THE VETERINARY JOURNAL

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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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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.

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
- Indicate clearly if color should be used for any figures in print

Graphical Abstracts / Highlights files (where applicable)
Supplemental files (where applicable)

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

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BEFORE YOU BEGIN

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Studies published in The Veterinary Journal must adhere to the National Centre for the Replacement, Refinement and Reduction of Animals in Research (NC3Rs) humane endpoints in animal experimentation. Please see their website for further information: https://www.nc3rs.org.uk/humane-endpoints

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

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**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.

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**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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Figure legends should be included in the main manuscript file after any Tables. Each figure should be uploaded as a separate file (Fig. 1, Fig. 2 etc.).

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be written in support of original investigations, which means that the authors will have made an important contribution to the field, will have published within the field and should be able to cite some of their own relevant work. Review Articles should be written as balanced, critical appraisals of published evidence, with appropriate reference to the work of published authors on the topic. They should be about 4,000 words in length and should follow the layout for Original Articles, but with the main text subdivided as appropriate to the subject matter, starting with an Abstract and Introduction, and incorporating a Conclusions section and a Conflict of interest statement. Sections should not be numbered. Please see the model Review Article provided in the introduction section above.

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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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Highlights consist of a short collection of bullet points that capture the novel results of your research as well as new methods that were used during the study (if any). Please have a look at the examples here: example Highlights.

**Abstract**
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.).

Prior presentation of data
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."

Formatting of funding sources
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, r² as in r² = 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).

Currencies. A footnote should be inserted at first use if a currency is given in the text, as in 'UK £5001' and conversion rates provided using the following three currencies US$, UK£ and Euros (€). The footnote should read as appropriate, for example: '£1 = approx. US$1.60, €1.24 at 2 December 2012.' Rates can be updated by the Author at proof stage if necessary. An easy to use currency converter is available here: http://uk.reuters.com/business/currencies.

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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

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Electronic artwork

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• Number the illustrations according to their sequence in the text.
• Use a logical naming convention for your artwork files.
• Provide captions to illustrations separately.
• Size the illustrations close to the desired dimensions of the published version.
• Submit each illustration as a separate file.
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- Supply files that are too low in resolution;
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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
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5. Systematic reviews and meta-analyses (PRISMA) http://www.prisma-statement.org
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).

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