DESCRIPTION

The Journal of the American Pharmacists Association is the official peer-reviewed journal of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA), providing information on pharmaceutical care, drug therapy, diseases and other health issues, trends in pharmacy practice and therapeutics, informed opinion, and original research. JPhA publishes original research, reviews, experiences, and opinion articles that link science to contemporary pharmacy practice to improve patient care.

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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION

The Journal of the American Pharmacists Association (JAPhA) is a peer-reviewed forum to improve medication use and health outcomes, inform health care policies and advance pharmacist-provided services. JAPhA welcomes original research, experience, systematic review, and opinion articles that concisely report meaningful developments and advances in the drug use process and pharmacy practice. Articles may introduce new information about improving pharmacists' patient care services, medication use, and health outcomes. Also of interest are articles on new medications and emerging therapeutic trends, new technologies, and research methods with applicability to pharmacy practice. These guidelines serve to maintain and improve the quality of the Journal. Questions regarding these guidelines or inquiries can be directed to the JAPhA Managing Editor, Liz Haberkorn, at ehaberkorn@aphanet.org.

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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.

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

**Basic Format**

JAPhA will consider papers prepared in accordance with the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors’ Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals (available at: www.icmje.org). Submitting files that do not meet the requirements detailed below may result in immediate rejection. For guidance in manuscript preparation, refer to the American Medical Association Manual of Style, 10th ed. (www.amamanualofstyle.com); Chicago Manual of Style, 16th ed. (2010); and Stedman's Medical Dictionary, 28th ed. (stedmansonline.com). All accepted manuscripts are edited to conform to JAPhA style.

**Journal Sections**

Manuscripts are considered for peer-reviewed sections within the Science & Practice section of JAPhA (Table 1). Following completion of peer review, articles may be pursued and accepted as either print or online publications. Abstracts of online-only articles are provided in the print edition's JAPhA department. A summary of the sections of JAPhA and corresponding requirements is shown in Table 1.

**Article Types**

Journal articles should link science with pharmacy practice in these general content areas: pharmacists' patient care services, medication use, pharmacy services, health outcomes, new medications, emerging therapeutic trends, new technologies in health care, and research methods with applicability to pharmacy practice. Other content areas relevant to pharmacy practice may also be considered.

Care should be taken by the author(s) to include sufficient methodological information to evaluate the quality of the research. The word count does not include the title page, abstract and references. Survey instruments, data sets, and data-heavy tables not necessary for interpretation of study results should be included in the submission and cited in the text as online-only supplemental content (e.g., "the survey instrument is in Appendix 1, available on JAPhA.org as supplemental content").

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**Article Structure**

JAPhA articles must be submitted in a single word-processing file as follows (additional detail is provided in the subsequent text): Title page (include word counts; see Table 1) Abstract Key points Article text References Tables and figures for all categories of submission should be uploaded as separate, editable files.

**Essential Title Page Information**

Specific information contained in the title page should include names of authors; corresponding degree abbreviations; job titles; current and past affiliations at the time of the manuscript and/or project completion; funding support (financial or material); acknowledgments; previous presentations of the work (e.g., professional meetings); and any present conflicts of interest. Conflicts of interest may include but are not limited to involvement in peer-reviewed publication and personal or financial interests that may bias the writing. Financial interests consist of grants, employment, gifts, stock holdings, honoraria, consultancies, expert testimonies, patents, and/or royalties. Potential conflicts of interest must be clearly stated. For guidance on conflicts of interest, authors are referred to the website of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/roles-and-responsibilities). Correspondence-related information should be provided for one author and should include current mail and e-mail addresses.
Word counts for the abstract and the manuscript should be specified on the title page. These counts allow editors and reviewers to determine whether the information in the submission warrants the amount of space required and if the submitted manuscript fits within the word limits. Table 1 provides detailed information on word count criteria for each section.

**Article Title**

Article titles are subject to editing by Journal staff after articles are accepted. Although longer titles may sometimes be allowed, authors should make an effort to restrict titles to no more than 95 characters and spaces (approximately 12 words) in length. In addition, use of acronyms in titles should be avoided whenever possible.

**Abstract**

A concise and factual abstract is required with the exception of Letters. Abstracts are limited to 300 words total. Specific subheadings are required in the abstract depending on the section of manuscript submitted (See Table 1); if one does not apply, include it and write "not applicable" for that subsection.

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For manuscripts in the Research, Reviews, Advances in Pharmacy Practice, Experience, and Commentary sections, authors are required to prepare key points in a bulleted format that describe the article's relevance and contribution to the literature. These are presented under two separate headings: Background and Findings. Two or three key points under each of these headings should provide the context for the article (what is already known on the topic, other relevant background) and what the manuscript findings adds to existing knowledge on the topic.

**Article Text**

Headings used by JPhA to introduce an article's main sections are described in Table 1.

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Articles involving human participants are required to state within the article text as well as in the cover letter that approval or exemption has been granted by an institutional review board (IRB) or similar body. Articles not containing this statement will not be considered for peer review until IRB status is determined. If IRB review information cannot be provided or is refused, the article will be rejected. If a waiver or modification of consent was previously granted by an IRB, briefly describe in the text the rationale for the modification.

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Define abbreviations that are not standard in the field and place 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 on the first page. Ensure consistency of abbreviations throughout the article.

Within the text of an article, medications should be referred to by generic names. For single-source products or to identify a specific product, place the brand name followed by the manufacturer in parentheses following the generic name: generic name (brand name-manufacturer). Use of trademark symbols is not allowed. Brand names are not included for multisource drugs unless a specific product is being discussed (e.g., the brand used in a case report).

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

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Artwork
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