RESEARCH IN VETERINARY SCIENCE
The Official Journal of the Association for Veterinary Teaching and Research Work

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DESCRIPTION

Research in Veterinary Science is an International multi-disciplinary journal publishing original articles, reviews and short communications of a high scientific and ethical standard in all aspects of veterinary and biomedical research.

The primary aim of the journal is to inform veterinary and biomedical scientists of significant advances in veterinary and related research through prompt publication and dissemination. Secondly, the journal aims to provide a general multi-disciplinary forum for discussion and debate of news and issues concerning veterinary science. Thirdly, to promote the dissemination of knowledge to a broader range of professions, globally.

High quality papers on all species of animals are considered, particularly those considered to be of high scientific importance and originality, and with interdisciplinary interest. The journal encourages papers providing results that have clear implications for understanding disease pathogenesis and for the development of control measures or treatments, as well as those dealing with a comparative biomedical approach, which represents a substantial improvement to animal and human health.

Studies without a robust scientific hypothesis or that are preliminary, or of weak originality, as well as negative results, are not appropriate for the journal. Furthermore, observational approaches, case studies or field reports lacking an advancement in general knowledge do not fall within the scope of the journal.

AUDIENCE

Research Workers in Veterinary Science

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

Scopus
PubMed/Medline
Embase
BIOSIS Biological Abstracts
Chemical Abstracts
Current Contents
Index Veterinarius
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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

Research in Veterinary Science publishes original contributions and review articles on research concerning the health and disease of animals, including studies in comparative medicine.

Types of contribution
1. Original research papers (Regular Papers)
2. Short Communications
3. Review articles
4. Letters to the Editor
5. Perspectives
6. Commentary
7. Editorial

Original research papers
Original research papers should report the results of original research. The material should not have been previously published elsewhere, except in a preliminary form.

Short Communications
Short Communications should not exceed 1600 words and include no more than two tables or figures. They should have an abstract but no other divisions. Typescripts should be clearly marked Short Communication.

Review articles
Review articles on veterinary topics are invited for publication. They should give an update on recent advances in a particular field and be targeted at research veterinarians who are not necessarily working in the same field. The length should not exceed 4000 words.

Letters to the Editor
Letters to the Editor offering comment or useful critique on material published in the journal are welcomed. The decision to publish submitted letters rests purely with the Editors-in-Chief. It is hoped that the publication of such letters will permit an exchange of views which will be of benefit to both the journal and its readers.

Perspectives
Perspectives should highlight topics focusing on recent developments in an area, with particular emphasis on those aspects that are of greatest interest and/or significance. Perspectives should be based mainly on a personal viewpoint so up to three authors are allowed. These submission must have fewer than 1200 words, one figure or table and no more than ten references. An abstract is not required.

Case Reports
Case reports should be up to 2500 words excluding references, 25 references, 4 tables and/or figures.

Submission checklist
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.

Ensure that the following items are present:

One author has been designated as the corresponding author with contact details:
• E-mail address
• Full postal address

All necessary files have been uploaded:
Manuscript:
• Include keywords
• All figures (include relevant captions)
• All tables (including titles, description, footnotes)
• Ensure all figure and table citations in the text match the files provided
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Graphical Abstracts / Highlights files (where applicable)
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Further considerations
- Manuscript has been 'spell checked' and 'grammar checked'
- All references mentioned in the Reference List are cited in the text, and vice versa
- Permission has been obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including the Internet)
- A competing interests statement is provided, even if the authors have no competing interests to declare
- Journal policies detailed in this guide have been reviewed
- Referee suggestions and contact details provided, based on journal requirements

For further information, visit our Support Center.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Ethics in publishing
Please see our information on Ethics in publishing.

Animal Welfare
Before papers describing animal studies are accepted for publication in Research in Veterinary Science, the authors must satisfy the editors that the work conformed to appropriate ethical standards. Whether or not a particular piece of work is accepted for publication will be decided by the editors whose decision will be final.

The authors should provide written assurances that: (i) The project underwent ethical review and was given approval by an institutional animal care and use committee or by appropriately qualified scientific and lay colleagues. (ii) The care and use of experimental animals complied with local animal welfare laws, guidelines and policies.

The editors expect authors to have adhered to the following general principles: (i) Alternative procedures that replace the use of animals should be used if possible. Where this is not possible, the animals used should be carefully selected to be the least sentient species possible and of an appropriate strain. (ii) The minimum number of animals should be used consistent with achieving the scientific objectives of the study. (iii) Pain and distress should be minimised by the use of humane endpoints, sedation, anaesthesia, analgesia and post-operative care. (iv) Access to veterinary care must be available at all times. (v) Investigators and personnel that care for and use animals must be trained and possess relevant expertise and training that should be updated regularly. (vi) If animals have to be killed, this should be done humanely according to local euthanasia regulations, such as the Home Office guidelines in the UK or guidelines of the American Veterinary Association Panel on Euthanasia.

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Studies on patients or volunteers require ethics committee approval and informed consent, which should be documented in the paper. Appropriate consents, permissions and releases must be obtained where an author wishes to include case details or other personal information or images of patients and any other individuals in an Elsevier publication. Written consents must be retained by the author but copies should not be provided to the journal. Only if specifically requested by the journal in exceptional circumstances (for example if a legal issue arises) the author must provide copies of the consents or evidence that such consents have been obtained. For more information, please review the Elsevier Policy on the Use of Images or Personal Information of Patients or other Individuals. 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.

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**Reporting sex- and gender-based analyses**

**Reporting guidance**

For research involving or pertaining to humans, animals or eukaryotic cells, investigators should integrate sex and gender-based analyses (SGBA) into their research design according to funder/sponsor requirements and best practices within a field. Authors should address the sex and/or gender dimensions of their research in their article. In cases where they cannot, they should discuss this as a limitation to their research's generalizability. Importantly, authors should explicitly state what definitions of sex and/or gender they are applying to enhance the precision, rigor and reproducibility of their research and to avoid ambiguity or conflation of terms and the constructs to which they refer (see Definitions section below). Authors can refer to the Sex and Gender Equity in Research (SAGER) guidelines and the SAGER guidelines checklist. These offer systematic approaches to the use and editorial review of sex and gender information in study design, data analysis, outcome reporting and research interpretation - however, please note there is no single, universally agreed-upon set of guidelines for defining sex and gender.

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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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Results
Results should be clear and concise.

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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.
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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.

Abstract, self-contained and embodying the main conclusions. It should note the relevance to veterinary science as well as the aims and objectives of the work. Sentences such as 'the results are discussed', which merely describe the paper, are not allowed.

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Although a graphical abstract is optional, its use is encouraged as it draws more attention to the online article. The graphical abstract should summarize the contents of the article in a concise, pictorial form designed to capture the attention of a wide readership. Graphical abstracts should be submitted as a separate file in the online submission system. Image size: Please provide an image with a minimum of 531 × 1328 pixels (h × w) or proportionally more. The image should be readable at a size of 5 × 13 cm using a regular screen resolution of 96 dpi. Preferred file types: TIFF, EPS, PDF or MS Office files. You can view Example Graphical Abstracts on our information site.

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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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1. Give the meaning of all symbols immediately after the equation in which they are first used.
2. For simple fractions use the solidus (/) instead of a horizontal line.
3. Equations should be numbered serially at the right-hand side in parentheses. In general only equations explicitly referred to in the text need be numbered.
4. The use of fractional powers instead of root signs is recommended. Powers of e are often more conveniently denoted by exp.
5. In chemical formulae, valence of ions should be given as, e.g. Ca2+, not as Ca++. Isotope numbers should precede the symbols, e.g. 18O.
6. In chemical formulae, valence of ions should be given as, e.g. Ca2+, not as Ca++. Isotope numbers should precede the symbols, e.g. 18O.
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2. If many data are to be presented, an attempt should be made to divide them over two or more tables.
3. Tables should be numbered according to their sequence in the text. The text should include references to all tables.
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