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Editor in Chief

Prof. Sevilay Şenol Çelik
Koç University Faculty of Nursing, İstanbul, Türkiye
sevilaycelik@ku.edu.tr

Managing Director

Assoc. Prof. Pelin Karaçay
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pkaracay@ku.edu.tr

Statistical Editor

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abaygul@ku.edu.tr

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Ankara, Türkiye
belgin.akin@lokmanhekim.edu.tr

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Ankara, Türkiye
sultan@gazi.edu.tr

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Ankara, Türkiye
meltemcos@yahoo.com

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Ege University Faculty of Nursing, İzmir, Türkiye
meryem.yavuz@ege.edu.tr

Prof. Nurcan Çalışkan
Gazi University Faculty of Nursing,
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yildirim.nurcan@gmail.com

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torunserap@gmail.com

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hulyadenizbulut@gmail.com

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İstanbul University-Cerrahpaşa, Florence Nightingale
Faculty of Nursing, İstanbul, Türkiye
esenyuva@iuc.edu.tr

Doç Dr. Gülten Koç
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Hacettepe University, Faculty of Nursing, Ankara, Türkiye
gultenko@hacettepe.edu.tr

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sevgisunkapucu@gmail.com

External Editors

Prof. Dr. Zehra Göçmen Baykara
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gocmenzehra@yahoo.com

Prof. Dr. Zeynep Canlı Özer
Akdeniz University Faculty of Nursing, Antalya, Türkiye
zeynepcanli@akdeniz.edu.tr



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Publication Coordinator
Zeynep Sena Pekşen

Graphic Design
Duygu Şimşek

General Manager
Ali Cangül

Contact
KARE Publishing

Address: Göztepe Mah., Fahrettin Kerim Gökay Cad., No: 200, D: 2,
Göztepe, Kadıköy, İstanbul, Türkiye
Phone: +90 216 550 61 11
Web: www.karepb.com
E-mail: kare@karepb.com

AIM AND SCOPE

Journal of Education and Research in Nursing (J Educ Res Nurs) is an international, scientific, open access, online-only periodical published in accordance with independent, unbiased, and double-blinded peer-review principles. The journal is the official publication of Koç University Semahat Arsel Nursing Education, Practice and Research Center (SANERC), published quarterly in March, June, September, and December. The publication language of the journal is English and the journal accepts English manuscripts only.

All expenses of the journal are covered by SANERC. Processing and publication are free of charge with the journal. No fees are requested from the authors at any point throughout the evaluation and publication process. All manuscripts must be submitted via the online submission system, which is available at <http://jer-nursing.org/>. The journal guidelines, technical information, and the required forms are available on the journal's web page.

Journal of Education and Research in Nursing aims to share the experience and the knowledge from Türkiye and different cultures through original studies in nursing and healthcare as well as protect and improve the public health and strengthen the nursing profession by providing the opportunity to transfer current knowledge into practice. The journal contributes to the literature by publishing manuscripts at the highest scientific and clinical value in nursing research, practice, and education. The journal publishes original articles, reviews, case reports, and letters to the editors that are prepared in accordance with ethical guidelines. The journal also welcomes contributions from other healthcare professionals on issues that have a direct impact on nursing practice.

The target audience of the journal is primarily researchers, practitioners, educators and executive nurses as well as other healthcare professionals, policy makers and students of nursing and health.

Journal of Education and Research in Nursing currently indexed in GALE [2010], Tubitak Ulakbim Medicine [2012], EBSCO [2017], CINAHL [2017], DOAJ [2021], Research4Life [2021], Hinari [2021], SCILIT [2021], OUCI [2021], CNKI [2022], MIAR [2024], SUDOC [2024], Zeitschriften Datenbank [2024], Electronic Journal Library [2024], and EmCare [2025].

The editorial and publication processes of the journal are shaped in accordance with the guidelines of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors [ICMJE], World Association of Medical Editors [WAME], Council of Science Editors [CSE], Committee on Publication Ethics [COPE], European Association of Science Editors [EASE], and National Information Standards Organization [NISO]. The journal is in conformity with the Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing (doaj.org/bestpractice).

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Editor in Chief: Sevilay Şenol Çelik

Address: Koç University Faculty of Nursing, Sağlık Bilimleri Kampüsü, Davutpaşa Caddesi 34010 Topkapı, İstanbul, Türkiye

E-mail: sevilaycelik@ku.edu.tr

Publisher: Kare Media

Address: Göztepe Mah., Fahrettin Kerim Gökay Cad., No: 200 D: 2, Göztepe, Kadıköy, İstanbul, Türkiye

Phone: +90 216 550 61 11

E-mail: kare@karepb.com

Webpage: www.karepb.com

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Journal of Education and Research in Nursing [J Educ Res Nurs] is an international, scientific, open access, online-only periodical published in accordance with independent, unbiased, and double-blinded peer-review principles. The journal is the official publication of Koç University Semahat Arslan Nursing Education, Practice and Research Center (SANERC), published quarterly in March, June, September, and December. The publication language of the journal is English and the journal accepts English manuscripts only. The authors of the previously accepted Turkish articles are required to send English version of their articles when the publication process starts.

All expenses of the journal are covered by SANERC. Processing and publication are free of charge with the journal. No fees are requested from the authors at any point throughout the evaluation and publication process. All manuscripts must be submitted via the online submission system, which is available at <http://jer-nursing.org>. The journal guidelines, technical information, and the required forms are available on the journal's web page.

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EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATION PROCESS

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Originality, high scientific quality, and citation potential are the most important criteria for a manuscript to be accepted for publication. Manuscripts submitted for evaluation should not have been previously presented or already published in an electronic or printed medium. The journal should be informed of manuscripts that have been submitted to another journal for evaluation and rejected for publication. The submission of previous reviewer reports will expedite the evaluation process. Manuscripts that have been presented in a meeting should be submitted with detailed information on the organization, including the name, date, and location of the organization.

PEER REVIEW PROCESS

Manuscripts submitted to Journal of Education and Research in Nursing will go through a double-blind peer-review process. Each submission will be reviewed by at least two external, independent peer reviewers who are experts in their fields in order to ensure an unbiased evaluation process.

The editorial board will invite an external and independent editor to manage the evaluation processes of manuscripts submitted by editors or by the editorial board members of the journal. The Editor in Chief is the final authority in the decision-making process for all submissions. Reviewers who seek assistance from a trainee or colleague in the performance of a review should acknowledge these individuals' contributions in the written comments submitted to the editor. Reviewers must maintain the confidentiality of the manuscript, which may prohibit the uploading of the manuscript to software or other AI technologies where confidentiality cannot be assured. Reviewers must request permission from the journal prior to using AI technology to facilitate their review.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)-ASSISTED TECHNOLOGY

At submission, the journal should require authors to disclose whether they used artificial intelligence (AI)- assisted technologies (such as Large Language Models [LLMs], chatbots, or image creators) in the production of submitted work. Authors who use such technology should describe, in both the cover letter and the submitted work, how they used it. Use of AI for writing assistance should be reported in the acknowledgment section. Authors who used AI technology to conduct the study should describe its use in the methods section in sufficient detail to enable replication to the approach, including the tool used, version, and prompts where applicable. Chatbots (such as ChatGPT) should not be listed as authors because they cannot be responsible for the accuracy, integrity, and originality of the work, and these responsibilities are required for authorship. Therefore, humans are responsible for any submitted material that included the use of AI-assisted technologies. Authors should carefully review and edit the result because AI can generate authoritative-sounding output that can be incorrect, incomplete, or biased. Authors should not list AI and AI-assisted technologies as an author or co-author, nor cite AI as an author. Authors should be able to assert that there is no plagiarism in their paper, including in text and images produced by the AI. Humans must ensure there is appropriate attribution of all quoted material, including full citations.

ETHICAL GUIDELINES

An approval of research protocols by the Ethics Committee in accordance with international agreements (World Medical Association Declaration of Helsinki "Ethical Principles for Medical Research Involving Human Subjects," amended in October 2013, www.wma.net) is required for experimental, clinical, and drug studies and for some case reports. If required, ethics committee reports, or an equivalent official document will be requested from the authors. Submissions which do not have ethical approval will be reviewed according to COPE's Research, Audit and Service Evaluations guideline.

Such manuscripts can be rejected after editorial review due to the lack of ethics committee approval.

For manuscripts concerning experimental research on humans, a statement should be included that written informed consent of patients and volunteers was obtained following a detailed explanation of the procedures that they may undergo.

It is the authors' responsibility to protect the patients' anonymity carefully. For photographs that may reveal the identity of the patients, signed releases of the patient or their legal representative should be enclosed, and the publication approval must be provided in the Methods section.

For studies carried out on animals, an approval research protocols by the Ethics Committee in accordance with international agreements (Guide for the care and use of laboratory animals, 8th edition, 2011" and/or "Interna-

tional Guiding Principles for Biomedical Research Involving Animals, 2012”) is required. Also, the measures taken to prevent pain and suffering of the animals should be stated clearly in such studies.

Information on patient consent, the name of the ethics committee, and the ethics committee approval number and date should also be stated in the Methods section of the manuscript.

PLAGIARISM AND ETHICAL MISCONDUCT

Journal of Education and Research in Nursing is extremely sensitive about plagiarism. All submissions are screened by a similarity detection software (iThenticate by Cross-Check) at any point during the peer-review and/or production process.

When you are discussing others' (or your own) previous work, please make sure that you cite the material correctly in every instance.

Authors are strongly recommended to avoid any form plagiarism and ethical misconduct that are exemplified below.

Self-plagiarism (text-recycling): Overlapping sections or sentences with the author's previous publications without citing them. Even if you are the author of the phrases or sentences, the text should not have unacceptable similarity with the previously published data.

Salami slicing: Using the same data of a research into several different articles. Reporting the same hypotheses, population, and methods of a study is into different papers is not acceptable.

Data Fabrication: It is the addition of data that never occurred during the gathering of data or the experiments. Results and their interpretation must be based on the complete data sets and reported accordingly.

Data Manipulation/Falsification: It means manipulating research data with the intention of giving a false impression. This includes manipulating images (e.g. micrographs, gels, radiological images), removing outliers or 'inconvenient' results, changing data points, etc.

In the event of alleged or suspected research misconduct, e.g., plagiarism, citation manipulation, and data falsification/fabrication, the Editorial Board will follow and act according to COPE flowcharts.

PREPRINT

Journal of Education and Research in Nursing does not consider preprint publications as prior publication. In other words, authors are allowed to present and discuss their findings on a non-commercial preprint server before submission to a journal.

Authors must provide the journal with the pre-print server deposition of their article accompanying its DOI during initial submission.

If the article is published in the Journal of Education and Research in Nursing, it is the responsibility of the authors to update the archived preprint and link it to the published version of the article.

AUTHORSHIP

Each person listed as an author should fulfill the authorship criteria recommended by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE - www.icmje.org). The ICMJE recommends that authorship is based on the following four criteria:

1. Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work; AND

2. Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content; AND

3. Final approval of the version to be published; AND

4. Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

In addition to being accountable for the parts of the work he/she has done, an author should be able to identify which co-authors are responsible for specific other parts of the work. Also, authors should have confidence in the integrity of the contributions of their co-authors.

All those designated as authors should meet all four criteria for authorship, and all who meet the four criteria should be identified as authors. Those who do not meet all four criteria should be acknowledged in the title page of the manuscript.

Journal of Education and Research in Nursing requires corresponding authors to submit a signed and scanned version of the Copyright Agreement and Acknowledgement of Authorship form (available for download at <http://jer-nursing.org>) during the initial submission process to act appropriately on authorship rights and to prevent ghost or honorary authorship. If the editorial board suspects a case of "gift authorship," the submission will be rejected without further review. As part of the submission of the manuscript, the corresponding author should also send a short statement declaring that he/she accepts to undertake all the responsibility for authorship during the submission and review stages of the manuscript.

CHANGE OF AUTHORSHIP

Journal of Education and Research in Nursing reviews the authorship according to the author's declaration in the Title Page, thus it is the authors responsibility to send the final order of the complete author names. Requests in the change of authorship (e.g. removal/addition of the authors, change in the order etc) after submission are subject to editorial approval. Editorial Board will investigate this kind of cases and act following COPE flowcharts.

Change of authorship requests should be submitted to the Editorial Office with an official letter stating the reasons of the change. The letter must be signed by all authors and include their approval on the change in authorship. If the request is approved by the Editorial Board, authors need to submit a new Copyright Agreement Form according to the final order list.

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The Editorial Board of the journal handles all appeal and complaint cases within the scope of COPE guidelines. In such cases, authors should get in direct contact with the editorial office regarding their appeals and com-

plaints. When needed, an ombudsperson may be assigned to resolve claims that cannot be resolved internally. The Editor in Chief is the final authority in the decision-making process for all appeals and complaints.

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In accordance with the publication policies of the Journal of Education and Research in Nursing, the duties and responsibilities of the author[s] and the editorial board during the withdrawal of an article are given below.

Responsibilities of the Authors

The author[s] has an obligation to cooperate with the journal editor in the withdrawal process if he/she notices an error or mistake in the pre-checking stage of the manuscript or in a published work. Withdrawal requests will not be considered for a manuscript in the review process or in the publication phase. Author[s] who wish to withdraw their study outside of the review process or the publication phase are obliged to fill out and send the Withdrawal Form via e-mail at kare@karepb.com. The Editorial Board will review the withdrawal notification and respond within 15 days at the latest. Authors cannot submit their manuscripts to another journal for evaluation unless the editorial board approves the withdrawal request for manuscripts whose copyrights have been transferred to the Journal of Education and Research in Nursing at the submission stage.

Responsibilities of the Editorial Board

The editorial board of the Journal of Education and Research in Nursing has the obligation to initiate an investigation into any suspected copyright infringement, ethical statement violation, or plagiarism regarding studies that are published ahead of print, or under review. If the editorial board determines that there is a violation of copyright, ethical statement, or plagiarism in the work under evaluation, it withdraws the work from the evaluation and returns it to the authors by citing the detected situations in detail. In the event that copyright infringement or plagiarism is determined to have occurred in a published work or a work in early view, the Editorial Board may recommend to the publishers or editorial boards, of which study was previously published, to ensure the validity and reliability of the published studies or to withdraw them.

MANUSCRIPT PREPARATION

The manuscripts should be prepared in accordance with ICM-JE-Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals [updated in December 2018 - <http://www.icmje.org/icmje-recommendations.pdf>]. Authors are required to prepare manuscripts in accordance with the CONSORT guidelines for randomized research studies, STROBE guidelines for observational original research studies, STARD guidelines for studies on diagnostic accuracy, PRISMA guidelines for systematic reviews and meta-analysis, ARRIVE guidelines for experimental animal studies, and TREND guidelines for non-randomized public behavior. To find the right guideline for your research, please complete the questionnaire by Equator Network [here](http://www.equator-network.org).

The style of the manuscripts should be prepared according to AMA Manual of Style 11th Edition.

Manuscripts can only be submitted through the journal's online manuscript submission and evaluation system, available at jern.manuscriptmanager.net. Manuscripts submitted via any other medium and submissions by anyone other than one of the authors will not be evaluated.

Manuscripts submitted to the journal will first go through a technical evaluation process where the editorial office staff will ensure that the manuscript has been prepared and submitted in accordance with the journal's guidelines. Submissions that do not conform to the journal's guidelines will be returned to the submitting author with technical correction requests.

Authors are required to submit the following:

- Copyright Agreement and Acknowledgement of Authorship Form, and
- ICMJE Potential Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form [should be filled in by all contributing authors] during the initial submission. These forms are available for download at <http://jer-nursing.org>.

Preparation of the Manuscript

Title page: A separate title page should be submitted with all submissions and this page should include:

- The full title of the manuscript as well as a short title (running head) of no more than 50 characters,
- Name[s], affiliations, highest academic degree[s], and ORCID IDs of the author[s],
- Grant information and detailed information on the other sources of support,
- Name, address, telephone (including the mobile phone number), and email address of the corresponding author,
- Acknowledgment of the individuals who contributed to the preparation of the manuscript but who do not fulfill the authorship criteria.

Abstract: An abstract should be submitted with all submissions except for Letters to the Editor. The abstract of Research Articles should be structured with subheadings [Background, Methods, Results, and Conclusion]. Please check Table 1 below for word count specifications.

Keywords: Each submission must be accompanied by a minimum of three to a maximum of five keywords for subject indexing at the end of the abstract. The keywords should be listed in full without abbreviations. The keywords should be selected from the National Library of Medicine, Medical Subject Headings database (<https://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/MBrowser.html>).

Manuscript Types

Research Articles: This is the most important type of article since it provides new information based on original research.

Acceptance of original papers will be based upon the originality and importance of the investigation. The main text of original articles should be structured with Introduction, Material and Methods, Results, and Discussion subheadings. Please check Table 1 for the limitations for Original Articles.

Clinical Trials

Journal of Education and Research in Nursing adopts the ICMJE's clinical trial registration policy, which requires that clinical trials must be registered in a publicly accessible registry that is a primary register of the WHO International Trials Registry Platform (ICTRP) or in ClinicalTrials.gov.

Instructions for the clinical trials are listed below.

- Clinical trial registry is only required for the prospective research projects that study the relationship between a health-related intervention and an outcome by assigning people.
- To have their manuscript evaluated in the journal, author should register their research to a public registry at or before the time of first patient enrollment.
- Based on most up to date ICMJE recommendations, Journal of Education and Research in Nursing accepts public registries that include minimum acceptable 24-item trial registration dataset.
- Authors are required to state a data sharing plan for the clinical trial registration. Please see details under "Data Sharing" section.
- For further details, please check ICMJE Clinical Trial Policy at <http://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/publishing-and-editorial-issues/clinical-trial-registration.html>

Data Sharing

As of 1 January 2019, a data sharing statement is required for the registration of clinical trials. Authors are required to provide a data sharing statement for the articles that reports the results of a clinical trial. The data sharing statement should indicate the items below according to the ICMJE data sharing policy:

- Whether individual deidentified participant data will be shared,
- What data in particular will be shared,
- Whether additional, related documents will be available,
- When the data will be available and for how long,
- By what access criteria will be shared.

Authors are recommended to check the ICMJE data sharing examples at <http://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/publishing-and-editorial-issues/clinical-trial-registration.html>

While submitting a clinical trial to Journal of Education and Research in Nursing,

- Authors are required to make registration to a publicly accessible registry according to ICMJE recommendations and the instructions above.
- The name of the registry and the registration number should be provided in the Title Page during the initial submission.
- Data sharing statement should also be stated in the Title Page even the authors do not plan to share it.

Clinical trial and data sharing policy of the journal will be valid for the articles submitted from 1 March 2021.

Reporting Statistical Analysis

Statistical analysis to support conclusions is usually necessary. Statistical analyses must be conducted in accordance with international statistical reporting standards [Altman DG, Gore SM, Gardner MJ, Pocock SJ. Statistical guidelines for contributors to medical journals. *Br Med J* 1983; 7; 1489-93]. Information on statistical analyses should be provided with a separate subheading under the Materials and Methods section and the statistical software that was used during the process must be specified.

Values for reporting statistical data, such as p values and CIs should be presented and rounded appropriately. P values should be expressed to 2 digits to the right of the decimal point unless the first 2 digits are zeros, in which case 3 digits to the right of the decimal place should be provided [eg, instead of $p < 0.01$, report as $p = 0.002$]. However, values close to 0.05 may be reported to 3 decimal places because the 0.05 is an arbitrary cut point for statistical significance [eg, $p = 0.053$]. P values less than 0.001 should be designated as $p < 0.001$ rather than exact values [eg, $p = 0.000006$].

Units should be prepared in accordance with the International System of Units (SI).

Editorial Comments: Invited brief editorial comments on selected articles are published in the Journal of Education and Research in Nursing. Editorials should not be longer than 1000 words excluding references. Editorial comments aim to provide a brief critical commentary by reviewers with expertise or with high reputation in the topic of the research article published in the journal. Authors are selected and invited by the journal to provide such comments. Abstract, Keywords, and Tables, Figures, Images, and other media are not included.

Review Articles: Reviews prepared by authors who have extensive knowledge on a particular field and whose scientific background has been translated into a high volume of publications with a high citation potential are welcomed. These authors may even be invited by the journal. Reviews should describe, discuss, and evaluate the current level of knowledge of a topic in clinical practice and should guide future studies. The subheadings of the review articles should be planned by the authors. However, each review article should include an "Introduction" and a "Conclusion" section. Please check Table 1 for the limitations for Review Articles.

Case Reports: There is limited space for case reports in the journal and reports on rare cases or conditions that constitute challenges in diagnosis and treatment, those offering new therapies or revealing knowledge not included in the literature, and interesting and educative case reports are accepted for publication. The text should include Introduction, Case Presentation, and Discussion with an unstructured abstract. Please check Table 1 for the limitations for Case Reports.

Letters to the Editor: This type of manuscript discusses important parts, overlooked aspects, or lacking parts of a previously published article. Articles on subjects within the scope of the journal that might attract the readers' attention, particularly educative cases, may also be submitted in the form of a "Letter to the Editor." Readers can also present their comments on the published manuscripts in the form of a "Letter to the Editor." Abstract, Keywords, and Tables, Figures, Images, and other media should not be included. The text should be unstructured. The manuscript that is being commented on must be properly cited within this manuscript.

Table 1. Limitations for each manuscript type

Type of manuscript	Word limit*	Abstract word limit	Reference limit	Table limit	Figure limit
Research Article	4000	250 (Structured)	35	5	10
Review Article	5000	250	50	5	10
Case Report	1200	200	15	No tables	5
Letter to the Editor	400	No abstract	5	No tables	No media

*: Word limit should not include the abstract, references, tables, and figure legends.

Tables

Tables should be included in the main document, presented after the reference list, and they should be numbered consecutively in the order they are referred to within the main text. A descriptive title must be placed above the tables. Abbreviations used in the tables should be defined below the tables by footnotes (even if they are defined within the main text). Tables should be created using the "insert table" command of the word processing software and they should be arranged clearly to provide easy reading. Data presented in the tables should not be a repetition of the data presented within the main text but should be supporting the main text.

Figures and Figure Legends

Figures, graphics, and photographs should be submitted as separate files (in TIFF or JPEG format) through the submission system. The files should not be embedded in a Word document or the main document. When there are figure subunits, the subunits should not be merged to form a single image. Each subunit should be submitted separately through the submission system. Images should not be labeled (a, b, c, etc.) to indicate figure subunits. Thick and thin arrows, arrowheads, stars, asterisks, and similar marks can be used on the images to support figure legends. Like the rest of the submission, the figures too should be blind. Any information within the images that may indicate an individual or institution should be blinded. The minimum resolution of each submitted figure should be 300 DPI. To prevent delays in the evaluation process, all submitted figures should be clear in resolution and large in size (minimum dimensions: 100 × 100 mm). Figure legends should be listed at the end of the main document.

All acronyms and abbreviations used in the manuscript should be defined at first use, both in the abstract and in the main text. The abbreviation should be provided in parentheses following the definition.

When a drug, product, hardware, or software program is mentioned within the main text, product information, including the name of the product, the producer of the product, and city and the country of the company (including the state if in USA), should be provided in parentheses in the following format: "Discovery St PET/CT scanner (General Electric, Milwaukee, WI, USA)"

All references, tables, and figures should be referred to within the main text, and they should be numbered consecutively in the order they are referred to within the main text.

Limitations, drawbacks, and the shortcomings of original articles should be mentioned in the Discussion section before the conclusion paragraph.

References

Both in-text citations and the references must be prepared according to the AMA Manual of Style 11th Edition.

While citing publications, preference should be given to the latest, most up-to-date publications. Authors are responsible for the accuracy of references. If an ahead-of-print publication is cited, the DOI number should be provided. Journal titles should be abbreviated in accordance with the journal abbreviations in Index Medicus/MEDLINE/PubMed. When there are six or fewer authors, all authors should be listed. If there are seven or more authors, the first three authors should be listed followed by "et al." In the main text of the manuscript, references should be cited in superscript after punctuation. The reference styles for different types of publications are presented in the following examples.

Journal Article: Campbell MR, Fisher J, Anderson L, Kreppel E. Implementation of early exercise and progressive mobility: Step to success. *Crit Care Nurse*. 2015;35(1):82-88.

Book Section: Fikremariam D, Serafini M. Multidisciplinary approach to pain management. In: Vadivelu N, Urman RD, Hines RL, eds. *Essentials of Pain Management*. New York, NY: Springer New York; 2011:17-28.

Books with a Single Author: Patterson JW. *Weedon's Skin Pathology*. 4th ed. Churchill Livingstone; 2016.

Editor(s) as Author: Etzel RA, Balk SJ, eds. *Pediatric Environmental Health*. American Academy of Pediatrics; 2011.

Conference Proceedings: Morales M, Zhou X. Health practices of immigrant women: indigenous knowledge in an urban environment. Paper presented at: 78th Association for Information Science and Technology Annual Meeting; November 6-10; 2015; St Louis, MO. Accessed March 15, 2016. <https://www.asist.org/files/meetings/am15/proceedings/openpage15.html>

Thesis: Maiti N. Association Between Behaviours, Health Characteristics and Injuries Among Adolescents in the United States. Dissertation. Palo Alto University; 2010.

Online Journal Articles: Tamburini S, Shen N, Chih Wu H, Clemente KC. The microbiome in early life: implications for health outcomes. *Nat Med*. Published online July 7, 2016. doi:10.1038/nm4142

Websites: International Society for Infectious Diseases. ProMed-mail. Accessed February 10, 2016. <http://www.promedmail.org>

Epub Ahead of Print Articles: Cai L, Yeh BM, Westphalen AC, Roberts JP, Wang ZJ. Adult living donor liver imaging. *Diagn Interv Radiol*. 2016 Feb 24. doi: 10.5152/dir.2016.15323. [Epub ahead of print].

REVISIONS

When submitting a revised version of a paper, the author must submit a detailed "Response to the reviewers" that states point by point how each issue raised by the reviewers has been covered and where it can be found (each reviewer's comment, followed by the author's reply and line numbers where the changes have been made) as well as an annotated copy of the main document. Revised manuscripts must be submitted within 30 days from the date of the decision letter. If the revised version of the manuscript is not submitted within the allocated time, the revision option may be canceled. If the submitting author(s) believe that additional time is required, they should request this extension before the initial 30-day period is over.

Accepted manuscripts are copy-edited for grammar, punctuation, and format. Once the publication process of a manuscript is completed, it is published online on the journal's webpage as an ahead-of-print publication before it is included in its scheduled issue. A PDF proof of the accepted manuscript is sent to the corresponding author and their publication approval is requested within 2 days of their receipt of the proof.

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