THE JOURNAL OF THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

ALZHEIMER'S & DEMENTIA

DESCRIPTION

The mission of Alzheimer's & Dementia: Journal of the Alzheimer's Association is to bridge the knowledge gaps across a wide range of bench-to-bedside investigation. The journal publishes the results of studies in: behavior, biochemistry, genetics, molecular biology, pharmacology, physiology, protein chemistry, neurology, neuropathology, psychiatry, geriatrics, neuropsychology, epidemiology, sociology, health services research, health economics, political science and public policy. Content emphasizes interdisciplinary investigations, integrative/translational articles, related to: etiology, risk factors, early detection, disease modifying interventions, prevention of dementia and applications of new technologies in health services.

The journal publishes comprehensive reviews; research articles; information on clinical trials; short reports; in-depth perspectives/open-peer commentaries; theoretical and/or translational papers that attempt integrate knowledge across discipline; history & politics of science/brief biographies; abstracts of papers presented at international meetings; and negative results, particularly clinical trials, as short communications.

The ultimate objective is to create a novel forum for: rapid communication of new findings, ideas or perspectives; disseminating knowledge, across the spectrum of basic to clinical studies, necessary for optimal translation of research findings into practical applications/interventions; integrating knowledge across disciplines; increase knowledge in diverse disciplines to promote early detection/diagnosis and/or interventions; formulating new theories and/or strategies for the rigorous testing of theories or their predictions; identifying promising new directions of research; providing the scientific impetus for new initiatives; and public policies concerning research on prevention and new models of health services.

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Negative results, particularly clinical trials, are published as short communications.

The ultimate objective is to create a novel forum for: rapid communication of new findings, ideas, or perspectives; disseminating knowledge, across the spectrum of basic to clinical studies, necessary for optimal translation of research findings into practical applications/interventions; integrating knowledge across disciplines; increasing knowledge in diverse disciplines to promote early detection/diagnosis and/or interventions; formulating new theories and/or strategies for the rigorous testing of theories or their predictions; identifying promising new directions of research; and providing the scientific impetus for new initiatives or public policies concerning research on prevention and new models of health services.

Research In Context
Alzheimer’s & Dementia requires a section called “Research in Context”. Authors must provide a summary, similar to an abstract, for inclusion during the online submission process. In the summary of 150 words or less, authors must place their results or findings into context with previous work.

The section has three elements.
The “systematic review” subheading describes the process authors used to search, identify, and evaluate the accumulated knowledge related to their scientific question. The “interpretation” subheading requires authors to declare what their findings contribute to the entirety of the accumulated knowledge related to the question of interest described in the paper. The “future directions” subheading challenges authors to state specifically the important scientific question or questions that are necessary to expand, confirm, or refute the author’s findings in future research activities. Authors must be specific in outlining or defining future research directions or crucial questions that yet need to be answered.

Here is an example for the Research in Context section:
Systematic review: The authors reviewed the literature using traditional (e.g., PubMed) sources and meeting abstracts and presentations. While the pathophysiology of ARIA is not yet as widely studied as other aspects of AD biology, there have been several recent publications describing the clinical aspects of ARIA. These relevant citations are appropriately cited. Interpretation: Our findings led to an integrated hypothesis describing the pathophysiology of ARIA. This hypothesis is consistent with nonclinical and clinical findings currently in the public domain. Future directions: The manuscript proposes a framework for the generation of new hypotheses and the conduct of additional studies. Examples include further understanding: (a) the role of perivascular clearance pathways on vascular changes following anti-Aß immunotherapy; (b) the role of alterations in water clearance mechanisms in the resolution of ARIA; (c) the potential reversibility of microhemorrhage events in the clinical setting; and (d) the relationship between the pathophysiology of ARIA-E and ARIA-H. Please see the editorial on page 171 in the March 2012 issue for further details.

Note: The Research in Context should be uploaded as a "Supporting File" when submitting the manuscript files via the EVISE system.
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Comprehensive *Reviews* are commissioned papers by the editors to provide comprehensive and balanced coverage of a timely and/or controversial issue by a recognized authority. Uninvited paper will not be reviewed. The invited review should integrating different points of view on ground-breaking, fast-moving or contentious topics with the objective of translating, informing or educating a wide multi-disciplinary audience about varying perspective. *Reviews* should provide a brief overview or background of critical issues and then concentrate on setting recent findings in context. It is crucial for all *Reviews*, particularly those tackling controversial topics, to provide a well-balanced view of developments; authors must never concentrate unduly on their own research. *Reviews*, unlike *Research Articles*, do allow some speculation designed to foster the formulation or testing of new hypothesis.

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*Perspectives* and *Open-Peer Commentaries* provide personal in-depth viewpoints, rather than a review, on hotly debated topics; controversial theoretical, research or policy issues. *Perspectives* should: a) stimulate debate, b) present new models or hypotheses, c) suggest future experiments, directions of research or policies and/or, d) speculate on the meaning/interpretation of new discoveries/data. Articles that merely outline recent advances rather than provide a though provoking opinion on them are not suitable for this section of the Journal.

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*Short Reports* are brief communications dealing with Case Studies or information on Clinical Trials [including the negative results and/or adverse events in clinical studies]. *Short Reports* will also cover brief articles on the utility or potential applications of a new technique, instruments or analytical approaches; rather than the detail of the technique per se, which can be references for readers interested in complete technical details. These articles should educate and inform readers by comparing or contrasting new approaches/techniques with established ones and highlighting the pros and cons of each.

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Letters are brief communications relating to the content of earlier issues of Alzheimer’s & Dementia or general topics of interest. Letters relating to earlier issues of Alzheimer’s & Dementia will be sent to the appropriate authors for review and to give them an opportunity to reply. Previously unpublished data or letters concerning articles published elsewhere, however, will not be considered.
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