**DESCRIPTION**

The *Ocular Surface*, a quarterly, a peer-reviewed journal, is an authoritative resource that integrates and interprets major findings in diverse fields related to the ocular surface, including ophthalmology, optometry, genetics, molecular biology, pharmacology, immunology, infectious disease, and epidemiology. Its critical review articles cover the most current knowledge on medical and surgical management of ocular surface pathology, new understandings of ocular surface physiology, the meaning of recent discoveries on how the ocular surface responds to injury and disease, and updates on drug and device development. The journal also publishes select original research reports and articles describing cutting-edge techniques and technology in the field.

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A peer-reviewed quarterly journal, *The Ocular Surface* (TOS) features concise, state-of-the-art, referenced review articles to elucidate the vast body of findings in this rapidly evolving field. Its purview ranges from molecular biology to surgery, encompassing lacrimal, lid, and ocular surface physiology, pathology, pharmacology, and medical/surgical therapeutic interventions. TOS also publishes select high impact original research reports and articles describing innovative techniques and technology. Descriptions of desired content and requirements for articles are described below under the section headings: Review Articles; High Impact Original Research Reports; Innovative Techniques and Technology; Research Correspondence; and Special Issue Articles. All manuscripts undergo peer review by two or more reviewers. Authors are asked to revise their manuscripts, addressing all the reviewers' suggestions or explaining their reasons for declining to do so.

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**Guidelines for Writing Articles**

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Most reviews are written at the invitation of the editors, but independent proposals of articles are welcomed. To propose a review, please email a brief description of the intended review to Editor-in-Chief Ali Djalilian, MD (adjalili@uic.edu) and Managing Editor David Newcombe (ocularsurface@stellarmed.com). If the editors consider the topic to be appropriate, you will be asked to submit a detailed outline and tentative bibliography for peer review.

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For these comprehensive reviews we require at least one author (senior author) to have at least 10 years of experience in that particular space. We would like these reviews to go beyond just summarizing what is known and published in the literature and instead to synthesize all the existing information to propose new ideas/paradigms, identify and try to resolve controversies, identify the major gaps in knowledge, what are the technical challenges, what is the outlook for the future.
Reviews should follow a topic-based outline, labeled with headings and subheadings [I, A, 1, a, (1), (a)]. A TOS review should not be a general overview of a topic, but rather an in-depth, literature-based, critical review that emphasizes areas of new information, controversies, etc. The authors' own findings may be cited in the context of findings published in the literature, but original work should not be the focus of the review. The readers will have various levels of understanding about specific topic areas, so it is important for authors to provide the background, definitions, and explanations necessary to enhance understanding. Illustrative figures and diagrams are very helpful.

**Format**

1. **Abstract**
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2. **Length of Text**
   Appropriate length is usually about 10-14 printed pages (equivalent to about 24-34 double-spaced manuscript pages, including references, figures and tables).

3. **Disclosure**
   In a paragraph before the reference section, authors must disclose any potential conflicts of interest. If no potential conflicts exist, that must be stated.

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3. Provide new, mechanistically based information
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6. Be presented in a clear, logical manner with sufficient detail to be reproducible by other researchers
7. Present rationale and statistical analysis of data support conclusions

**Format**

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2. **Structured abstract:** A structured abstract of fewer than 250 words is required for original research articles and should be arranged under the following headings: Purpose, Methods, Results, and Conclusions. Abbreviations should be defined at first mention, Do not include references. The abstract must be included as part of the main manuscript file.
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