



RESEARCH IN SOCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PHARMACY

AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK

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DESCRIPTION

Research in Social and Administrative Pharmacy (RSAP) publishes monthly/twelve times per year, featuring original scientific reports, comprehensive review articles, proposed models, and provocative commentaries in the **social** and **administrative pharmaceutical sciences**. Topics of interest include outcomes evaluation of drug products, programs, or services; pharmacoepidemiology; medication adherence; disease management; medication use policy; drug marketing; evaluation of educational paradigms that could impact practice and/or patient behavior; and other topics related to public health in the context of pharmacy or medication use.

RSAP strives to become a widely recognized venue for publishing articles that proffer new models to guide existing research, make methodological arguments, or otherwise describe the results of rigorous theory-building research. Practice and education research are considered, with preference given to papers evaluating theoretical constructs and to those that might shape policy.

AUDIENCE

Researchers in pharmacy practice and medication-use policy, including academicians in pharmacy, public health, medicine, and business and practitioners, clinicians, and consultants

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Manuscript categories

Editorials. Editorials can serve different purposes, but often are in response to a paper published in *Research and Social and Administrative Pharmacy*, aimed to buttress the arguments proposed, supplement with additional context, or provide a different perspective. Editorial contributions are highly sought by the journal's Editorial Board.

Research Articles. Research articles describe experimental or observational investigations that used formal methods for data collection and reporting of results. There are no restrictions on manuscript length or number of citations for Research Articles.

Research Briefs. Research articles that can provide their results in a shorter format: they have a maximum of 2,000 words, exclusive of abstract, acknowledgements, figures, tables, and references. This submission type is designed for reports of research that are still of high quality but less comprehensive in scope and potentially not of the multivariate nature typically seen in Original Research articles. The abstract should not exceed 200 words. Manuscripts are permitted to have a maximum of four figures and/or tables and 30 references. These articles are indexed all the same as are Original Research papers.

Commentaries. Commentaries are papers on philosophical issues, medication use policies, methodological arguments, or other pertinent subjects. These are extensive pieces built upon a wealth of knowledge, and research and give rise to topics likely much debated in the scientific literature. They papers are accompanied by an abstract written in prose serving to some extent as an executive summary. Many researchers who have been exploring a topic for years are well-positioned to write Commentary pieces, which are often well-referenced and welcomed by the editorial board. Commentary papers are indexed all the same as are Original Research papers.

Proposed Models. Proposed models are comprehensive, well-executed papers that seek to propose and advance scholarly discourse a model to guide future research or practice in pharmacy or medication use policy. There are no restrictions on manuscript length or number of citations for Proposed Models.

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Case Reports. Case reports represent any of several types of papers, including but not limited to the piloting of a new measure backed by theory, collection of data from a limited geographical area or number of institutions that might otherwise be considered for Original Research, or additional data to evidence a phenomenon previously reported by the same or different authors in a limited venue, or set of venues.

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Study Protocols. RSAP seeks to publish protocols that have formal ethical approval and funding from a recognized, research-funding body (such as those listed by the JULIET project). Please provide information about ethical approval and research funding source when uploading your protocol. Any

protocols meeting these criteria might or might not be subject to peer review. Those not meeting these criteria will be sent for external peer review, particularly to properly contextualize papers for RSAPs stylistic considerations and to maximize its impact for RSAPs audience. The intention of peer review is not to alter the study design. Reviewers will be instructed to check that the study is scientifically credible and ethically sound in its scope and methods, and that there is sufficient detail to instill confidence that the study will be conducted and analyzed properly. RSAP does not guarantee publication of Study Protocol manuscripts. It is expected that the study will have undergone appropriate ethics review prior to submission to RSAP, regardless of funding source. Further, it is expected that protocol manuscripts be submitted prior to completion of data collection and preparation of additional papers.

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For reporting of randomized controlled trials: please use the appropriate extension to the CONSORT statement, including the extension for writing abstracts

SRQR

For reporting qualitative research

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For reporting qualitative research

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For reporting of diagnostic accuracy studies

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For reporting of observational studies in epidemiology

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For reporting of systematic review and meta-analysis protocols

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For reporting of scoping reviews

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Text. The text should be scholarly, readable, clear, and concise. Standard nomenclature should be used. **RSAP prefers avoiding the use of first-person language to the extent possible, eg, "We studied...", "Our results showed that...", etc.** Unfamiliar terms and acronyms should be defined at first mention. Manuscripts that were prepared for oral presentation must be rewritten for print. Authors of research papers are discouraged from writing excessively long introduction or discussion sections.

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Numbers. Numbers must be written as Arabic numerals unless they occur at the beginning of a sentence, in which case the number should be spelled out. The exception to this rule is when the number "one" is used in isolation within the text and substituting an Arabic number would seem awkward (eg, "there was only one logical solution to the problem"). A number containing a decimal must be styled as an Arabic number. All fractions must be written as decimal equivalents.

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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.

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State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.

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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.

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Highlights should be submitted in a separate editable 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).

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A structured abstract accompanies Review, Proposed Model, and Original Research submissions. It should have the following sections: Background, Objective(s), Methods, Results, Conclusions. Commentary papers are accompanied by a prose abstract serving as an executive summary. Abstracts should not exceed 300 words.

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.

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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.).

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