DESCRIPTION

The Journal of the Egyptian Society of Cardiothoracic Surgery (JESCTS) is the official publication of the Egyptian Society of Cardiothoracic Surgery.

The Egyptian Society of Cardiothoracic Surgery (ESCTS) is dedicated to improve patient care by advancing the science and practice of cardiothoracic surgery. Its mission is to encourage and promote excellence in cardiothoracic surgery education, research and practice. ESCTS envisions an environment in which every patient receives safe, efficacious and high quality patient care.

The mission of JESCTS is to present to the community of cardiothoracic surgery updated, well reviewed, high quality, useful researches in that field. To improve measures that facilitate to the community of cardiothoracic surgery, researchers and the public how to reach published papers and get benefit of them. Vision: Improving and upgrading editorial and publishing process, choosing editorial board of high quality, stressing on the scientific, ethical, linguistic, and statistical issues. Taking all the measures that improve citations and impact factor of the journal including having an international publisher for the journal. The journal will be freely accessible online.

The scope of the journal is Cardiothoracic Surgery with its sub-specialties: Pediatric cardiac surgery, Adult cardiac surgery, Thoracic surgery, Perfusion for open cardiac surgery and assist devices.

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor-in-Chief
Ahmed Hassouna, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt

Associate editor (Adult cardiac)
Amr Ahmed Arafat, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Tanta University, Tanta, Egypt

Associate editor (Congenital)
Mohamed-Adel Elgamal, Pediatric cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Mansoura University, Mansoura, Egypt
Associate editor (Thoracic)
Hany Hasan Elsayed, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt

Ethics Editor
Magdy Gomaa, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt

Statistics Editor
Ahmed Hassona, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt

Advisory board
Samir Abdallah, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt
Shamel Abd-Allah, Pediatric ICU department, faculty of medicine, Loma Linda University, CA, USA
Khaled M Abdel-Aal, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Sohag University, Sohag, Egypt
Saïd Abdelaziz, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt
Khaled Abdelbary, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Zagazig University, Zagazig, Egypt
Ibrahim Abdelmeguid, Dept. of Cardiac surgery, National Heart Institute of Egypt, Cairo, Egypt
Mohamed Abdelraouf, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt
Walid Abu Arab, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Alexandria University, Alexandria, Egypt
Abdelrahman Adel, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Sohag University, Sohag, Egypt
Mohsen Saber Ahmed, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Sohag University, Sohag, Egypt
Sayed Akl, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt
Zohair Al-Halees, Cardiac Research department, King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Centre, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Lhab Ali, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt
Hemat Allam, Pain therapy department, National Research Center, Cairo, Egypt
David Anderson, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Guy’s and St Thomas’s Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, London, England, UK
Mohamed Fawzy Badreldine, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt
Yehia Balbaa, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt
Morris Beshay, General thoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Universitaet Muenster, Bielefeld, Germany
Ahmad Boseila, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Klinikum Bielefeld Mitte, Bielefeld, Germany
Hechem Chawki, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt
Ahmed Deebes, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Zagazig University, Zagazig, Egypt
Wadis R. Dimitri, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Walsgrave Hospital, Coventry, UK
Hussein El Shafiei, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen, Scotland, UK
Sameh Elamine, Dept. of Cardiac surgery, National Heart Institute of Egypt, Cairo, Egypt
Saïd Refaat Elassy, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt
Tamer Elbanna, Dept. of Cardiac surgery, National Heart Institute of Egypt, Cairo, Egypt
Adel El-Banna, Dept. of Cardiothoracic Surgery, National Heart Institute of Egypt, Imbaba, Giza, Egypt
Mahmoud El-Battawy, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt
Mahmoud El-Battawy, Faculty of Medicine, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt
Mohamed ElFiky, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt
Mostafa Elhamami, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Alexandria University, Alexandria, Egypt
Hussein Khairy Elkhayat, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Assiut University, Assiut, Egypt
Ahmed El-Minshawy, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Assiut University, Assiut, Egypt
Mamdouh Elsharawy, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Zagazig University, Zagazig, Egypt
Ehab Elshis, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt
Amal Elsisi, Dept. of Pediatric Cardiology, National Heart Institute of Egypt, Cairo, Egypt
Ahmed Elwatidy, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Alexandria University, Alexandria, Egypt
Mohamed Emara, Dept. of Cardiac surgery, National Heart Institute of Egypt, Cairo, Egypt
Mohamed Essa, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Zagazig University, Zagazig, Egypt
Mohsen Fadala, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt
Hosam Fawzy, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Tanta University, Tanta, Egypt
Elhusseiny Gamil, Faculty of Medicine, AlAzhar University, AlAzhar, Cairo, Egypt
Magdy Gomaa, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt
Nahidh Waleed Hasaniya, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Specialty care associates, USA
Wael Hassanein, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Alexandria University, Alexandria, Egypt
Yasser Hegazy, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Medi Clin Herzzentrum Lahr, Lahr, Germany
Mohamed Helmy, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt
Mohamed Fouad Ismail, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Mansoura University, Mansoura, Egypt
Krishma S. Iyer, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Fortis Escorts Heart Institute & Research Centre
Ahmed Tadry, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Mansoura University, Mansoura, Egypt
Khaled Karara, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Alexandria University, Alexandria, Egypt
Ibrahim Kasab, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Benha University, Benha, Egypt
Samir Keshk, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Alexandria University, Alexandria, Egypt
Ibrahim Khadragui, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Alexandria University, Alexandria, Egypt
Tarek Kilani, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Hopital Abderrahmane MAMI, Ariana, Tunis
Cosimo Lequaglie, Thoracic surgery department, IRCCS National Cancer Institute, Rionero, Italy
Yasser Menaissy, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt
Keith D Mortman, Thoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, George Washington university hospital, Washington DC, USA
Ahmed Mostafa, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt
Ezzeldine Mostafa, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt
Magdy Mostafa, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt
Mohamed Nassar, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, St. Thomas’ Hospital, London, UK
Nour Eldin Noaman, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Mansoura University, Mansoura, Egypt
Ahmed Mostafa Omran, Dept. of Cardiac surgery, National Heart Institute of Egypt, cairo, Egypt
Abdel Magued Ramadan, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, University of Alexandria, Alexandria, Egypt
Mauro Romano, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Institute Hospitaller Jacques Cartier, Massy, France
Tarek Salah, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt
Hisham Shawky, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt
Ayman Shoeb, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt
Abdelhady Taha, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Tanta University, Tanta, Egypt
Sachin Talwar, Department of cardiovascular and thoracic surgery, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India
Marco Turchini, Thoracic surgery department, G.B. Morgagni-Pierantoni Hospital, Forli, Italy
Ehab Wahby, Cardiothoracic surgery department, faculty of medicine, Tanta University, Tanta, Egypt

Editorial Manager
Ahmed Ali Khalifa, Administration
GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

Introduction
Journal of Egyptian Society of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery
(J. Egypt. Soc. Cardiothorac. Surg.)
Editorial Office
Please address all correspondence to:
The Egyptian Society of Cardio-thoracic Surgery
330 El-Sudan St., Imbaba, Cairo, Egypt.
Telephone: (+202) 3303 6634
Fax: (+202) 3303 8054
E-Mail: jegyptscts@gmail.com
The Journal of the Egyptian Society of Cardiothoracic Surgery [ISSN 1110-578 X] is the official publication of the Egyptian Society of Cardio-thoracic Surgery. The journal is published every three months.

General Instructions
Every submission must include:

Cover letter, indicating the category of article, the complete manuscript, including title page, abstract, text, tables, acknowledgments, references, illustrations.

Required disclosures;
A. Conditions for Publication Form which includes disclosures regarding freedom of investigation and conflicts of interest, signed by all authors. In single Author publication an additional Senior Consultant Signature is required.
B. Written permission from the publisher (copyright holder) is required to reproduce any previously published table(s), illustration(s) or photograph(s) in both print and electronic media.
C. Written permission from unmasked patients appearing in photographs is also required.

Revised Manuscripts:
Revised manuscripts must be submitted in three parts as Microsoft word-processing files: (1) cover letter with responses to reviewers' comments (2) revised, marked manuscript showing additions and deletions; (3) revised, unmarked manuscript.

General Information
Three copies of the Manuscripts should be sent preferably prepared in Microsoft Word, typed double-spaced throughout (including title page, abstract, text, references, tables and legends) with one (1) inch (2.5 cm) margins all around. Place Author name and page number in the upper right corner of each page.
Manuscripts written in 12 point Arial or Times New Roman fonts are preferred (Note: Do not submit your manuscript in PDF format it causes problems in processing your submission.)
Arrange manuscript as follows: (1) title page, (2) abstract, (3) text, (4) acknowledgments, (5) disclosures if required, (6) references, (7) tables and (8) legends. Number pages consecutively, beginning with the title page as page 1 and ending with the legend page.
If your manuscript contains illustrations, in addition to submitting them online, you must send two sets of original illustrations to the editorial office labeled with manuscript number, first author, and figure number on back. Tables and figures should be provided separate from the text while there position in the text should be marked on the manuscript.

Word Limits by Category of Manuscript
Original articles should not exceed 4500 words including title page, abstract of 150-200 words, text, figure legends and references. The combined total of illustrations and tables should not exceed 10 and the number of references should not exceed 40.
New Technology articles are limited to 2500 words including title page, abstract, text, figure legends and references. The number of tables should not exceed three; the number of illustrations should not exceed six if tables are included; eight if there are no tables. The number of references should not exceed 10.
**Case reports** and "how to do it" articles are limited to a total of 1500 words including title page, abstract, text, references and figure legends. For each illustration subtract 100 words and for each table subtract 300 words from the word limit. References are limited to eight. A "how to do it" article should be a description of a useful surgical technique and contain descriptive, illustrative material.

**Images in cardiothoracic surgery** are limited to 350 words including title and text and to two, possibly three figures. The entire contribution must fit on one printed page.

**Review articles** are limited to 6500 words including title page, abstract, text, figure legends and all references. The total number of references should not exceed 80. Subtract 100 words for each illustration and 300 words for each table.

**Our surgical heritage** articles are limited to 2500 words including title page, abstract, text, figure legends and references. Subtract 100 words for each illustration and 300 words for each table.

**Correspondence** (Letters to the Editor) and **commentaries** are limited to 500 words. Subtract 100 words for each illustration and 300 words for each table.

**Editorials** are limited to 2500 words including references. Subtract 100 words for each illustration and 300 words for each table.

**Peer Review**
This journal operates a single blind review process. All contributions will be initially assessed by the editor 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 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

**Information about the article processing charges (APCs)** After processing the article and before sending the author a letter of acceptance, the charges should be paid through the head office of the journal in Cairo. The charges are 1500 LE. The author will pay extra fees for the tables, figures and photos (more for colored ones) with a maximum additional charge of 500LE.

No charges are taken from rejected articles.

For articles from outside Egypt, the Journal will charge 100 $ for accepted articles from authors of accepted articles paid through bank transfer to the account of the society.

**Manuscript Preparation**

**Title Page** (first page)

The title is limited to 100 characters and spaces for original manuscripts and to 80 characters and spaces for all other categories of manuscripts. The title may not contain acronyms or abbreviations. All submissions, including correspondence, must have a title.

**Running Head.** Supply a short title of 40 characters and spaces.

**Authors.** List all authors by first name, all initials, family name and highest academic degree using "MD, PhD" for holders of both degrees (if more than 7 Authors justify).

**Institution and Affiliations.** List the name and full address of all institutions where the work was done. List departmental affiliations of each author affiliated with that institution after each institutional address.

**Meeting Presentation.** If the paper has been or is to be presented at the annual meeting of The Society, provide the name, location and dates of the meeting.

**Keywords.** Provide up to 5 keywords selected from the appended list to describe the manuscript. Do not use any keywords that are not on the list.

**Word Count.** Provide the electronic total word count of the entire manuscript including title page, abstract, text, figure legends and entire reference list.

**Corresponding Author.** Provide the name, exact postal address with postal code, telephone number, fax number and e-mail address of the author to whom communications, proofs and requests for reprints should be sent.

**Abstract Page** (Second page)

- **Original articles**
  Provide a structured **Abstract**, no longer than 250 words, divided into four sections: **Background, Methods, Results, and conclusions** + **Keywords**. Avoid abbreviations and acronyms. Indicate the abstract word count below the abstract.

- **New Technology**
  Provide a structured abstract, **no longer than 175 words**, divided into four sections:
Purpose, Description, Evaluation and Conclusions. Avoid abbreviations and acronyms. Indicate the abstract word count below the abstract. [Disclosure stating the source of all funds to the study, plus "freedom of investigation" which is defined as freedom from outside interests in controlling the study and having freedom to fully disclose all results; these statements are mandatory for all new technology articles only]
- Case reports, "How to do it" articles, review articles and our surgical heritage articles. Provide an unstructured abstract of 100 words.
- Images, correspondence, commentaries, editorials and updates. No abstract is required.

Text (third page continue up to acknowledgments)

Text should be organized as follows: Introduction, Patients and Methods, Results, Discussion and Conclusions. Text for Case Reports should be organized as follows: Introduction, Case Presentation, Discussion. Text for "How to do it" should be organized as follows: Introduction, Technique, Patients and Methods, Results, Discussion. Text for Review articles should be organized as follows: Introduction, (Patients and Methods - Results are optional following author and Editor need), Discussion. Cite references, illustrations and tables in numeric order by order of mention in the text.

Avoid abbreviations. Consult the American Medical Association Manual of Style, 9th edition, for recommended abbreviations. Define abbreviations at first appearance in the text. If 8 or more abbreviations or acronyms are used, provide a separate table of abbreviations and acronyms.


Footnotes. Type footnotes at the bottom of the manuscript page on which they are cited. Suppliers. Credit suppliers of drugs, equipment and other brand-name material mentioned in the article within parentheses in text, giving company name, city and country.

Acknowledgments
Grants, financial support and technical or other assistance must be acknowledged at the end of the text before the references.

References
Identify references in the text using Arabic numerals in brackets on the line. Type references double-spaced after text or acknowledgments beginning on a separate sheet. Number consecutively in the order in which they appear in the text.

Journal references should provide inclusive page numbers;
book references should cite specific page numbers. Journal abbreviations should conform to those used in Index Medicus. follow the formats outlined below:

Journal Article

Chapter in book
Chapter in Book

Internet Address

Tables
Tables should be typewritten double-spaced on separate sheets (one to each page). Do not use vertical lines. Each table should be numbered (Arabic) and have a title above. Legends and explanatory notes should be placed below the table. Abbreviations used in the table follow the legend in alphabetic order. Lower case letter superscripts beginning with "a" and following in alphabetic order are used for notations of within group and between-group statistical probabilities.

Figure Legends
Figure Legends should be numbered (Arabic) and typed double-spaced in order of appearance beginning on a separate sheet. Identify (in alphabetical order) all abbreviations appearing in the illustrations at the end of each legend. Give the type of stain and magnification power for all photomicrographs.
Cite the source of previously published material in the legend and indicate permission has been obtained. Proof of permission must be surface mailed or faxed to the editor.

Illustrations
You must send two sets of original illustrations to the editorial office labeled with manuscript number, first author, and figure number on back. Images or figures are submitted online as one or more separate files that may contain one or more images. Within each file containing images, use the figure number (e.g. Figure 1A) as the image filename. The system accepts image files formatted in TIFF and EPS. PowerPoint (ppt) files are also accepted, but for line drawings only and you must use a separate PowerPoint image file for each PowerPoint figure. Most illustrations will be reproduced at a width of one column (8.25 cm; 3 1/4 inches). Black, white and widely crosshatched bars are preferable; do not use stippling, gray fill or thin lines.

Instructions
Identify print proofs of figures on the back with figure number and name of the first author; when necessary, indicate the top with an up arrow. Please include hardware and software information, in addition to the file names, with figures submitted electronically or on disk For figures submitted in electronic format, all images should be at least 5 inches wide. Graphics software such as Photoshop and Illustrator, should be used to create art. Color images need to be CMYK, at least 300 dpi. Gray scale images should be at least 300 dpi. Line art (black and white or color) and combinations of gray scale and line art should be at least 1200 DPI.

Cover letter
Include with the manuscript a cover letter that provides
1) The category of manuscript (e.g., original research, Brief Communication, Letter to the Editor);
2) Statement that the material has not been previously published or submitted elsewhere for publication;
3) Information about any personal conflicts of interest of any of the authors; and
4) Names of sources of outside support for research, including funding, equipment, and drugs. You may also submit the name of one reviewer of your choice. You should include that individual's mailing address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address.

Editorial Policies
Scientific Responsibility Statement
Before publication of an accepted manuscript, each author is required to certify by signing the Conditions for Publication Form that he or she has participated sufficiently in the work and approved the final version of the manuscript to be published. In addition, each author must indicate whether or not he has had full "freedom of investigation" which is defined as freedom from outside interests in controlling the design of the study, acquisition, analysis, and interpretation of data and having freedom to fully disclose all results.

Exclusive Publication Statement
Each author must certify that none of the material in this manuscript has been published previously in either print or electronic form, and that none of this material is currently under consideration for publication elsewhere. This includes symposia and preliminary publications of any kind except an abstract of 400 words or fewer.

Conflict of Interest
The J. Egypt. Soc. Cardiothorac. Surg. requires authors to disclose any conflict of interests. Authors who have a financial relationship with one or more companies whose products are featured in an article will disclose the existence of this relationship in a box at the bottom of the first page of the published article.

Consultant statistician and statistical methods:
All manuscripts with statistical analysis are required to undergo bio statistical review. The most appropriate way is to involve a biostatistician consultant or coauthor from the investigators' home institution. Manuscripts may undergo further bio statistical review by the Journal after submission. Additional information on statistical methods can be found in "Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals" (http://www.acponline.org/journals/resource/unifreqr.htm).

Copyright
Authors of articles submitted to The J. Egypt. Soc. Cardiothorac. Surg. must transfer copyright to The Egyptian Society of Cardio- Thoracic Surgery by signing the "Conditions for Publication Form." This transfer becomes binding upon acceptance of the article for publication. No part of the published material may be reproduced elsewhere without written permission.
**Date of Receipt:** The "received for publication" date is the date when the editorial office receives the manuscript, the cover letter, and the Copyright Transfer and Author Declaration Statement, signed by all authors. The revised manuscript on disk and all camera-ready figures.

**Date of acceptance:** Letter is provided from the editor.

**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').

**Checklist**

**A] Cover letter**

**B] Complete manuscript**
Title page Title of article Full name(s), academic degrees, and affiliation(s) of authors. Corresponding author Telephones, fax, and e-mail address Abstract (250 words; double-spaced) Ultramini-abstract (50 words; double-spaced) Text (double-spaced) References (double-spaced; separate pages) Tables (double-spaced; separate pages) Figures (separate files; on hardcopy; properly identified) Figure legends (double-spaced; separate pages) Word count

**C] Required disclosures**

**Conditions for Publication Form** which includes disclosures regarding freedom of investigation and conflicts of interest, signed by all authors. Which transfer copyright to The Egyptian Society of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery Written permission from the publisher (copyright holder) is required to reproduce any previously published material. Written permission from unmasked patients appearing in photographs

Keywords, Conditions of publication Forum and Guidelines for Reviewers are available on the society website http://www.escts.net

*Elsevier supports responsible sharing*
Find out how you can share your research published in Elsevier journals.

*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.

*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.