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DESCRIPTION

The Journal of Renal Nutrition is devoted exclusively to renal nutrition science and renal dietetics. Its content is appropriate for nutritionists, physicians and researchers working in nephrology. Each issue contains a state-of-the-art review, original research, articles on the clinical management and education of patients, a current literature review, and nutritional analysis of food products that have clinical relevance.

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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION
The Journal of Renal Nutrition is the official research publication of the Council on Renal Nutrition of the National Kidney Foundation, Inc. and the International Society of Renal Nutrition and Metabolism. The purpose of JRN is to stimulate interest and research in nutrition pertaining to kidney and urologic diseases, hypertension, dialysis therapies and kidney transplantation in children and adults, as well as to publish information concerning renal nutrition research, practice issues and policies. The goal of JRN is to publish original communications and research that maintain high standards for the profession and that contribute significantly to the overall advancement of the field.

The JRN is a refereed publication. Manuscripts are accepted for review with the understanding that the material has not been previously published except in abstract form, and is not concurrently under review for publication elsewhere. Authors submitting a manuscript to JRN must understand that if it is accepted for publication, copyright of the article including the right to reproduce the article in all forms and media, shall be assigned exclusively to the National Kidney Foundation. The Publisher, Elsevier, will not refuse any reasonable request by the author for permission to reproduce any of his or her contributions to the Journal. Information on how to request permission is available on the JRN website (http://www.jrnjournal.org).

Manuscript Categories
The Journal of Renal Nutrition welcomes manuscripts in the following categories: Original Research Articles, Reviews, Clinical/Research Briefs, Practical Aspects Articles, Case Studies, Patient Education Material, Letters to the Editor, and Supplements. Authors should adhere to the guidelines provided for each type of manuscript.

Original Research: Original research articles are full length reports that cover topics relevant to renal nutrition dietetics or renal nutrition science for both adult and pediatric issues. To be published, the work presented in the manuscript must be original; on occasion, confirmatory studies of timely and important observations will also be acceptable. In addition, other considerations for evaluating the acceptability of a submitted manuscript include its importance, the soundness of the experimental design, the validity of the methods, the appropriateness of the conclusions, and the quality of presentation.

Original Research manuscripts should be organized as follows: title page, support and financial disclosure, abstract, introduction, methods, results, discussion, practical application, acknowledgments, references, tables, and legends and figures. All pages should be numbered consecutively, starting with the title page as page one. Original Research manuscripts, in general, should range between 2,500 and 4,000 words, but are typically about 3,500 words, not including references. Tables and illustrations range from 2 to 6 and should be limited to those most pertinent to the study without duplicating findings in the text. The editor reserves the right to publish excessively long tables as online-only material. Failure to comply with length restrictions may result in a delay in processing the paper.

1. Introduction: Clearly state the purpose of the research. Summarize the rationale and background for the study or observation; cite only pertinent references. The "Introduction" should be limited to 1.5 typed manuscript pages.

2. Methods: Provide sufficient detail so that the study can be repeated. Describe new methods in detail; report accepted methods briefly with references. Use subheadings as needed for clarity.

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Reviews: Comprehensive, quantitative reviews of specific renal nutrition topics of clinical relevance, traditional or meta-analysis, are usually invited contributions; however, letters of interest are welcomed. Reviews should address topics with an extensive body of literature to provide a critical summary of the current evidence and applications. In some cases, review articles may also address an emerging topic with limited literature to better demonstrate the need for more research, but if the focus of the article is on a clinical practice issue, this might better be presented as a "Practical Aspects" article.

Reviews should include: (1) an unstructured abstract (150 maximum word count) that clearly states the purpose of the review, the methodology employed, brief findings and conclusion; (2) introduction and purpose; (3) body, which develops the subject in logical order using appropriate headings and subheadings; (4) conclusions that specify the needs for further research; (5) a detailed and comprehensive list of references; and (6) relevant tables and/or figures. Maximum word count for a review article is 4,500 words, not including references, tables/figures and title page.

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Clinical/Research Briefs should be organized as follows: title page, support and financial disclosure, abstract, introduction, methods, results, discussion, practical application, acknowledgments, references, tables, and legends and figures. All pages should be numbered consecutively, starting with the title page as page one.
Practical Aspects: The Journal welcomes manuscripts about a specific renal nutrition topic of clinical relevance for the provider of nutrition or medical care to patients with kidney disease. Contributions to this section are detailed protocols, forms, or other such materials that are successfully utilized for delivery of nutrition care or medical, nursing or psychological care that has a nutrition component.

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Case Studies: This detailed scenario should illustrate a patient care situation that benefited from nutrition intervention. Typically, it should consist of a brief clinical and nutrition history, and a detailed nutrition intervention plan with discussion of recommendations focused on practical application. Appropriate laboratory values, anthropometric measurements, and clinical parameters should be provided.

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This journal operates a double blind review process, which means the identities of the authors are concealed from the reviewers, and vice versa. All contributions will be initially assessed by an Editor who has expertise in the subject area for suitability for the journal. Papers deemed suitable are then sent to a minimum of two independent expert reviewers to assess the scientific quality of the paper. The reviewers evaluate each article on the basis of content, originality, scientific accuracy, clarity, and contribution to the field of renal nutrition dietetics and science. 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 is available here.

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The single most important criterion for acceptance is the originality of the work. However, a decision to accept a manuscript is not based solely on the scientific validity of its content. Other factors affecting decisions include the extent and importance of new information in the paper compared with that in other papers being considered, the Journal's need to represent a wide range of topics, and the overall suitability for JRN. Decision letters usually, but not always, convey all factors considered for a particular decision. Occasionally, the comments to the authors may appear to be inconsistent with the editorial decision, which takes into consideration reviewers' comments to the editor, etc.

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Use of the present tense is preferable. Refer to patients by number. Actual names or initials should not be used in the text, tables, or illustrations. All clinical laboratory values should be expressed in U.S. conventional units. If necessary, the International System of Units (SI units) can be provided in parentheses immediately after the U.S. convention units. Conversion tables are available at JAMA 1986; 255(17): 2329-2339 or Ann Intern Med 1987;106(1):114-129.
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