DESCRIPTION

The *Journal of Taibah University Medical Sciences* is a bi-monthly peer reviewed publication. Authors are invited to submit articles for publication, reporting original work in clinical and basic medical sciences covering topics from *Medicine*, *Dentistry*, *Nursing*, *Pharmacy*, and *Applied Medical Sciences*. Review and Editorial articles are by invitation only. However, those received and found to be of an outstanding nature will be considered for publication. Other regular features within the journal include, Case Reports, Letters to the Editor, and Updates which detail symposia, conferences and workshops located primarily in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Gulf countries.

The Journal has recently devoted a new Students' Section where the research projects written by the students shall be entertained. All students from the medical, dental, and allied science faculties are invited to participate in this educational and research activity. The peer review shall be performed by senior academicians with a view to guide and supervise the students in medical research and publications.

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI)
Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

EDITORIAL BOARD

*Editor-in-Chief*
Khalid Ibrahim Khoshhal, Department of Orthopedics and Consultant Pediatric Orthopedic Surgeon, Vice Rector for Graduate Studies and Scientific Research, Taibah University, Almadinah Almunawwarah, KSA

*Deputy Editor-in-Chief*
Salman Yousuf Guraya, College of Medicine, University of Sharjah UAE

*Editorial Board*
Abdel Galil Abdel-Gader, Department of Basic Medical Sciences, King Saud ben Abdul Aziz University for Health Sciences, Riyadh, KSA
Fawzia Ahmed Habib, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Taibah University, Almadinah Almunawwarah, KSA
Abdelmohsen Hamdan Alzalabani, Department of Family Medicine, Taibah University, Almadinah Almunawwarah, KSA
Elizabeth Susan Anderson, Department of Interprofessional Education, Faculty of Medicine, University of Leicester, UK
James Jarvis, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
Esam Tashkandi, Department of Prosthetic Dental Sciences College of Dentistry, King Saud University, Riyadh, KSA
Khalid Rida Murshid, Department of Surgery, Taibah University, Almadinah Almunawwarah, KSA
Mohamed Najib Attala, Professor of Anesthesiology, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio, United States of America
Mohammed Abdur Hannan, Department of Genetics, Advisor Centre for Genetic and Inherited Diseases, Taibah University, Almadinah Almunawwarah, KSA
Muhammad Saiful Bahri, Department of Medical Education, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Kelantan, Malaysia
Rayaz Malik, Department of Cardiovascular Medicine, Manchester Royal Infirmary and University of Manchester, Manchester, United Kingdom
Hisham Suliman Abou-Auda, Department of Clinical Pharmacy, King Saud University, KSA
Hugh Barr, Department of Interprofessional Education, University of West Minister, UK
Omar F. Khabour, Department of Medical Laboratory Technology, College of Applied Medical Sciences, Taibah University, Almadinah Almunawwarah, KSA
Mohamed A. Zolaly, Department of Pediatrics, Taibah University, Almadinah Almunawwarah, KSA

Publication Assistant
Zain Sahi Farsi

Advisory Board
Abdelhadi M. Habeb, Department of pediatric endocrinology, Prince Muhmmad bin Abdulaziz National Guard Hospital, Almadinah Almunawwarah, KSA
Abdelmoneim Al Hayani, Department of anatomy, King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah, KSA
Abdulrahman Almazrooa, Department of anesthesiology and I.C.U, Taibah University, Almadinah Almunawwarah, KSA
Ahmed M. Bawazeer, Department of ophthalmology, King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah, KSA
Al Johara A. Quaiz, Department of family and community medicine, King Saud University, Riyadh, KSA
Almaramhi Hamdi, Department of paediatric surgery Taibah University, Almadinah, Almunawwarah, KSA
Anderson G, Department of pharmacology, Keele University, Keele, United Kingdom
Ayman Abdo, Professor of Medicine and Gastroenterology, College of Medicine, King Saud University, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Bassem Y. Sheikh, Department of neurosurgery, Taibah University, Almadinah Almunawwarah, KSA
David Y. Thomas, Department of biochemistry and molecular genetics, McGill University, Montréal, Canada
Douglas Corfield, Department of medical sciences, University of Manchester, Manchester, United Kingdom
Esmail Niazy, Professor of Pharmaceutics, College of Pharmacy, Taibah University, Almadinah Almunawwarah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Fadi Munshi, Department of medical education, King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences, Riyadh, KSA
Hassan Nasrat, Department of obstetrics and gynecology, King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah, KSA
Hosam G. Abdellahy, Department of pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences, Taibah University, Almadinah Almunawwarah, KSA
Hussein A. Yamany, Department of cardiology, Taibah University, Almadinah Almunawwarah, KSA
Hussam M. Yousof, Department of surgery, Prince Sultan Military Medical City, Riyadh, KSA
Ibrahim Al Alwani, Professor of Pediatrics and Pediatric Endocrinology, College of Medicine, King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Imed Gallouzi, Department of biochemistry and cancer biology, McGill University, Montréal, Canada
Khalid Bin Abdulrahman, Professor of Family Medicine and Medical Education, College of Medicine, Al-Imam University, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Lubna Al Ansary, Department of family and community medicine, King Saud University, Riyadh, KSA
Mansour Al Alnozha, Professor of Medicine and Cardiology, Almadinah Almunawwarah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Marooof A. Khan, Professor of ENT and Head and Neck Surgery, King Edward Medical University, Lahore, Pakistan
Tony Freemont, Department of Osteoarticular Pathology, University of Manchester, Manchester, UK
Khalid Al-Samadani, Department of Restorative Dental Sciences, Taibah University, Almadinah Almunawwarah, KSA
Mohamad Alhadremy, Department of Medicine and Endocrinology, Barakat Taibah Medical Center, Almadinah Almunawwarah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Mohammed O. AlRukban, Department of family medicine, King Saud University, Riyadh, KSA
Mohammed Y. Al Naami, Department of surgery, King Saud University, Riyadh, KSA
Muhammad A. Wajid, Department of orthopedic surgery, Shalamar Medical and Dental College, Lahore, Pakistan
Mustafa Saleh, Professor of Pediatrics and Pediatric Neurology, College of Medicine, King Saud University, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Nasir A. Al Jurayyan, Professor of Pediatrics and Pediatric Endocrinology, College of Medicine, King Saud University, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Nick London, Professor of Vascular and Endocrine Surgery, Leicester University NHS, Leicester, United Kingdom
Omar Kasule, Professor of Epidemiology and Bioethics, King Fahad Medical City, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Saleh Al-Damegh, Professor of Radiology, College of Medicine, Qassim University, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Sami Alqaidi, Department of anatomy, Taibah University, Almadinah Almunawwarah, KSA
Waleed Murshid, Professor of Neurosurgery, College of Medicine, Taibah University, Almadinah Almunawwarah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Ethics in Publishing
The journal and its editorial board fully adhere and comply to the policies and principles of Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) and this journal is a full member of Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE).

For information on Ethics in publishing and Ethical guidelines for journal publication see https://www.elsevier.com/publishingethics and https://www.elsevier.com/journal-authors/ethics.

Policy and Ethics
The work described in your article must have been carried out in accordance with The Code of Ethics of the World Medical Association (Declaration of Helsinki) for experiments involving humans http://www.wma.net/en/30publications/10policies/b3/index.html; EC Directive 86/609/EEC for animal experiments http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/lab_animals/legislation_en.htm; Uniform Requirements for manuscripts submitted to Biomedical journals http://www.icmje.org. The manuscript should contain a statement that the work has been approved by the appropriate ethical committees related to the institution(s) in which it was performed and that subjects gave informed consent to the work (see declarations section above). Studies involving experiments with animals must state that their care was in accordance with institution guidelines. This must be stated at an appropriate point in the article.

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').

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.
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.

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. After acceptance, open access papers will be published under a noncommercial license. For authors requiring a commercial CC BY license, you can apply after your manuscript is accepted for publication.

Open access
Every peer-reviewed research article appearing in this journal will be published open access. This means that the article is universally and freely accessible via the internet in perpetuity, in an easily readable format immediately after publication. The author does not have any publication charges for open access. The Taibah University will pay to make the article open access. 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 and language services
Please write your text in good English (American or British usage is accepted, but not a mixture of these).

Patient details
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/jtumed

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
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.

Double-blind review
This journal uses double-blind 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.
Blinded 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.

Article structure
Subdivision - unnumbered sections
Divide your article into clearly defined sections. Each subsection is given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line. Subsections should be used as much as possible when cross-referencing text: refer to the subsection by heading as opposed to simply 'the text'.

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.
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. 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 lowercase 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 and factual abstract is required. The abstract should state briefly 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.

Highlights
Highlights are a short collection of bullet points that convey the core findings of the article. Highlights are optional and should be submitted in a separate 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).

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.

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, EPS or MS Office files) and with the correct resolution.

**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.

**Conflict of 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. See also https://www.elsevier.com/conflictsofinterest.

Please complete and upload the **Conflict of interest and Author Declaration form** with you manuscript. Inclusion of this form is mandatory.

**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 style**

**Text:** Indicate references by superscript numbers in the text. The actual authors can be referred to, but the reference number(s) must always be given.

**List:** Number the references in the list in the order in which they appear in the text.

**Examples:**
Reference to a book:

Reference to a chapter in an edited book:

Reference to a website:

Reference to a dataset:

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.

**Checklist**
Article category 3 names of each author (first name, initial of middle name and last name)
Corresponding Author's full contact details (including postal address, email and telephone number)
Highest degree of each author (only the acronym of the completed degree should be provided)
Short Running Title (40 letters) Structured abstract with a maximum of 250 letters excluding keywords No need for structured abstract for Review, Editorial and Experimental Articles, and Case Reports Abstract should have following headings: Objectives Methods Results Conclusions Maximum of five Keywords (alphabetical order) Arabic Abstract (journal will provide Arabic abstract for non-Arabic authors)
Manuscript should have the following headings:Introduction: To provide context, goals and motivations, and pitfalls leading to the significance of research questionMaterials and Methods: To provide study design, sample characteristics, manufacturer(s) details, sufficiently detailed procedures, and description of statistical method(s) Results: : Numerical results with appropriate commentaryDiscussion: Starts by summarizing the important findings from the results section, discusses the results in light of aims?of the study, and highlights limitations of studyConclusion Recommendation/sAcknowledgment (if any)Conflict of InterestEthical approval and statement of Declaration of Helsinki (if applicable) References (Vancouver style)Legends of Tables and FiguresTables and Figures Maximum word count allowed; 3500–4000Authors' contributions: Author/s testify that all persons designated as authors qualify for authorship and have checked the article for plagiarism. If plagiarism is detected, all authors will be held equally responsible and will bear the resulting sanctions imposed by the journal thereafter.

All authors should meet all four of the following criteria:Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work ANDDrafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content ANDFinal approval of the version to be published ANDAgreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.
Example;
KIK conceived and designed the study, conducted research, provided research materials, and collected and organized data. HMY analyzed and interpreted data. SYG wrote initial and final draft of article, and provided logistic support. All authors have critically reviewed and approved the final draft and are responsible for the content and similarity index of the manuscript.

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 will be notified and receive a link to the published version of the open access article on ScienceDirect. This link is in the form of an article DOI link which can be shared via email and social networks. 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 Webshop. Authors requiring printed copies of multiple articles may use Elsevier Webshop's 'Create Your Own Book' service to collate multiple articles within a single cover.

Author Inquiries
You can track your submitted article at https://www.elsevier.com/track-submission. You can track your accepted article at https://www.elsevier.com/trackarticle. You are also welcome to contact Customer Support via https://service.elsevier.com. For journal related information, please contact Prof. Khalid Ibrahim Khoshhal at kkhoshhal@hotmail.com

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