DESCRIPTION

The Journal of Pediatric Health Care, the official journal of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, provides scholarly clinical information and research regarding primary, acute and specialty health care for children of newborn age through young adulthood within a family-centered context. The Journal disseminates multidisciplinary perspectives on evidence-based practice and emerging policy, advocacy and educational issues that are of importance to all healthcare professionals caring for children and their families. For information regarding the submission process, please visit: http://www.jpedhc.org/content/authorinfo.

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INTRODUCTION

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Full-length Articles: Research, Clinical

Department Articles: Primary Care Case Report, Acute & Specialty Care Case Report, Health Policy, Continuing Education, Pharmacology CE, Practice Guidelines, Professional Issues, Research Methods

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Manuscripts may be submitted with the goal of offering CE credit (see Continuing Education below).

All correspondence once the manuscript is submitted, including the Editor's decision and request for revision, will be by e-mail.

PREPARATION
**MANUSCRIPT PREPARATION**

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**Practice Guidelines.** This Department is currently "under construction" and submissions are not being accepted. We hope to have the Department up and running in the Spring of 2019. Corresponding editor: jlpeck@sbcglobal.net.

**Professional Issues.** This Department features articles about professional practice, role issues, and leadership topics of interest to pediatric advanced practice nurses. Submit queries to aklinetilford@gmail.com. The suggested word count is 2500 words.

**Research Methods.** This feature provides general research information to assist in the implementation, dissemination, and evaluation of research-based care by PNPs and usually addresses a research methodology issue. Send queries to the corresponding editor at rspartling@gsu.edu. The suggested word count is 2000 words.

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2. List 3-5 objectives, using action verbs that require readers to demonstrate their understanding of the topic (e.g., Explain the pathophysiology of...Recommend an appropriate approach...Discuss important considerations...)

3. A researched, referenced manuscript of approximately 6000 words (including objectives, tables, and posttest questions/answers). The text must provide current, advanced, testable information on clinical or professional topics.

4. Ten multiple-choice questions with 4 responses each or true/false items with the correct answers indicated. (See "Tips for Writing Test Questions.") Multiple choice questions with the correct answer of "all of the above" are not acceptable.

5. A curriculum vitae for each author should be sent to lnelsen@napnap.org upon acceptance.

6. A faculty declaration form for NAPNAP must be completed by all authors. This form can be accessed at [http://www.jpedhc.org](http://www.jpedhc.org). Completed forms should be returned to lnelsen@napnap.org.

**Tips for Writing Test Questions**

Questions should measure mastery of objectives and article content. Ideally, the majority of questions should be designed for the reader to apply knowledge learned from reading the article as opposed to simple recall of information.

1. Be sure the order of questions matches the sequence of information in the article. For example, question #1 should correspond to the information that appears in the article first.

2. After you have finished writing the test, be certain that the test includes questions that relate to each objective.
3. Make questions multiple choice or true/false with possible options labeled "a," "b," "c," "d" for multiple choice and "a" or "b" for true or false.

4. Be certain that the 3 incorrect options are not plausible.

5. Use the same terminology in the test as in the narrative. (For example, if the narrative refers only to "hypertension," use "hypertension," not "high blood pressure," in the test.)

6. Make sure the correct option is derived directly from the narrative and clearly defensible as the best answer.

7. Avoid using words in the correct option that are also found in the stem (the first part of the question). Doing so provides "clues" to the correct answer.

8. Make sure that the options are not mutually exclusive. For example, if option "a" reads, "Slows the heart rate," and option "b" reads, "Increases the heart rate," these 2 options are mutually exclusive. The test taker can be reasonably certain that "c" and "d" are extraneous, and that either "a" or "b" is the correct answer.

9. Be sure that 1 or more of the options are not included in another option. For example, if option "a" reads, "Affects the heart rate," and option "b" reads, "Slows the heart rate," option "b" is actually included in option "a." Thus, if "b" is a correct response, "a" is also.

10. Include an answer key. The editor reserves the right to edit questions submitted for purposes of clarity and accuracy. The editors acknowledge the challenge of constructing a posttest that is accurate and clear.

11. Posttest questions and answers should be submitted as a separate submission on EVISE.

**Continuing Education Approval Procedure**

1. The number of contact hours is assigned by the Education department of NAPNAP.

2. One member of the CE Committee not associated with the *JPHC*, who matches the profile of the average *JPHC* reader, is asked to review the article. An average of the time it takes them to read the article and complete the posttest will determine the number of contact hour(s) assigned. One contact hour equals 60 minutes.

3. CE Articles are approved for 1 year. At the discretion of the Education department, the approval time may be shortened depending on the stability of the article content.

For more information regarding development of learning objectives and posttest questions, please contact Laura Nelsen at lnelsen@napnap.org.

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