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DESCRIPTION

The Veterinary Journal (established 1875) publishes worldwide contributions on all aspects of veterinary science and its related subjects. The journal regularly commissions topical reviews and commentaries on features of major importance. Articles with an emphasis on novel information of excellent scientific and/or clinical quality and importance, relevant to domestic animal species, will be considered.

First published in 1875 as The Veterinary Journal, the journal was known as the British Veterinary Journal from 1949 to 1997, when it reverted to its original title.

AUDIENCE

Veterinary Research Workers and Clinicians

IMPACT FACTOR

2019: 2.115 © Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Reports 2020

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

Scopus
Embase
Science Citation Index
Current Contents - Agriculture, Biology & Environmental Sciences
Focus on: Veterinary Science and Medicine
PubMed/Medline

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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION

The Veterinary Journal (established 1875) is an international journal of veterinary research that publishes original papers and reviews on all aspects of veterinary science. Contributions reporting investigative work in the scientific disciplines involving veterinary species are particularly welcome where they make a significant contribution to the field. The Editors will be pleased to consider suggestions for Special Issues on subjects of topical importance. The journal also publishes Guest Editorials and occasionally Personal Views by invitation, but does not have a Letters section. Book Reviews are published on-line. Articles of purely regional significance and studies of non-domestic species are considered only if they clearly have broader scientific importance. Manuscripts that report novel studies with substantial importance to the profession are preferred, including analytical studies that are relevant to practising veterinarians.

Types of paper

Manuscripts may describe original work in a Full Paper (Original Article) or a Short Communication, or may form a Review of the existing state of knowledge on a particular aspect of veterinary science. Reviews should, in general, be written in support of original investigations. Case Reports are not published.

Model Article Examples

Model article formats in WORD are available (click to follow link below as appropriate): (1) Model Original Article; (2) Model Short Communication; (3) Model Review; (4) Model Guest Editorial; (5) Model Personal View; (6) Model Book Review.

Reporting Standards

The Editors and reviewers use several published guidelines for reporting standards (see Appendix below). Conforming to these reporting standards allows the Editors and reviewers to assess the quality and originality of submissions and offers readers sufficient information to judge the relevance of the work in an appropriate context. Omission of requirements specified in the relevant guidelines for reporting standards may lead to rejection of a manuscript. For further information, please see The Veterinary Journal (2010) 184, 249-250 (view article).

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.

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• All tables (including titles, description, footnotes)
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Graphical Abstracts / Highlights files (where applicable)
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Further considerations
• Manuscript has been 'spell checked' and 'grammar checked'
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• 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
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BEFORE YOU BEGIN

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For manuscripts reporting experimental models that induce disease, please provide full details of rescue protocols, welfare/pain/health monitoring protocols, and animal welfare end points set a priori for withdrawal from the study. Additionally, please provide evidence that these protocols were approved before the study commenced. Also, provide full details of the fate of each animal in the study, including those that were withdrawn because they reached animal welfare endpoints set a priori. If you are unable to provide this information, including all specific details, your manuscript will be rejected.

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PREPARATION

Peer review

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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.

**Article structure**

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Original Articles should be no longer than 3,000 words in length, excluding the Title page, Abstract, Acknowledgements, Tables, Figures and References. Reviews should be about 4,000 words in length and Short Communications up to 1,000 words.

**Articles**

**Original Articles** (word limit 3,000 words) should be arranged as follows: (1) Title page; (2) an Abstract of up to 250 words (with no sub-headings), which should emphasise objectives, the experimental procedure, results and conclusions; up to five alphabetically arranged Keywords in Sentence case should be supplied below the Abstract; (3) the main text must be sub-divided into Introduction, Materials and methods, Results, Discussion, and Conclusions; (4) Conflict of interest statement; (5) Acknowledgements; (6) Appendix: Supplementary material (where this is provided; see below); (7) References; (8) Tables; (9) Figure legends; (10) Figures (uploaded as separate files); (11) Highlights (uploaded as a separate file). The sections should not be numbered. Please see the model article provided in the introduction section above.

Please note: Insert a page break only after the Title page, after the Abstract with Keywords, after the References section, between each Table, and before the Legends to figures. The Results and Discussion sections must be distinct and not combined. Avoid sub-headings in the Discussion section. References must not be included within the Conclusions section. The first person (I, we, our) must be avoided in the Abstract, but may be used elsewhere in the paper.

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Divide your article into clearly defined sections. Each subsection is given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line. Subsections should be used as much as possible when cross-referencing text: refer to the subsection by heading as opposed to simply 'the text'.

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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.

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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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Prior presentation of results, in the form of abstracts, posters or oral presentations at conferences, must be mentioned clearly in the Acknowledgements, with wording along the lines of: "Preliminary results were presented as an Abstract at the 9th International Congress of Veterinary Virology, Madrid, 4-7 September 2012."

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List funding sources in this standard way to facilitate compliance to funder's requirements:

Funding: This work was supported by the National Institutes of Health [grant numbers xxxx, yyyy]; the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle, WA [grant number zzzz]; and the United States Institutes of Peace [grant number aaaa].

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Note that litre is abbreviated to 'L', millilitre 'mL', (also mmol/L etc.); probability is given as $P$ (upper case italics), as in $P<0.05$; also note 'Student's $t$ test' and Mann-Whitney $U$ test; correlation coefficient $r$ as in $r = 0.92$, coefficient of determination, $r^2$ as in $r^2 = 0.72$; standard deviation and standard error should be abbreviated to SD and SE, respectively, but defined when first used; hour, minute and second are abbreviated to h, min and s; day, week and year are given in full. For drug dose frequency use e.g. 'three times daily' or '8-hourly' rather than Latin terms such as t.i.d. or q 8 h. Where centrifugation has been performed, use $g$ values not rpm. Other common abbreviations include 'IV' for intravenous or intravenously, 'IM' for intramuscular or intramuscularly, 'SC' for subcutaneous and subcutaneously, 'PO' for per os or orally; 'vs.' can be used for 'versus'. Use the abbreviation G for gauge of needle. The symbol for degrees Celsius should be written in the format °C, with the value separated from the unit by a space, e.g. '37 °C'. Use the WORD symbols for ±, Greek letters etc. Percentages should be referred to as, for example, '15%' or 'Fifteen per cent' when starting a sentence. Note also 'post-mortem' and 'ante-mortem'.
When a number is followed by a unit use the digits as in '10 mL' unless starting a sentence in which case write in full 'Ten microlitres'. When the number describes a quantity of items write the number in full up to nine as 'four sheep' or 'nine tubes' then in digital form thereafter as '24 horses' or '200 blood samples'. Avoid the symbol # or abbreviation 'No.' for 'number'.

Single ('...') quotation marks should be used for specific extracts, as in: "A PubMed search utilising the search terms 'canine castration local anaesthesia' returned three publications." Where a reference is cited or a quote given, use single quotation marks and place the text in italic font as: "However, in the 'Recommended Guideline for the Conduct and Evaluation of Prognostic Studies in Veterinary Oncology' developed recently by the American College of Veterinary Pathologists ..." Double (“...”) quotation marks should be avoided.

Anatomical terminology. Terminology should comply with the World Association of Veterinary Anatomists Nomina Anatomica Veterinaria (2005) and terms should be given in English where possible, unless the paper is a specialist anatomy paper (see: http://www.wava-amav.org/Downloads/nav_2005.pdf).

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-Submission of a manuscript implies that primary nucleotide sequence data will be deposited with an internationally available repository. Sequence reference numbers should be provided, where appropriate, in the main text, Tables, Figures or as an e-only supplementary file.

Controls for immunohistochemistry/immunocytochemistry - Please confirm that proper negative controls are used - See: The Histochemical Society’s standards: http://jhc.sagepub.com/content/early/2014/07/31/0022155414545224.full.pdf

Artwork

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Electronic artwork

General points

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Where Supplementary data are provided (see further information below), use the following wording in the main text after the Acknowledgements:

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**Appendix**

**Reporting Guidelines**

Reporting guidelines are available for a broad range of study designs and allow research to be critically evaluated. These guidelines have been designed by international scientific teams to promote the quality of research reporting and to ensure there is a transparent, accurate and complete account of the research. The guidelines are freely available and include the following:

1. Standards for the reporting of diagnostic accuracy studies (STARD) [http://www.stard-statement.org](http://www.stard-statement.org)
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6. Randomised control trials for livestock and food safety (REFLECT) http://www.reflect-statement.org/statement
7. Enhancing the quality and transparency of health research (including good publication practice for pharmaceutical companies), economic evaluations and qualitative research (EQUATOR) http://www.equator-network.org

For further information see The Veterinary Journal (2010) 184, 249-250 (view article).