WILDERNESS & ENVIRONMENTAL MEDICINE
Official Publication of the Wilderness Medical Society

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Description p.1
- Abstracting and Indexing p.1
- Editorial Board p.1
- Guide for Authors p.4

DESCRIPTION

Wilderness & Environmental Medicine, the official journal of the Wilderness Medical Society, is a peer-reviewed quarterly journal devoted to original scientific and technical contributions furthering research and medical practice related to remote, isolated, austere, or environmentally challenging environments and exposures. The journal is intended for clinicians, researchers, practitioners, and others interested in human health, safety, and performance in conditions often defined by natural extremes and/or limited access to resources. Examples of broad areas of interest include: mountaineering, altitude (ground and air-based), aquatic (immersion, drowning, and diving), thermal stress (heat, cold, and humidity-complicated), trauma, biological hazards (plant, animal, and infectious agents), military medicine, global health (travel, disaster, and climate change), search and rescue (standard and emerging technologies), unusual environmental stressors (natural and manufactured), and community leadership (education, standards, and best practice).

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

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Science Citation Index Expanded
Embase
Environmental Periodicals Bibliography
PubMed/Medline
Focus On: Sports Science and Medicine
Review of Medical and Veterinary Entomology

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WEM SCOPE AND MANUSCRIPT CATEGORIES

Wilderness and Environmental Medicine (WEM) is the official journal of the Wilderness Medical Society. It is published quarterly and is devoted to original scientific and technical contributions related in whole or in part to wilderness or environmental medicine. Non-solicited manuscripts are considered for the following categories:

Original Research: Original studies of basic or clinical research in areas relevant to wilderness medicine. Preferred 3500 word maximum (not including abstract, tables, figures, or references)

Brief Reports: Preliminary findings or small sample-sized studies that generate new hypotheses for further research. Reports should follow the guidelines under Preparation of Manuscripts. Preferred 1500-2000 words (not including abstract, tables, figures, and references), with no more than approximately 10 references.

Case Reports: Brief descriptions of unique wilderness medicine problems or situations. Include narrative abstract, introduction, and discussion of implications. Preferred 2000-word maximum (not including abstract, tables, figures, or references).

Review Articles: Extensive, well-referenced reviews of the literature on a narrow relevant topic. Preferred 4000-word maximum (not including abstract, tables, figures, or references); no more than 100 references. Systematic reviews are preferred over narrative reviews.

Concepts: Descriptions of clinical and non-clinical wilderness medical problems and solutions. Articles may focus on practical "how-to" management techniques and/or new approaches to the planning, management, provision of wilderness medical services, or research. Preferred 3500-word maximum (not including abstract, tables, figures, or references).

Letters to the Editor: Observations, opinions, current topics and/or corrections on topics appearing in WEM, generally not to exceed 1000 words, with a maximum of 10 references, one of which should be to the recent WEM article, if applicable. Original scientific work is usually not considered appropriate for Letters.

Letters in Reply: Replies by authors should not exceed 1000 words of text and 11 references inclusive of the article at issue and the inciting letter.

Editorials: Commentaries on major current issues or controversies with significant implications for wilderness and environmental medicine. Preferred 1500-word maximum, excluding references.

Lessons from History: The history section welcomes manuscripts that delve into past research and clinical aspects of wilderness and environmental medicine that have had a significant impact on the field, have an interesting story, or have importance but have yet to receive recognition. We welcome articles revealing the previously unknown history of this field from countries where language barriers may have prevented the work from being reported to a global audience. Preferred 3000-word maximum, not including figures or references.

Clinical Images: Pictures that teach something about wilderness medicine, as well as tell an engaging story. The focus will be on clinical images, each accompanied by text explaining the photograph and briefly reviewing the diagnosis and treatment of the condition it illustrates. If appropriate for the topic, an image and case report should be presented as a mystery, with the diagnosis and discussion appearing after a page break. 1000-1500 words (not including figures and references), with generally no more than 5 references.

Wilderness Images: High-quality, high-resolution (300 dpi) digital images of wilderness subjects. Include photo title and informative description (<300 words) and the appropriate photographer's credit line. Where relevant, include geographical coordinates of where the image was taken.

Wilderness Essays: Personal essays or anecdotes relating to the wilderness and medicine. Preferred 3000-word maximum.
Book Reviews: Please contact the Editorial Office (abyrne@wms.org) for more information.

WMS Practice Guidelines: Please contact the Editorial Office (abyrne@wms.org) for more information.

PERTINENT TOPICS
Pertinent topics include, but are not limited to, medical, physiological, pharmacological, and expeditionary considerations of: high altitude and climbing; hypothermia and cold-induced injuries; heat/cold-related disorders; weather-related phenomena and natural environmental disasters; toxinology; drowning and near-drowning; diving and barotrauma; hazardous plants, reptiles, insects, and marine animals; ethnobotany; animal attacks; rugged or austere environments; tropical disease and immunizations; search and rescue; and ethical, legal and research issues.

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Please read the submission guidelines carefully to prepare your manuscript. Submissions that are incomplete or that do not comply with the guidelines below will be returned to the author for completion before they will be entered into the editorial process.

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Manuscripts are considered for publication in WEM with the understanding that neither the manuscript nor any part of its text, figures, or tables have been published in, accepted for publication in, or submitted at the same time to another journal. Submission can follow publication of preliminary findings elsewhere in the form of an abstract.

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Please include the following files with submission:
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3. **Upload tables and figures as separate individual files.**

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**Reporting guidance**

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Sex generally refers to a set of biological attributes that are associated with physical and physiological features (e.g., chromosomal genotype, hormonal levels, internal and external anatomy). A binary sex categorization (male/female) is usually designated at birth ("sex assigned at birth"), most often based solely on the visible external anatomy of a newborn. Gender generally refers to socially constructed
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Preparation of manuscripts
Format manuscript in a Word document in 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spaced, with 1-inch margins on an 8.5 x 11-inch page, with a single space after periods, and with continuous line numbering (that is, numbering that does not restart at 1 on each page). Reminder: submissions must be formatted correctly to be entered into the review process.

Do not embed author names, dates, fonts, links, footnotes in a hidden field, field codes, bookmarks, comments, hypertext links, passwords, objects, worksheets, databases, artwork, or slides (such as PowerPoint) in the text. References and text citations should be in the form of normal text with no automation in the submitted form (such as automated paragraph spacing and indentation).

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All persons designated as authors should qualify for authorship. Include first names of the author and middle initials, if applicable. The order of authorship should be a joint decision of the co-authors. Each author must have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for the content. Authorship credit should be based only on substantial contributions: (1) to conception and design or to analysis and interpretation of data; (2) to drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and (3) to final approval of the version to be published. The journal follows ICMJE's authorship policy.

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TITLE PAGE
The title page (page 1) should contain (1) a concise and informative title; (2) an identified short running head (short title) of no more than 40 characters, including spaces; (3) the first name (spelled out), middle initial, and last name of each author with highest academic degree(s) and institutional affiliation (do not include professional designations such as FACMT, FAWM, etc.; these are not published in the journal); (4) contact information for the corresponding author; (5) summary tallies (word count of abstract, word count of the manuscript including references, word count of the manuscript excluding references, reference count, figure count, table count); and (6) details of formal presentation of the word at a scientific meeting (meeting name, date, and location), if applicable.

ABSTRACT
All manuscripts that are reports of original data from scientific investigations (original research and brief report categories) must be submitted with a structured abstract of no more than 250 words with the following headings: Introduction, Methods (include information on design, setting, participants, interventions, and main outcomes measured), Results, and Conclusions.

Case reports, review articles, and concept articles should include a narrative abstract of 250 words or fewer and outline the purpose of the article, major findings, and recommendations. Abstracts for review articles should include the literature search and selection strategy.

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TEXT

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Present the methods in a logical sequence, generally following the order in which work was done. All studies involving human or animal research must indicate approval by an institution's human or animal subject review board (IRB). A statement of ethics approval or determination of exemption that includes the name of the institution(s) providing the oversight is required. Authors must confirm that appropriate consent was obtained from all human subjects or that this requirement was waived by the review committee.

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"According to a letter from PH Westar, MD, in July 2020..."
"Similar finds have been noted by PH Westar, MD, (written communication, July 2020)..." NOTE: Author must hold written communications to cite as a "personal communication."

Dataset
NOTES TO AVOID COMMON SUBMISSION ERRORS Format manuscript in a Word document in 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spaced, with 1-inch margins on an 8.5 x 11-inch page, with a single space after periods, and with continuous line numbering (that is, numbering that does not restart at 1 on each page) and pages numbered in upper right with the title page as page 1. Recommended methods text example "Data are presented as mean±SD (with range)." Once defined in the methods, there should be no mention of "mean" in the results; the paired values will stand without further definition (example: "Subject height was 176±11 cm."). All studies involving human or animal research must include a statement of ethics approval and/or exempt status that includes name of institution(s) granting approval. This should typically lead the methods section. Report numbers only to meaningful levels of implied precision (ie, representative of the precision of the measurement or measuring tool). For example, percentages greater than one should only be presented as whole numbers. The format standard is US English. Common spelling/layout errors: "keywords," "acknowledgments," "mm Hg," "mL." Standard abbreviations should be used without definition following all numerals, including "s" for "second(s)," "min" for "minute(s)," "h" for "hour(s)," "d" for "day(s)," "wk" for "week(s)," "mo" for "month(s)," and "y" for "year(s)." "SD" stands for "standard deviation" without definition. "Sex" (a biological construct) is appropriate to use if grouping is limited to male and female. "Gender" (a sociological construct) is only appropriate if additional groups are included. The term used must be appropriate and consistent throughout the manuscript. Reference formatting must follow journal standard. Author contributions, disclosures, and financial/material support statements must be included in the manuscript text. Eliminate unnecessary text from acknowledgments. For example, "We thank..." is both more economical and less ambiguous than, "We would like to thank..."

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Ensure that each illustration has a caption. Supply captions as a separate section of the text; do not attach to the figures. A caption should comprise a brief title (not on the figure itself) and a description of the illustration. Legends should be located within the white space of figures where feasible to allow maximum print sizes for one- or two-column formats. Keep text within illustrations to a minimum but explain all symbols and abbreviations used.

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FIGURE EXAMPLES
Example 1
Example 2
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