

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

American Journal of Hypertension

About the Journal

AIM and SCOPE

The *American Journal of Hypertension*, a peer reviewed journal, provides a forum for scientific inquiry of the highest standard in the fields of hypertension and related cardiovascular disease. The Journal publishes articles on basic sciences, molecular biology, clinical and experimental hypertension, cardiology, epidemiology, pediatric hypertension, endocrinology, neurophysiology, and nephrology. Authors are invited to submit previously unpublished, original clinical or experimental research articles, special communications, review articles and letters to the editor. Decisions regarding acceptance for publication are made by the editors.

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Preparation of Manuscripts

CONTENT TYPES

Manuscripts published by *American Journal of Hypertension* include: (1) Editorial, (2) Book Reviews, (3) Letters to the Editor, (4) Commentaries, (5) State of the Art, (6) Brief Communications, (7) Original Articles and (8) Case Reports.

PREPARATION OF MANUSCRIPTS

(1) Editorial [only by invitation of Editors]

Word Limit: 800-1,600 words excluding references, tables and figures

Abstract: no abstract for this article type

References: 10 maximum

Figures/Tables: 1 maximum

(2) Book Reviews [only by invitation of Editors]

Word Limit: 700 words maximum, excluding references

Abstract: no abstract for this article type

References: N/A

Figures/Tables: 1 maximum

(3) Letters to the Editor

Word Limit: 1,500 words excluding references, tables and figures

Abstract: no abstract for this manuscript type

References: 10 maximum

Figures/Tables: 1 maximum

Letters to the Editor typically should address issues concerning recently published information in *American Journal of Hypertension* and should be received within 6 weeks of the publication of the paper it addresses. A Letter to the Editor must reference the original source, and a Response to a Letter must reference the Letter to the Editor in the first few paragraphs. Letters to the Editor can use an arbitrary title, but a Response must cite the title of the Letter: e.g. Response to [title of Letter].

(4) Commentaries [only by invitation of Editors]

Word Limit: 800-1,500 words excluding references, tables and figures

Abstract: no abstract required, however, manuscript should include an introduction not to exceed 75 words

References: 5 maximum

Figures/Tables: 2 maximum

Commentaries typically highlight findings of a paper in a wider scientific and clinical context.

(5) State of the Art [generally by invitation of Editors]

Word Limit: 4,000 words maximum, excluding abstract, references, tables and figures

Abstract: 250 words maximum

References: 70 maximum

Figures/Tables: no maximum

State of the Art articles are comprehensive analyses of specific topics in hypertension that are usually solicited by the Editors. Proposals for State of the Art may be submitted; however, in this case authors should only send an outline of the proposed paper for initial consideration. Both solicited and unsolicited review articles will undergo peer review prior to acceptance.

(6) Brief Communications

Word Limit: 2,000 words maximum, excluding abstract, references, tables and figures

Abstract: 250 words maximum

References: 15 maximum

Figures/Tables: 1 maximum
Brief Communications are manuscripts containing concise and timely information.

(7) Articles

Word Limit: 3,000 words maximum excluding abstract, references, tables and figures
Abstract: 250 words maximum
References: 40 maximum
Figures/Tables: 4 figures, 4 tables maximum
Substantial novel research

(8) Case Reports

Word Limit: 1500 words maximum excluding abstract, references, tables and figures
Abstract: no abstract for this manuscript type
References: 20 maximum
Figures/Tables: 3 maximum
Substantial novel finding

FORMAT OF MANUSCRIPTS

General format

Manuscripts must be typed in English and double-spaced. All manuscript pages must be numbered.

Title page

This should include (a) the complete manuscript title of no more than 150 characters; (b) the running head of no more than 50 characters (no running head required in Editorials, Book Reviews and Letters to the Editor); (c) in the upper right corner of the title page, include word counts for your abstract and text (the text word count does not include the abstract, references, tables, and figures.); (d) include the number of references and the number of figures and tables below the word counts; (e) all authors' names (listed as first and middle initials followed by last name) and affiliations; (f) the name, address, telephone and fax numbers and email address of the corresponding author; and (g) a conflict of interest statement (see DISCLOSURE).

Text

For contributions requiring abstracts, the lengths are defined in the respective sections of *Preparation of Manuscripts*. For contributions that do not require an abstract, introductory paragraphs may contain references to cited work. Manuscripts should nominally be organized under following main headings: Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion and Disclosure.

Originality

A submitted manuscript must be an original contribution not previously published (except as an abstract), must not be under consideration for publication elsewhere, and, if accepted, must not be reproduced elsewhere without the consent of the American Journal of Hypertension, Ltd. Although the editors, editorial board, and referees make every effort to ensure the validity of published manuscripts, the final responsibility rests with the authors, not with *American Journal of Hypertension*, its editors, the American Journal of Hypertension, Ltd. or Nature Publishing Group.

Informed Consent and Ethics

When reporting experiments on human subjects, indicate whether the procedures were in accordance with the ethical standards of the responsible committee on human experimentation (institutional or regional) or with the Helsinki Declaration of 1975 (as revised in 1983). Include Institutional Review Board or Animal Care and Use Committee approvals.

Clinical Trials Registry

Registration in a public trials registry is required for publication in *American Journal of Hypertension*. A clinical trial is defined as any research project that prospectively assigns human subjects to intervention or comparison groups to study the cause-and-effect relationship between a medical intervention and a health outcome. Studies designed for other purposes, including exploring pharmacokinetics or safety and tolerability (e.g., phase 1 trials) are exempt. Registration must be with a registry that meets the following criteria: (1) accessible to the public at no charge; (2) searchable by electronic methods; (3) open to all prospective registrants free of charge or at minimal cost; (4) validates registered information; (5) identifies trials with a unique number; and (6) includes information on the investigator(s), research question or hypothesis, methodology, intervention and comparisons, eligibility criteria, primary and secondary outcomes measured, date of registration, anticipated or actual start date, anticipated or actual date of last follow-up, target number of subjects, status (anticipated, ongoing or closed) and funding source(s). Examples of registries that meet these criteria include (1) The registry sponsored by the United States National Library of Medicine (www.clinicaltrials.gov); (2) The International Standard Randomised Controlled Trial Number Registry (<http://www.controlled-trials.com>); (3) The Cochrane Renal Group Registry (<http://www.cochrane-renal.org/trialsubmissionform.php>); (4) The National (United Kingdom) Research Register (<http://www.update-software.com/national/>); and (5) European Clinical Trials Database (<http://eudract.emea.eu.int/>).

Abbreviations

Abbreviations should be defined at the first mention in the text and in each table and figure. For a list of standard abbreviations, please consult the Council of Biology Editors Style Guide (available from the Council of Science Editors, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814) or other standard sources. Write out the full term for each abbreviation at its first use unless it is a standard unit of measure.

Style

The American Medical Association Manual of Style (9th edition), Stedman's Medical Dictionary (28th edition) and Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary (11th edition) should be used as standard references. Refer to drugs and therapeutic agents by their accepted generic or chemical name, and do not abbreviate them (a proprietary name may be given only with the first use of the generic name). Code names should be used only when a generic name is not yet available (the chemical name and a figure giving the chemical structure of the drug are required). Copyright or trade names of drugs should be capitalized and placed in parentheses after the name of the drug. Names and locations (city and state in United States; city and country outside United States) of manufacturers of drugs, supplies, or equipment cited in a manuscript are required to comply with trademark law and should be provided in parentheses. Quantitative data may be reported in the units used in the original measurement (e.g., mg/dl for serum glucose, calcium, phosphorus, creatinine, BUN). SI units are preferred for body weight, mass (weight), volume, and temperature.

DISCLOSURE

All authors are responsible for recognizing and disclosing any conflict of interest that could be perceived to bias their work, making known all financial support and any other personal connections. This includes, but is not limited to: funding, such as salaries, equipment, supplies,

reimbursement for attending symposia, etc. from organizations that may gain or lose financially through the publication of the paper; personal financial interests, such as stocks and shares in companies that may gain or lose financially from publication, consultation fees or forms of remuneration from organizations that may gain or lose financially, or patent and patent applications whose value may be affected; and, employment, whether recent, present or anticipated, by an organization that may gain or lose from publication of the paper. Such relationships will be reviewed, and further clarification may be requested if deemed necessary by the editors or reviewers. This information should be included in the title page and in the article under the heading "Conflict of Interest." This section should appear at the end of the main text, before the references. If you have no conflict of interest to declare, please state so in the "Conflict of Interest" section.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This should include sources of support, including federal and industry support.

REFERENCES

References should be typed double-spaced. References are to be numbered in the order of citation within the article. Citations in the main text should appear as superscript Arabic numerals. **All authors** must be listed. Abstracts must be identified as such. Periodical abbreviations should follow those used by *Index Medicus*. Personal communications and unpublished data should be included within the text of the manuscript, not as references. Individual references should be formatted in Vancouver style as follows:

Journal articles:

Lender D, Arauz-Pacheco C, Breen L, Mora-Mora P, Ramirez LC, Raskin P. A double-blind comparison of the effects of amlodipine and enalapril on insulin sensitivity in hypertensive patients. *Am J Hypertens* 1999; 12:298-303.

Books:

Baron EJ, Chang RS, Howard DH, Miller JN, Turner JA. *Medical Microbiology: A Short Course*. Wiley-Liss, New York, 1994, pp 39-41.

Articles in books:

Elias M, Elias P: Motivation and activity. In Birren JE, Schaie KE (eds), *Handbook of the Psychology of Aging*. New York, Van Nostrand, 1976, pp 357-359.

FIGURES

Figures should be labeled sequentially, numbered and cited in the text. If a table, figure or any other previously published material is included, the authors must obtain written permission to reproduce the material in both print and electronic formats from the copyright owner and submit it with the manuscript. The original source should be cited.

FIGURE LEGENDS

Legends should be brief and specific, and should appear on a separate manuscript page after the Reference section. All abbreviations used in an illustration should be expanded in the legend.

GUIDELINES FOR FIGURES AND ARTWORK

Detailed guidelines for submitting figures and artwork can be found at: <http://www.nature.com/ai/artworkguidelines.pdf>. Using the guidelines, please submit production quality artwork with your initial online submission. If you have followed the guidelines, we will not require the artwork to be resubmitted following the peer-review process.

FIGURES IN PRINT [color charges may apply]

Minimum Resolutions:

Halftone images 300 dpi (dots per inch)

Color images 300 dpi saved as CMYK

Images containing text 400 dpi

Line art 1000 dpi

Sizes:

Figure Width – Single Image

86 mm (Should be able to fit into a single column of the printed journal)

Figure Width – Multi-part Image

178 mm (Should be able to fit into a double column of the printed journal)

Text Size

8 point (Should be readable after reduction – avoid large type or thick lines) Line Width between 0.5 and 1 point

COLOR ON THE WEB

For FREE color figures on the web (only available in the HTML (full text) version of manuscripts), authors should supply separate files in the following format. These files should be submitted as supplementary information and indicated as such in the submission letter.

For Single Images:

Width	500 pixels (authors should select "constrain proportions," or equivalent instructions, to allow the application to set the correct proportions automatically.)
Resolution	125 dpi (dots per inch)
Format	JPEG for photographs GIF for line drawings or charts
File naming	Please save image with .jpg or .gif extension to ensure it can be read by all platforms and graphics packages.

For Multi-part Images:

Width	900 pixels (authors should select "constrain proportions," or equivalent instructions, to allow the application to set the correct height automatically.)
Resolution	125 dpi (dots per inch)
Format	JPEG for photographs GIF for line drawings or charts
File naming	Please save image with .jpg or .gif extension to ensure it can be read by all platforms and graphics packages.

TABLES

Each table should be double-spaced on a separate sheet and numbered consecutively in the order of first citation in the text. Minimize empty space. Supply a brief title of no more than 15 words for each, but place explanatory matter in the footnotes (not in the heading). Do not use internal horizontal and vertical lines.

JOURNAL STYLE

Papers should be prepared as follows:

1. See the [artwork guidelines](#) for information on labeling of figures
2. Do not make rules thinner than 1 pt (0.36mm)
3. Use a coarse hatching pattern rather than shading for tints in graphs
4. Color should be distinct when used as an identifying tool
5. Commas, not spaces, should be used to separate thousands
6. Abbreviations should be preceded by the words for which they stand in the first instance of use
7. Text, including references, should be double-spaced with a 1 inch margin
8. Text should be submitted with line numbers. (In MSWord, go to File, Page Setup, Layout, Line Numbers, and check Add Line Numbering).
9. At first mention of a manufacturer, the city (state if USA) and country should be provided

FILE FORMATS

File formats are provided on the online forms. Please use a common word-processing package (such as Microsoft Word*) for the text. Tables should be provided at the end of the Word document or in a separate file.

*Microsoft Office 2007 saves files in an XML format by default (file extensions .docx, .pptx and .xlsx). Files saved in this format cannot be accepted for publication.

Save Word documents using the file extension .doc

- Select the Office Button in the upper left corner of the Word 2007 Window and choose "Save As"
- Select "Word 97-2003 Document"
- Enter a file name and select "Save"

These instructions also apply for the new versions of Excel and PowerPoint.

Equations in Word must be created using Equation Editor 3.0

Equations created using the new equation editor in Word 2007 and saved as a "Word 97-2003 Document" (.doc) are converted to graphics and can no longer be edited. To insert or change an equation with the previous equation editor:

- Select "Object" on the "Text" section of the "Insert" tab
- In the drop-down menu - select "Equation Editor 3.0"

Do not use the "Equation" button in the "Symbols" section of the "Insert" tab.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Supplementary information is peer-reviewed material directly relevant to the conclusion of an article that cannot be included in the printed version owing to space or format constraints. It is posted on the journal's web site and linked to the article when the article is published and may include data files, graphics, movies or extensive tables. The printed article must be complete and self-explanatory without the supplementary information. Supplementary information must be supplied to the editorial office in its final form for peer review. On acceptance, the final version of the peer-reviewed supplementary information should be submitted with the accepted paper. To ensure that the contents of the supplementary information files can be viewed by the editor(s), referees and readers, please also submit a 'read-me' file containing brief instructions on how to use the file.

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Supplementary information may be included online at a rate of \$125 per file.

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Accepted file formats. Quick Time files (.mov), graphical image files (.gif), HTML files (.html), MPEG movie files (.mpg), JPEG image files (.jpg), sound files (.wav), plain ASCII text (.txt), Acrobat files (.pdf), MS Word documents (.doc), Postscript files (.ps), MS Excel spreadsheet documents (.xls) and PowerPoint files (.ppt). We cannot accept TeX and LaTeX. File sizes must be as small as possible, so that they can be downloaded quickly. Images should not exceed 640 x 480 pixels but we would recommend 480 x 360 pixels as the maximum frame size for movies. We would also recommend a frame rate of 15 frames per second. If applicable to the presentation of the supplementary information, use a 256-color palette. Please consider the use of lower specification for all of these points if the supplementary information can still be represented clearly. Our recommended maximum data rate is 150 KB/s.

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ADVANCE ONLINE PUBLICATION

All original articles and reviews are published ahead of print on Advance Online Publication. This will be the final version of the manuscript and will subsequently appear, unchanged, in print.

PROOFS

An e-mail will be sent to the corresponding author with a URL link from where proofs can be collected. Proofs must be returned by fax within 48 hours of receipt. Failure to do so may result in a delay to publication. Extensive corrections cannot be made at this stage.

Contact Information

EDITORIAL

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BUSINESS MATTERS

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