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DESCRIPTION

Oral Surgery, Oral Medicine, Oral Pathology and Oral Radiology is required reading for anyone in the fields of oral surgery, oral medicine, oral pathology, oral radiology or advanced general practice dentistry. It is the only major dental journal that provides a practical and complete overview of the medical and surgical techniques of dental practice in four areas. Topics covered include such current issues as dental implants, treatment of HIV-infected patients, and evaluation and treatment of TMJ disorders. The official publication for nine societies, the Journal is recommended for initial purchase in the Brandon Hill study, Selected List of Books and Journals for the Small Medical Library.

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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

Section Scope Statements

The Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Section aims to publish an extensive range of original articles that advance patient care through enhanced understanding of diagnosis, surgical and adjunctive treatment of diseases, and injuries and defects involving both the functional and esthetic aspects of the hard and soft tissues of the oral and maxillofacial regions. The section also seeks research regarding both the basic science of and management of persons with oral and maxillofacial conditions. Articles presenting ethical, original, well-documented, and reproducible research are given preference.

The Oral Medicine Section aims to publish a broad range of original articles that help clinicians understand more thoroughly the pathobiology, etiology, diagnosis, prevention, and management of oral conditions related to underlying medical conditions, including diseases of the head, neck, and oral mucosal structures, orofacial pain conditions, salivary gland disorders, and taste disorders. The section also seeks research regarding the dental management of persons with medical problems and/or complicated medical conditions. The published findings must contribute substantively to the body of oral medicine literature and should lead to improved clinical decision-making and enhanced care of medically-related disorders or conditions affecting the oral and maxillofacial region. Articles presenting original, well-documented, and reproducible research are preferred.

The Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Section encourages the submission of original articles of high scientific quality that investigate the pathogenesis, diagnosis, and management of diseases affecting the oral and maxillofacial region. Submitted manuscripts may summarize findings from clinical, translational, or basic research in the broad field of oral and maxillofacial pathology but must contribute substantively to the body of knowledge in this field and should be of obvious clinical and/or diagnostic significance to the practicing oral and maxillofacial pathologist. Areas of focus may include the investigation of disease pathogenesis, the diagnosis of disease using microscopic, clinical, radiographic, biochemical, molecular, or other methods as well as the natural history and management of patients with various conditions of the head, neck, and oral mucosal structures. Diagnostic accuracy studies should conform to the principles of the STARD document http://www.stard-statement.org. Articles presenting novel and reproducible research that introduce new knowledge and observations are especially encouraged. This section also welcomes the submission of topical review papers on relevant subjects.

The Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Section publishes original peer-reviewed contributions to the advancement of diagnostic clinical oral and maxillofacial radiology and related imaging sciences. The section considers original clinical and experimental research papers, technological developments, extensive systematic reviews of the literature, comprehensive pictorial reviews, special reports, and invited papers on subjects that will appeal to clinicians involved in the diagnostic imaging of hard and soft tissue maxillofacial pathology, selection criteria, computer-assisted diagnosis, craniofacial analysis, image-guided surgical navigation, image processing, dosimetry, radiation physics, biology, and safety.

The section also seeks extensive case series representing various expressions of particular conditions, descriptions of innovative imaging technique applications to these series, and description of novel imaging features to assist imaging specialists develop clinical protocols and interpretive knowledge based on multiple observations. Only papers contributing substantively to the body of knowledge in oral and maxillofacial imaging and performed with scientific rigor will be considered. These papers should assist clinicians in developing evidence-based practice and provide improved clinical decision-making regarding the performance of specific techniques and interpretation of resulting images affecting the oral and maxillofacial region. Diagnostic accuracy studies should conform to the principles of the STARD document http://www.stard-statement.org).

Types of Papers

1. Original Research Article. Reports of original research (preclinical, clinical, or translational) that are well-documented, novel, and significant. Original research manuscripts will be organized into six parts: (1) Abstract; (2) Introduction; (3) Materials and Methods; (4) Results; (5) Discussion; (6) References.
2. Review article. Manuscripts that review the current status of a given topic, diagnosis, or treatment. These manuscripts should not be an exhaustive review of the literature but rather should be a review of contemporary thought with respect to the topic. Systematic reviews and meta-analyses should follow PRISMA (http://www.prisma-statement.org) and the Institute of Medicine’s guidelines (http://www.iom.edu/Reports/2011/Finding-What-Works-in-Health-Care-Standards-for-Systematic-Reviews/Standards.aspx).

3. Clinicopathologic Conference (CPC). Manuscripts that document interesting, challenging, or unusual cases that present unexpected or interesting diagnostic challenges. The presentation should simulate clinical work-up, including the formulation of a detailed and well thought out differential diagnosis. The complete diagnostic evaluation, management, and follow-up must be included. CPC articles must be organized into six parts: (1) Title: Provide a descriptive clinical title that does not reveal the final diagnosis. (2) Clinical presentation: Describe the clinical and imaging characteristics of the lesion. Use clinical photographs and radiographs as appropriate. (3) Differential diagnosis: List and discuss lesions to be considered as reasonable diagnostic possibilities. The authors are reminded that the most important part of the CPC manuscript is the clinical differential diagnosis, where the authors guide the readership through their own diagnostic thought process. This will require the formulation of a list of the most probable diagnostic possibilities (ideally at least 5-6 entities) based on the clinical presentation, medical history, and/or radiographic studies. (4) Diagnosis: Histopathologic findings illustrated with appropriate photomicrographs. (5) Management: Describe the treatment of the patient and response to treatment. (6) Discussion: Concentrate on the most interesting aspect(s) of the case. No abstract is needed for CPC manuscripts. Limit the number of references to no more than 25.

4. Medical Management and Pharmacology Update (MMPU). This section is intended to provide concise, current reviews of medical problems and how they relate to dentistry. Manuscripts should include a good review of the clinical aspects of the disease, stressing the impact of the disease on the dental management and dental treatment of the patient. Emphasis should be placed on new developments, new research, or new approaches to therapy or management. Manuscripts should not be an exhaustive review of the literature but rather a review of contemporary thought with respect to the topic. Likewise, the bibliography need not be all inclusive but rather should include only seminal, contemporary references deemed by the author to be most pertinent. The desired format for manuscripts submitted for the MMPU section includes: (1) abstract; (2) topic introduction/overview; (3) epidemiology/demographics; (4) etiology and pathogenesis; (5) clinical presentation/physical findings; (6) diagnosis (laboratory tests, diagnostic imaging, etc.); (7) medical management and treatment; (8) complications; (9) prognosis; oral manifestations/dental implications and significance; and (10) dental management (of patients with the disease). Manuscripts should not exceed 12 pages in 12-point, double-spaced Times New Roman (tables and figures count toward the 12-page limit).

5. Pharmacology Update is a component of the MMPU section that offers the reader the opportunity to obtain concise information regarding drugs used in the practice of medicine, clinical dentistry, and dental specialties. Manuscripts should present clearly and concisely the background information regarding the disease or condition that is managed, the indications, rationale for and approved uses of the specific drugs or class of drugs, the advantages and benefits of the drug or drug class over previous drugs, mechanism of action, criteria for selection, usual dosage, pharmacokinetics, adverse effects, drug interactions, and oral health and dental management considerations. Emphasis should be placed on new developments, effectiveness in clinical trials, therapeutic outcomes, and safety. Manuscripts should reflect contemporary thought with respect to the topic. Use of figures to illustrate the mechanism of action and tables to present therapeutic outcomes, drug interactions, and adverse effects are encouraged. Manuscripts should utilize the MMPU categories for formatting the paper. Text should not exceed 3,000 words. Font should be 12-point, double-spaced Times New Roman. A maximum of 50 references is recommended.

6. Case Reports. These types of publications often add little to the scientific knowledge base. However, excellent case reports may be published as online only papers if they meet certain criteria, such as: (1) rare or unusual lesions/conditions that need documentation, (2) well-documented cases showing unusual or "atypical" clinical or microscopic features or behavior, or (3) cases showing good long-term follow-up information, particularly in areas in which good statistics on results of treatment are needed. A case report should either present unique features of the condition or lesion, novel treatment regimens, or provide the basis for a new plausible medical theory about the pathogenesis of a particular disease or condition so clinicians can provide better care regarding patients with chronic and painful conditions relevant to medical disorders and/or medical therapy.
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A structured abstract, limited to 200 words, must be used for data-based research articles. The structured abstract is to contain the following major headings: Objective(s); Study Design; Results; and Conclusion(s). The Objective(s) reflects the purpose of the study, that is, the hypothesis that is being tested. The Study Design should include the setting for the study, the subjects (number and type), the treatment or intervention, and the type of statistical analysis. The Results include the outcome of the study and statistical significance if appropriate. The Conclusion(s) states the significance of the results. For nondata-based submissions, the abstract should be an unstructured summary of less than 150 words. No abstract is needed for submissions to the CPC section.

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State the problem being investigated, summarize the existing knowledge to place the problem in context, and describe the hypothesis and general experimental design. Avoid a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.
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