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DESCRIPTION

An official publication of the International Society for Sexual Medicine, Sexual Medicine publishes multidisciplinary clinical, basic, and epidemiological research to define and understand the basis of sexual function and dysfunction in diverse populations. Sexual Medicine welcomes manuscripts on basic anatomy and physiology pertaining to human sexuality, pharmacology, clinical management of sexual dysfunction, epidemiological studies in sexuality, psychosexual and interpersonal dimensions of human sexuality, clinical trials, and other articles of interest to clinicians and researchers interested in human sexuality. The open access format of Sexual Medicine ensures that accepted manuscripts will be rapidly published and fully accessible by interested healthcare professionals worldwide. Sexual Medicine emphasis on papers relevant to specific populations distinguishes it from The Journal of Sexual Medicine, which will continue to publish manuscripts on issues of general interest to sexual medicine practitioners worldwide, and Sexual Medicine Reviews, which publishes systematic reviews of controversial topics in sexual medicine.

Sexual Medicine will consider all types of original clinical and basic research papers, including studies conducted with human subjects and experimental models, as well as high-quality clinical, epidemiological, and healthcare policy papers related to sexual function and dysfunction. Sexual Medicine particularly focuses on papers of regional or specialty interest, although any manuscript dealing with sexuality research will be considered. Specific interest is in the following areas of content: Education, Epidemiology, Basic Science, Psychology, Outcomes Assessment, Anatomy/Physiology, Intersex and Gender Identity Disorders, Sexual Orientation, Ejaculatory Disorders, Womens Sexual Health, Mens Sexual Health, Couples Sexual Dysfunctions, Pharmacotherapy, Peyronies Disease, Pain, Erectile Dysfunction, Premature Ejaculation, Hypoactive Sexual Desire Disorder, Dyspareunia, Pharmacotherapy for Sexual Dysfunction, Surgical Management of Sexual Dysfunction, Endocrinology, Oncology.

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INTRODUCTION

Aims and Scope
An official publication of the International Society for Sexual Medicine, Sexual Medicine publishes multidisciplinary research to understand sexual health in diverse populations and a variety of contexts (e.g. intrapersonal, interpersonal, and societal). Sexual Medicine will consider quality manuscripts on any topic in sexuality/sexual health. Specifically, we publish manuscripts on basic anatomy and physiology pertaining to human sexuality, pharmacology, clinical management of sexual dysfunction, epidemiological studies in sexuality, psychosexual and interpersonal dimensions of human sexuality, clinical trials, sexual health policy, sex and society, and the practice of promoting sexual health. Our scope is broad and our intended audience is any and all individuals and organizations interested in human sexuality and sexual health. Sexual Medicine has a particular interest in exploratory studies, research germane to groups and regions that have been historically under-represented in the sexual health literature, and research relying on mixed methods.

The open access format of Sexual Medicine ensures that accepted manuscripts will be rapidly published and fully accessible by interested healthcare professionals worldwide. The open-access format has particular value for science that is of immediate interest to lay communities and non-clinician professionals who are interested in sexual health (e.g. social workers, educators, policy makers).

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Manuscript Types
Sexual Medicine publishes several types of manuscripts under the umbrella of full-length articles. It is essential that manuscripts of any type be well conceptualized reports on studies/ideas of interest to those concerned with sexual health. A strong theoretical framing is essential; this is made manifest in: 1) a concise, well organised introduction that makes clear the unmet need which the research/manuscript will attempt to address; 2) a detailed methods section that would allow for an interested reader to replicate the research should he/she/they so choose; 3) a concise reporting of results/findings with appropriate use of easily interpretable tables and figures to illustrate key findings; 4) a discussion of the results, including relevant to existing studies, enumeration of limitations, and consideration of future directions; and 5) a concluding statement not to exceed 3–4 sentences of text.

A brief description of each type follows:

Original Research
Original research papers are scientific reports of original basic, clinical, and translational research in the field of sexual medicine. As a general guideline, manuscripts should be no more than 4,000 words in length (excluding figures and tables); more extensive manuscripts will be considered and judged on merit; however, authors are urged to be as concise as possible. A testable hypothesis is the defining feature of scientific inquiry and should hence be clearly stated as a refutable question in the introduction section. In the case of qualitative research, developed to generate hypotheses and not for testing hypotheses, a clear rationale for the need to develop the study using qualitative methodology is required. All manuscripts must include an abstract, a maximum of 7 tables and figures (total), and up to 50 references. All manuscripts must include an abstract, a maximum of 7 tables and figures (total), and up to 50 references. References should be contemporary (from within the past 10 years) when possible and inclusive of studies from relevant populations around the world. More may be accepted if justified. To improve the quality of research reports in the journal, Sexual Medicine strongly urges authors to complete the reporting guideline checklist(s) that best suits their paper (see table below). Complete reporting is a critical element of good publishing. Taking the time to ensure your manuscript meets these basic reporting needs will greatly improve your manuscript and enhance its chances of publication.

Reports
Reports are concise reports of cases, clinical experience, clinical studies, drug trials, adverse effects, or devices related to sexuality/sexual health. Reports are high impact publications that may be short on outcome data but include novel methods or ideas that may enhance the practice of sexual health. Maximum length is 1750 words; no more than 10 references, and 1 figure/table per case. We strongly recommend the author comply with and supply a completed copy of the CARE reporting guideline for case reports as evidence that vital reporting elements are included in the paper. An abstract formatted to Sexual Medicine should be included.

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Sexual Medicine welcomes quality narrative reviews. Meta-analyses and systemic reviews are generally published in the Journal of Sexual Medicine. Invited reviews are generally published in Sexual Medicine Reviews. A testable hypothesis is the defining feature of scientific inquiry and should hence be clearly stated as a refutable question the authors set out to resolve via literature review. The methodology of the review must be clearly articulated in a relevant methods section. There is no limit on article length or the number of figures or tables but authors are encouraged to be as concise as possible to improve readability. An abstract formatted to Sexual Medicine style should be included.

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Editorials
Commentary and analysis of an article in a particular issue of Sexual Medicine are always solicited. Authors of the original paper will be given opportunity to respond to the editorial in the same issue. Editorial comments are limited to 1000 words, with up to 7 references.

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BEFORE YOU BEGIN

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In an attempt to improve the quality of research reports in the journal, Sexual Medicine now recommends a completed reporting guideline checklist is included with an article submission. The purpose of various reporting guidelines is to provide a guide—in the form of a checklist—to authors and editors alike on essential elements that should be included in a paper to ensure all stakeholders can properly validate results and replicate studies. We expect authors to not only use the reporting guidelines to improve the quality of reporting in their submission, but also use the associated guideline checklist to demonstrate the paper does include essential reporting criteria. Ultimately, this task is about improving a manuscript, not filling out a checklist for administrative purposes.

For Reviews and Original Research articles, authors are required to complete one of the reporting checklists listed below. This ensures a higher standard of reporting and will enhance the prospects of a manuscript being accepted for publication. Authors should upload a completed copy of the reporting checklist(s) with their submission.

1 STUDY TYPE STUDY TYPE CATEGORY CHECKLIST FOR REPORTING STANDARDS

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**Reports of Diagnostic Tests**

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All submitted manuscripts containing data analyses will be evaluated for the integrity of the statistical methods as well as a sufficient description of the methodological approach. This will entail evaluation of the study design, statistical analysis and presentation and interpretation of study results. As a general guideline, readers of the manuscript should be able to replicate the analysis with the same data based on the description given in the Methods section. Authors are encouraged to carefully select language in the Discussion that is appropriate given the study design and refrain from causal inferences from observational (nonrandomized) studies.

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Title

Abstract

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