication of articles that reflect a global view on **infection control** and **public health**, as well as emphasizing our focus on supporting the needs of public health practitioners.

It is our aim to improve healthcare by reducing risk of infection and related adverse outcomes by critical review, selection, and dissemination of new and relevant information in the field of **infection control, public health** and **infectious diseases** in all healthcare settings and the community.

The *Journal of Infection and Public Health* will allow us to seek opportunities to work with others who share our aim, to enhance our work through partnership, and to uphold the standards of our profession and contribute to its advancement.

### IMPACT FACTOR

2018: 2.487 © Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Reports 2019

### ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

Scopus  
ClinicalKey  
Science Citation Index Expanded  
Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)  
PubMed/Medline

## EDITORIAL BOARD

---

### *Editor-in-Chief*

**Sameera Al Johani**, King Abdulaziz Medical City Department of Infection Prevention and Control, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

### *Associate Editors*

**Awa Aidara-Kane**, World Health Organization Department of Food Safety and Zoonoses, Genève, Switzerland

**Jaffar Al Tawfiq**, John Hopkins Aramco Healthcare, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

**Benedetta Allegranzi**, World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland

**Majid M. Alshamrani**, King Abdulaziz Medical City Department of Infection Prevention and Control, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**Matteo Bassetti**, University Hospital Santa Maria della Misericordia of Udine, Udine, Italy

**Peter Horby**, University of Oxford Centre for Tropical Medicine and Global Health, Oxford, United Kingdom

**Georgio Pappas**, University Hospital of Ioannina, Ioannina, Greece

**Paul Anantharajah Tambyah**, National University Singapore Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, Singapore, Singapore

### *Executive Advisory Editor*

**Hanan Balkhy**, King Abdulaziz Medical City Department of Infection Prevention and Control, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

### *Managing Editor*

**Shuaib Hussain Vaiyanna**, King Abdulaziz Medical City Department of Infection Prevention and Control, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

### *Executive Editorial Advisory Board*

**Louise Marie Dembry**, VA Connecticut Health System West Haven Campus, West Haven, United States

**Keiji Fukuda**, University of Hong Kong School of Public Health, Hong Kong, Hong Kong

**Rana Hajjeh**, World Health Organisation Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean, Cairo, Egypt

**Hani Jokhdar**, Ministry of Health Infection Control Directorate, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**Rima Khabbaz**, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Office of Infectious Diseases, Atlanta, United States

**Dick Menzies**, McGill University Respiratory Division, Montréal, Canada

**Didier Pittet**, UH Geneva Medical Center, Geneva, United States

**Robert Steffen**, University of Zurich Travel Clinic, Zürich, Switzerland

**Maria Van Kerkhove**, Pasteur Institute Center for Global Health, Paris, France

**Timothy R. Walsh**, Cardiff University Cardiff Institute of Infection and Immunity, Cardiff, United Kingdom

**David Weber**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Gillings School of Global Public Health, Chapel Hill, United States

### *Editorial Board*

**N. Abdul Razzaq**, Ministry of Health - Dubai, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

**M. Akova**, Hacettepe University Department of Infectious Diseases and Clinical Microbiology, Ankara, Turkey

**H. Al Abdaly**, Ministry of Health Infection Control Directorate, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**S. Al Abri**, The Royal Hospital Department of Infectious Diseases, Muscat, Oman

**A. Al Assiri**, Ministry of Health Infection Control Directorate, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**A. Al Barrak**, Prince Sultan Military Medical City, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**H. Al Katheri**, Qatar Ministry of Public Health Healthcare Quality Management and Patient Safety Department, Doha, Qatar

**S. Al Khawaja**, Salmaniya Medical Complex, Al Manamah, Bahrain

**A. Al Othman**, King Abdulaziz Medical City, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**J.M. Al Salman**, Salmaniya Medical Complex Department of Internal Medicine, Al Manamah, Bahrain

**A. Al Thaqafi**, King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences College of Public Health and Medical Informatics, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**S. Al Thawadi**, King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**M. Al Zahrani**, Security Forces Hospital Program, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**A. Alrajhi**, King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Center, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**Y.M. Arabi**, King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences College of Medicine, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**A. El Metwally**, King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences College of Public Health and Medical Informatics, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**M. Falagas**, Alfa Institute of Biomedical Science, Athens, Greece

**S. Gordon**, Emory University Department of Medicine, Atlanta, United States

**J. Jagger**, University of Virginia School of Medicine, Charlottesville, United States

**W. Jarvis**, Jason and Jarvis Associates, Hilton Head, United States

**S. Mehtar**, Fac. of Medicine and Health Sciences, Beheer Unit for Infection Prevention and Control, Stellenbosch University and Tygerberg Academic Hospital, Stellenbosch, South Africa

**M. Muneef**, King Abdulaziz Medical City Department of Pediatrics, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**T. Perl**, Johns Hopkins University Division of Infectious Diseases, Baltimore, United States

**M. C. Ramírez-Soto**, Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia School of Public Health and Management Carlos Vidal Layseca, Lima, Peru

**V. Rosenthal**, International Nosocomial Infection Control Consortium, Buenos Aires, Argentina

**B. Soule**, Joint Commission Resources Inc, Oakbrook Terrace, United States

***Honorary Editorial Board***

**Bandar Al Knawy**, King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**Abdullah Al Rabeah**, Ministry of Health - Dubai, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

***Ex-officio (Past) Editor-in-Chief***

**Ziad Memish**, Alfaisal University College of Medicine, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

***Editorial Assistant***

**Brittany Lucas**, King Abdulaziz Medical City Department of Infection Prevention and Control, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

***Biostatistics Editor***

**Aiman El Saed**, King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences College of Public Health and Medical Informatics, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

## GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

---

### **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 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.

#### **Conflict of interest**

All authors must disclose any financial and personal relationships with other people or organisations 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. See also <https://www.elsevier.com/conflictsofinterest>.

Please complete and upload the [Conflict of Interest and Author Declaration form](#) with your manuscript. Inclusion of this form is mandatory.

### **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').

### **Contributors**

Each author is required to declare his or her individual contribution to the article: all authors must have materially participated in the research and/or article preparation, so roles for all authors should be described. The statement that all authors have approved the final article should be true and included in the disclosure.

### **Authorship**

All authors should have made substantial contributions to all of the following: (1) the conception and design of the study, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data, (2) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content, (3) final approval of the version to be submitted.

### **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.

Authors who submit manuscripts will suggest three reviewers who may edit manuscripts at the discretion of the Editor in Chief.

### **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.

### **Copyright**

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

### **Author rights**

As an author you (or your employer or institution) have certain rights to reuse your work. [More information](#).

### *Elsevier supports responsible sharing*

Find out how you can [share your research](#) published in Elsevier journals.

### **Role of the funding source**

You are requested to identify who provided financial support for the conduct of the research and/or preparation of the article and to briefly describe the role of the sponsor(s), if any, in study design; in the collection, analysis and interpretation of data; in the writing of the report; and in the decision to submit the article for publication. If the funding source(s) had no such involvement then this should be stated.

### *Funding body agreements and policies*

Elsevier has established a number of agreements with funding bodies which allow authors to comply with their funder's open access policies. Some funding bodies will reimburse the author for the gold open access publication fee. Details of [existing agreements](#) are available online.

### **Open Access**

The Journal of Infection and Public Health is an open access journal: all articles will be immediately and permanently free for everyone to read and download. As of October 1, 2019, to provide open access, this journal will apply an open access fee of USD 1250 excluding taxes (also known as an article publishing charge APC) which needs to be paid by the authors or on their behalf e.g. by their research funder or institution. If accepted for publication in the Journal following peer review, authors will be notified of this decision and at the same time requested to pay the article processing charge. A CC user license manages the reuse of the article (see <https://www.elsevier.com/openaccesslicenses>). All articles will be published under the following license:

**Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs (CC BY-NC-ND)** For non-commercial purposes, lets others distribute and copy the article, and to include in a collective work (such as an anthology), as long as they credit the author(s) and provided they do not alter or modify the article.

### *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](#) available from Elsevier's Author Services.

### **Informed consent and patient details**

Studies on patients or volunteers require ethics committee approval and informed consent, which should be documented in the paper. Appropriate consents, permissions and releases must be obtained where an author wishes to include case details or other personal information or images of patients and any other individuals in an Elsevier publication. Written consents must be retained by the author but copies should not be provided to the journal. Only if specifically requested by the journal in exceptional circumstances (for example if a legal issue arises) the author must provide copies of the consents or evidence that such consents have been obtained. For more information, please review the [Elsevier Policy on the Use of Images or Personal Information of Patients or other Individuals](#). Unless you have written permission from the patient (or, where applicable, the next of kin), the personal details of any patient included in any part of the article and in any supplementary materials (including all illustrations and videos) must be removed before submission.

### **Submission**

Our online submission system guides you stepwise through the process of entering your article details and uploading your files. The system converts your article files to a single PDF file used in the peer-review process. Editable files (e.g., Word, LaTeX) are required to typeset your article for final publication. All correspondence, including notification of the Editor's decision and requests for revision, is sent by e-mail.

### *Submit your article*

Please submit your article via <http://ees.elsevier.com/jiph/>

### *Referees*

Please submit the names and institutional e-mail addresses of several potential referees. For more details, visit our [Support site](#). Note that the editor retains the sole right to decide whether or not the suggested reviewers are used.

## **PREPARATION**

### *Figures and tables embedded in text*

Please ensure the figures and the tables included in the single file are placed next to the relevant text in the manuscript, rather than at the bottom or the top of the file. The corresponding caption should be placed directly below the figure or table.

### **Peer review**

This journal operates a double blind review process. All contributions will be initially assessed by the editor for suitability for the journal. Papers deemed suitable are then typically sent to a minimum of two independent expert reviewers to assess the scientific quality of the paper. The Editor is responsible for the final decision regarding acceptance or rejection of articles. The Editor's decision is final. [More information on types of peer review](#).

### *Use of word processing software*

It is important that the file be saved in the native format of the word processor used. The text should be in single-column format. Keep the layout of the text as simple as possible. Most formatting codes will be removed and replaced on processing the article. In particular, do not use the word processor's options to justify text or to hyphenate words. However, do use bold face, italics, subscripts, superscripts etc. When preparing tables, if you are using a table grid, use only one grid for each individual table and not a grid for each row. If no grid is used, use tabs, not spaces, to align columns. The electronic text should be prepared in a way very similar to that of conventional manuscripts (see

also the [Guide to Publishing with Elsevier](#)). Note that source files of figures, tables and text graphics will be required whether or not you embed your figures in the text. See also the section on Electronic artwork.

To avoid unnecessary errors you are strongly advised to use the 'spell-check' and 'grammar-check' functions of your word processor.

#### *Article types*

**Journal of Infection and Public Health** publishes:

#### **A. Original Articles**

Should report relevant original research not published before, in the following format:

- Word limit: 3500 words (excluding the abstract and references).
- Abstract: structured up to 300 words to include a *Background, Methods, Results and Conclusions*.
- References: 40 or less.
- Tables and figures: no more than 7 Tables/Figures

#### **B. Short Reports (case reports)**

Should describe a case or a number of cases presenting with an unusual clinical aspect of a disease or novel perspectives upon, or solutions to, clinically relevant issues in the following format:

- Word limit: 1000 words (excluding the abstract and references).
- Abstract: unstructured of no more than 200 words.
- References: 10-12
- Tables and figures: no more than 2 Tables/Figures

#### **C. Review Articles**

Review topics should be related to clinical aspects of infectious diseases, public health and infection control and should reflect trends and progress or a synthesis of data in the following format:

- Word limit: 4000 words (excluding the abstract and references).
- References: 40 or less.
- Abstract: Up to 150 words, unstructured.
- Tables/Figures: Data in the text should not be repeated extensively in tables or figures.

#### **D. Mini-review article**

Review topics should be related to clinical aspects of infectious diseases, public health and infection control and should reflect trends and progress or a synthesis of data in the following format:

- Word limit: 2000 words (excluding the abstract and references).
- References: 20 or less.
- Abstract: Up to 150 words, unstructured.
- Tables/Figures: Data in the text should not be repeated extensively in tables or figures.

#### **E. Editorials**

Editorials are solicited by the JIPH EIC or editorial board members in the following format:

- Word limit: 1200 words.
- Tables/Figures: A maximum of 1 figure or table.
- References: 10 or less.
- Ensure that there is a clear message in the conclusion.

#### **F. Letter to the Editor**

These should be submitted in response to recently published articles in the journal addressing a specific issue and to introduce a focused scientific opinion or point of view, in the following format:

- Word limit: 500 words.
- Abstract: none.
- Tables/Figures: A maximum of 1 figure or table.
- References: 10 or less.
- No subheadings.



- Begin with 'Dear Editor'

## Article structure

### Subdivision - numbered sections

Divide your article into clearly defined and numbered sections. Subsections should be numbered 1.1 (then 1.1.1, 1.1.2, ...), 1.2, etc. (the abstract is not included in section numbering). Use this numbering also for internal cross-referencing: do not just refer to 'the text'. Any subsection may be given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line.

### Introduction

State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.

### Material and methods

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

### Theory/calculation

A Theory section should extend, not repeat, the background to the article already dealt with in the Introduction and lay the foundation for further work. In contrast, a Calculation section represents a practical development from a theoretical basis.

### Results

Results should be clear and concise.

### Discussion

This should explore the significance of the results of the work, not repeat them. A combined Results and Discussion section is often appropriate. Avoid extensive citations and discussion of published literature.

### Conclusions

The main conclusions of the study may be presented in a short Conclusions section, which may stand alone or form a subsection of a Discussion or Results and Discussion section.

### Appendices

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

## 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; **initials for the given or family name are not acceptable.** 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.

### Abstract

A concise, structured and factual abstract is required; that includes the following sections: background, methods, results and conclusion. The abstract should state briefly, in no more than 300 words, the purpose of the research, the principal results and major conclusions. An abstract

is often presented separately from the article, so it must be able to stand alone. For this reason, References should be avoided, but if essential, then cite the author(s) and year(s). Also, non-standard or uncommon abbreviations should be avoided, but if essential they must be defined at their first mention in the abstract itself.

### **Keywords**

Immediately after the abstract, provide a maximum of 6 keywords, using American spelling and avoiding general and plural terms and multiple concepts (avoid, for example, 'and', 'of'). Be sparing with abbreviations: only abbreviations firmly established in the field may be eligible. These keywords will be used for indexing purposes.

### *Abbreviations*

Define abbreviations that are not standard in this field in a footnote to be placed on the first page of the article. Such abbreviations that are unavoidable in the abstract must be defined at their first mention there, as well as in the footnote. Ensure consistency of abbreviations throughout the article.

### *Acknowledgements*

Collate acknowledgements in a separate section at the end of the article before the references and do not, therefore, include them on the title page, as a footnote to the title or otherwise. List here those individuals who provided help during the research (e.g., providing language help, writing assistance or proof reading the article, etc.).

### *Formatting of funding sources*

List funding sources in this standard way to facilitate compliance to funder's requirements:

Funding: This work was supported by the National Institutes of Health [grant numbers xxxx, yyyy]; the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle, WA [grant number zzzz]; and the United States Institutes of Peace [grant number aaaa].

It is not necessary to include detailed descriptions on the program or type of grants and awards. When funding is from a block grant or other resources available to a university, college, or other research institution, submit the name of the institute or organization that provided the funding.

If no funding has been provided for the research, please include the following sentence:

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

### *Math formulae*

Please submit math equations as editable text and not as images. Present simple formulae in line with normal text where possible and use the solidus (/) instead of a horizontal line for small fractional terms, e.g., X/Y. In principle, variables are to be presented in italics. Powers of e are often more conveniently denoted by exp. Number consecutively any equations that have to be displayed separately from the text (if referred to explicitly in the text).

### *Footnotes*

Footnotes should be used sparingly. Number them consecutively throughout the article. Many word processors can build footnotes into the text, and this feature may be used. Otherwise, please indicate the position of footnotes in the text and list the footnotes themselves separately at the end of the article. Do not include footnotes in the Reference list.

### **Artwork**

#### *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) in addition to color reproduction in print. [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.

##### *Web references*

As a minimum, the full URL should be given and the date when the reference was last accessed. Any further information, if known (DOI, author names, dates, reference to a source publication, etc.), should also be given. Web references can be listed separately (e.g., after the reference list) under a different heading if desired, or can be included in the reference list.

### *Data references*

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

### *References in a special issue*

Please ensure that the words 'this issue' are added to any references in the list (and any citations in the text) to other articles in the same Special Issue.

### *Reference management software*

Most Elsevier journals have their reference template available in many of the most popular reference management software products. These include all products that support [Citation Style Language styles](#), such as [Mendeley](#). Using citation plug-ins from these products, authors only need to select the appropriate journal template when preparing their article, after which citations and bibliographies will be automatically formatted in the journal's style. If no template is yet available for this journal, please follow the format of the sample references and citations as shown in this Guide. If you use reference management software, please ensure that you remove all field codes before submitting the electronic manuscript. [More information on how to remove field codes from different reference management software](#).

Users of Mendeley Desktop can easily install the reference style for this journal by clicking the following link:

<http://open.mendeley.com/use-citation-style/journal-of-infection-and-public-health>

When preparing your manuscript, you will then be able to select this style using the Mendeley plug-ins for Microsoft Word or LibreOffice.

### *Reference style*

*Text:* 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.

*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:

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

Reference to a journal publication with an article number:

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

Reference to a book:

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

Reference to a chapter in an edited book:

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

Reference to a website:

[5] Cancer Research UK. *Cancer statistics reports for the UK*, <http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/aboutcancer/statistics/cancerstatsreport/>; 2003 [accessed 13 March 2003].

Reference to a dataset:

[dataset] [6] Oguro M, Imahiro S, Saito S, Nakashizuka T. Mortality data for Japanese oak wilt disease and surrounding forest compositions, Mendeley Data, v1; 2015. <https://doi.org/10.17632/xwj98nb39r.1>.

Note shortened form for last page number. e.g., 51–9, and that for more than 6 authors the first 6 should be listed followed by 'et al.' For further details you are referred to 'Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts submitted to Biomedical Journals' (*J Am Med Assoc* 1997;277:927–34) (see also [Samples of Formatted References](#)).

### *Journal abbreviations source*

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

## Video

Elsevier accepts video material and animation sequences to support and enhance your scientific research. Authors who have video or animation files that they wish to submit with their article are strongly encouraged to include links to these within the body of the article. This can be done in the same way as a figure or table by referring to the video or animation content and noting in the body text where it should be placed. All submitted files should be properly labeled so that they directly relate to the video file's content. . In order to ensure that your video or animation material is directly usable, please provide the file in one of our recommended file formats with a preferred maximum size of 150 MB per file, 1 GB in total. Video and animation files supplied will be published online in the electronic version of your article in Elsevier Web products, including [ScienceDirect](#). Please supply 'stills' with your files: you can choose any frame from the video or animation or make a separate image. These will be used instead of standard icons and will personalize the link to your video data. For more detailed instructions please visit our [video instruction pages](#). Note: since video and animation cannot be embedded in the print version of the journal, please provide text for both the electronic and the print version for the portions of the article that refer to this content.

## Supplementary material

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

## AFTER ACCEPTANCE

### Online proof correction

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, at no cost, will be provided with a PDF file of the article via e-mail (the PDF file is a watermarked version of the published article and includes a cover sheet with the journal cover image and a disclaimer outlining the terms and conditions of use). For an extra charge, paper offprints can be ordered via the offprint order form which is sent once the article is accepted for publication. Both corresponding and co-authors may order offprints at any time via [Elsevier's Author Services](#).

## AUTHOR INQUIRIES

Visit the [Elsevier Support Center](#) to find the answers you need. Here you will find everything from Frequently Asked Questions to ways to get in touch.

You can also [check the status of your submitted article](#) or find out [when your accepted article will be published](#).

© Copyright 2018 Elsevier | <https://www.elsevier.com>