

Information for Authors

*These guidelines are in accordance with the “Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals”.
(Complete document available at www.icmje.org.)*

The number of scientific publications is increasing continually and the new information grows exponentially. However, the time available for the scientific publications remains unchanged. These facts will soon affect all scientific journals in the world. That is the reason why we are interested in publishing concise and comprehensible scientific manuscripts analyzing the relevant results.

In the scientific manuscript, a repetition of already known facts is restricted to the most relevant knowledge. The introduction of the scientific manuscript is not a historical overview. The methodology and description (experimental or clinical) should provide the basic information. It is not needed to describe the methodology in details. A detailed method may be interesting only to those attempting the same experiment.

The reader is interested in results and not in a comprehensive description of the methodology and statistical processing. The most important features are new knowledge and new clarifications, not the complex statistics with many numbers.

Figures showing the results should be simple and clear. Tables containing data in more than one third of the page are not suitable for a publication. The reference to the nonsignificant results is considered unnecessary.

A concise discussion should relate only to the main results and their comparison to previously published studies. Conclusions must be clear and easy to understand. We are not interested in manuscripts with the conclusion "the authors confirmed the results of other authors". Neither we are interested in manuscripts, which conclude that "the findings need a further study on the issue".

A review article should not be a review of an existing literature. The review article should bring a new perspective on the problem. Case reports are often interesting as a rarity or structural or functional variability only. We cannot accept the case reports, which do not bring a new look on the problem. We consider referencing studies on the same topic, published in Bratislava Medical Journal in the past eight years, as a part of the author's culture.

The international journal Bratislavske lekarske listy (Bratisl Lek Listy/Bratisl Med J) publishes peer-reviewed articles on all aspects of biomedical sciences, including original clinical studies, review articles and experimental investigations with clear clinical relevance.

Manuscript should be addressed to: Editorial Office, Bratisl Lek Listy, Spitalska 24, SK-813 72 Bratislava 1, Slovakia. Phone/Fax: +421.2.52965400, e-mail: bl@fmed.uniba.sk or ivan.hulin@fmed.uniba.sk.

Manuscripts are accepted for processing if neither the article nor any essential part, tables or figures, has been or will be published or submitted elsewhere before presenting in Bratisl Lek Listy (Bratisl Med J). This restriction does not apply to abstracts or press reports related to scientific meetings.

The Editors will consider both invited and uninvited review articles. Authors should detail how their work differs from existing reviews on subject in cover letter.

Manuscripts/General Guidelines

The manuscript should conform the guidelines set forth in the “Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals”, 5th edition, *New Engl J Med* 1997; 336 (4): 309–315.

Manuscript must contain no more than 5000 words. A cover letter signed by all authors should identify the person (post address, telephone number, and e-mail address) responsible for negotiations. Each author must sign a statement attesting that he or she fulfills the authorship cri-

teria of the Uniform Requirements. Each author must significantly contribute to the submitted work.

Form of Manuscript

Two copies of each manuscript, along with a disk (see “Instructions for Electronic Manuscript Submission”), must be submitted in English, in double-spaced typewritten form with a 5-cm (2-inch) left margin. (Do not use “erasable” bond.) The text should be written in following sequence: Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgement, References, Tables, Illustrations and Figure Legends, Structured Abstract with key words and Condensed Abstract.

Page 1 should bear an article title, name(s) of the author(s), i.e. last name(s) and initials and institution where the work was done and a person whom proofs and reprint request should be sent, with complete address (including postal codes), telephone number and e-mail address (address for correspondence).

Tables should be typed neatly, each on a separate sheet, with title above and any notes below. All abbreviations should be explained. Do not provide duplicate information in tables and figures.

Illustrations should be submitted as clear glossy prints (two duplicate sets may be photocopied), with lettering large enough to be legible if reduced. The maximal final size of any figure in the printed journal will be 20 by 28 cm (8.25x11 inch). **On the back of each figure**, the name of author and the figure number should be written, with the top indicated by an arrow. Each figure should have a separate, fully explicit legend; all parts of the figure and all abbreviations and symbols should be clearly defined. **Figure legends** should be typed on separate pages; figure numbers must follow their reference in text.

Drug names. Generic names should be used; trade names may be given in parentheses in the first mention, and generic names should be used thereafter.

Abbreviations. The list of abbreviations given in “Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals” (section References) should be followed. For additional abbreviations, consult the CBE Style Manual (available from the Council of Biology Editors, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20814, U.S.A.) or other standard sources.

References

The journal complies with the reference style given in “Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals”. References should be cited in text by number and numbered in order they are cited. The reference should be written in double-spaced form at the end of the text, following the sample formats given below. For the abbreviations of journal names, refer to the List of Journals Indexed in Index Medicus (available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, U.S.A., DHEW Publication No. NIH 83-267; ISSN 0093-3821).

Provide all names of authors when fewer than seven: when seven or more, list the first three and add et al. Provide article titles and inclusive pages. The author is responsible for the accuracy of reference data.

Article:

- Greenblatt DJ, Abernethy DR, Shader Jr RI. Pharmacokinetic aspects of drug therapy in the elderly (commentary). *Ther Drug Monit* 1986; 8 (6): 249-255.

Book:

- Mitchell JR, Horning MG (Eds). *Drug metabolism and drug toxicity*. New York; Raven Press, 1984: 1-25.

Chapter of book:

3. Kutt H, Pippenberg CE et al. Plasma clearance of nor-methsuximide in a uremic patient. 223-226. In: Levy RH, Pitlick WH, Meijer J (Eds). Metabolism of antiepileptic drugs. New York; Raven Press, 1984.

Book in a series:

4. Usdin E, Asberg M, Bertilsson L (Eds). Frontiers in biochemical and pharmacological research in depression. New York; Raven Press, 1984. (Advances in biochemical psychopharmacology; vol 39.)

Internet:

5. <http://www.med.monash.edu.au/medical>

Structured Abstract

A structured abstract should be provided on a separate page with no more than 250 words, presenting essential data in five paragraphs

introduced by separate headings in following order: Objectives, Background, Methods, Results, Conclusion. Complete sentences should be used. All data in the structured abstract must be present also in the submitted text or tables. Three to five key words should be added. Terms from Index Medicus should be used.

Condensed Abstract (for table of contents)

A condensed abstract of no more than 50 words should be provided for the expanded table of contents, stressing clinical implications. Do not include data which are not present in the text or tables.

Proofs

Proof must be returned within 3 days; late return may cause a delay in publication. Please check text, tables, legends, and references carefully.