

## Patient's confidentiality

Changing the details of patients in order to disguise them is a form of data alteration. Therefore, authors of clinical papers are obliged to ensure patients privacy rights. Only clinically or scientifically important data are permitted for publishing. So, in order to identify a patient's data from a case report, illustration or paper, Editors of JCB ask for a written consent of the patient or his/her guardian to publish their data (including photograms) prior to publication.

## Copyright transfer

Upon acceptance, authors transfer copyrights to the JCB. Once an article is accepted for publication, the information therein is prohibited from reporting by media until the mail date of the issue in which the article appears. Upon acceptance all published manuscripts become the permanent property of the Termedia sp. z o.o., the publisher of JCB, and can not be published elsewhere without written permission from the publisher.

## Publishing model

JCB is published by using an open access model. All original scientific content [research articles, review articles, case reports, educational papers] are available free of charge without restrictions from the journal's webpage at: [www.jocb.eu](http://www.jocb.eu). Submission, review and publication of manuscripts are free of charge.

## Criteria for manuscripts

Editorial Board of the JCB consider an original articles with the understanding that neither the manuscript nor any part of its essential substance, tables or figures was published previously in print or electronic format and are not under consideration by any other publication or electronic medium. Each submission packet should include written statement signed by the first author of publication that was not been published previously or submitted elsewhere for review, as well as copyright transfer.

## Categories of articles

The accepted papers are published in the following journal sections:

- 1) clinical investigations (not more than 10 pages),
- 2) review articles (not more than 14 pages),
- 3) preliminary reports (not more than 4 pages),
- 4) educational articles (invited authors),
- 5) biology contributions (not more than 10 pages),
- 6) physics contributions (not more than 10 pages),
- 7) case reports (not more than 8 pages),
- 8) letters to the Editor for comments on recent articles (not more than 1 page),
- 9) supplements.

## Preparation of manuscripts

Guidelines for submission in the JCB are in accordance with: Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Sub-

mitted to Biomedical Journals (N Eng J Med, 1997; 336: 309-15).

Manuscript should be typewritten on an ISO A4 (210x297 mm) size. Text should be double spaced with 12-point typeface (Times New Roman, Arial, for example). Margins: 2.5 cm (1 inch) at top, bottom, right, and left.

Illustrations are very helpful and for case reports are mandatory. In reviews an explanation is needed about retrieval sources used in an article and specifications of the criteria in selecting the referred papers.

The Editorial Board reserves the privilege to adjust the format of the article.

## Necessary inclusions of manuscripts

In case of all original articles, the following materials must be submitted. The manuscript should be arranged as **Title Page, Structured Abstract with Key Words, Purpose, Material and Methods, Results, Discussion with Conclusions, Acknowledgments, References, Figure Legends, Table Legends, Tables and Figures**. Pages must be numbered consecutively, starting with the Title Page as number 1.

**Title Page.** The Title page must include a concise title: names and affiliations of all authors; department and institution address where the research was conducted; short running title; name, address, telephone number, fax number and email address of corresponding author. All authors listed on the title page are required to write their full first name and degrees.

**Structured Abstract:** The structured abstract should be no more than 300 words and must be placed on a separate sheet. It has to be divided into sections as: Purpose, Methods and Materials, Results and Conclusions (except reviews, educational papers, case reports).

Each abstract section should begin from new line and briefly describe the purpose of the study, how the investigation was performed, most important results and the principal conclusions of the results.

**Key words** (3 to 6) should be written at the bottom of the page including abstract. The use of the items from Index Medicus (Medical Subject Headings) is advised.

**Text.** The text of the article should be divided into paragraphs labeled as: **Purpose, Material and Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions, Acknowledgements, References.**

**Purpose** should contain scientific rationale and general introduction to the article. Background of the study should clearly be described as well as the aim of the article.

**Material and methods** should describe clearly the selection of observational or experimental subjects (patients or laboratory animals) involving factors such as age, gender, inclusion and exclusion criteria, (the circumstances for rejection from the study should be defined), randomization and masking (blinding) method.

The protocol of data acquisition, procedures, investigated parameters, methods of measurements and apparatus should be explained in sufficient details to allow other scientists to reproduce the results. Name and references to the established methods should be given. References

and brief description need to provide for methods that were published but are not well known, whereas brand new or substantially modified methods should be described in particular. The reasons for using the methods should be provided along with the evaluation of their limitations. Drugs and other chemicals are obliged to be precisely identified with generic name, dose and route of administration.

The statistical methods should be described in detail to enable verification of the reported results.

**Results** concisely and reasonably summarize the findings. Restrict tables and figures to the number results need to explain the argument of the paper and assess its support. Data in graphs and tables must not be duplicated. Numbers of observations and report exclusions or losses to observations such as dropouts from a clinical trial should be given. The results of treatment have to be presented in a logical sequence in the text, tables and illustrations. All data's from the tables or graphs are not to be repeated in the text and only the important observations should be emphasized.

**Discussion** must deal only with new and/or important aspects of the study. Data or other materials from the Purpose or the Results section are not to be repeated in detail. Discussion should include the implications of the findings and their limitations as well as suggestions for future research. The discussion need to confront the results of other investigations, especially quoted in the text.

**Conclusions** have to meet the goals of the study. New hypotheses can be stated, however only when warranted. Recommendations might be included whenever appropriate. Unqualified statements and conclusions not completely supported by the obtained data might be included only whenever can be stated.

**Acknowledgements.** All contributors who do not meet the criteria for authorship need to be listed, such as technical assistants, writing assistants or head of department who provided only general support. Financial and other material support should be disclosed and acknowledged.

**References** must be numbered consecutively as they are cited and marked in square brackets. References selected for publication should be chosen for their importance, accessibility, and for the "further reading" opportunities they provide. References first cited in tables or figure legends must be numbered so that they could be in sequence with references quoted in the text. The style of references provides Index Medicus. In any article with more than three authors, the use of "et al." would prevail.

The following is a sample reference:

### Standard journal article

#### *Journal Article Reference:*

1. Skowronek J, Zwierzchowski G, Piotrowski T. Pulsed Dose Rate Brachytherapy – describing a method and a review of clinical applications. *Rep Pract Oncol Radiother* 2001; 6: 197–202.

#### *Journal Article Reference with more than 3 Authors:*

1. Wust P, Hildebrandt B, Sreenivasa G et al. Hyperthermia in combined treatment of cancer. *Lancet Oncol* 2002; 3: 487–497.

**Article in Press:** This is to be used only for papers accepted for publication. These articles should be cited as for other journal articles (in press) in place of volume and page numbers.

#### *Book Reference:*

1. Leibel SA, Phillips TL. Textbook of radiation oncology. WB Saunders Co; Philadelphia 1998: 1-24.

#### *Conference proceedings:*

Kimura J, Shibasaki H (editors). Recent advances in clinical neurophysiology. Proceedings of the 10th International Congress of EMG and Clinical Neurophysiology, 1995 October 15-19; Kyoto, Japan. Elsevier 1996; Amsterdam.

#### *Conference paper:*

Bengtsson S, Solheim BG. Enforcement of data protection, privacy and security in medical informatics. In: Lun KC, Degoulet P, Piemme TE, Rienhoff O (editors). MED-INFO 92. Proceedings of the 7th World Congress on Medical Informatics; 1992 September 6-10; Geneva, Switzerland.

The use of abstracts or review papers as references should be avoided. Unpublished observations and personal communications can not be used as references. Such material may be incorporated in an appropriate place in the text if necessary.

**Figure and Table legends.** Legends should be typed, double-spaced and numbered, corresponding to the figures, tables and placed on a separate pages in the end of the text. Whenever symbols, arrows, numbers or letters are used to identify parts of the figure, each of them should be explained clearly in the legend. Please use lowercase letters to label multipart figures. For photomicrographs, the internal scale marks should be defined and the method of staining should be given. The legend need to permit the figures or tables to be understood without reference to the text. If the figure was previously published, a credit line should be included and a permission letter supplied by the author.

**Figures:** Figures should be consecutively numbered (Arabic numerals) as they appear in the text and accompanied by legends, each submitted on a separate page. Figures should be professionally drawn and photographed; freehand or typewritten lettering are unacceptable. Letters, numbers, and symbols should be clear and even end of sufficient size, so whenever that when reduced for publication, each item will still be legible. Titles and detailed explanations need to be placed in the legends for figures, not within the figures themselves.

**Color Figures.** Color figures supplied with the article will appear in color on the web at no extra charge. There is no charge for a figure submitted in color to be reproduced in black and white print.

**Tables.** All tables should be numbered consecutively. Tables should be typed, double-spaced and each submitted on a separate page. Tables must be self-explanatory and authors must insure that the data is not duplicated in the text. Written permission from the publisher must accompany the articles whenever the table is reproduced from previously published data. Acknowledgment of previously published material need to be given in a footnote to the table, and the source should be included in the reference list. All abbreviations used in the table must be defined in footnotes at the bottom of the table. Footnotes need to be ordered as they first appear in the table with superscript Arabic numerals.

**Units of Measurement.** Measurements of length, height, weight, and volume should be reported in metric units (meter, kilogram or liter) or their decimal multiples. Temperatures need to be given in degrees Celsius. Blood pressures should be given in millimeters of mercury.

All hematological and clinical chemistry measurements should be reported in the metric system in terms of the International System of Units (SI). Alternative or non-SI units need to be added in parenthesis.

**Abbreviations and Symbols.** Use only standard abbreviations. Avoid abbreviations in the title and abstract. The full term for which an abbreviation stands should precede its first use in the text unless it is a standard unit of measurement.

### **Sending of the manuscript to JCB**

#### *Guidelines for Submission of Electronic Manuscripts:*

You may: bold, underline, italic, subscript, superscript and strikethrough, but do not justify text. For long dashes, please use two hyphens. In tables, use only tabs, not spaces to align columns. If you use Microsoft Word, do not use the "fast save" feature when saving your document.

The JCB use a Web-based online manuscript submission and review system. Please visit [www.jcb.eu](http://www.jcb.eu) to submit your manuscript electronically. Here, new users should first create an account to obtain the password. Once you are logged in, you can submit manuscripts. The webpage guides authors stepwise through the creation and uploading of the various files. Note that original sources files, not PDF files, are required. Authors may send queries concerning the submission process, manuscript status or journal procedures to the Editorial Office. Once the submission files are uploaded the system automatically generates electronic (PDF) proof which is then used for reviewing. All correspondence, including the Editor's decision and request for revisions, will be sent by e-mail.

Manuscripts must be accompanied by a covering letter signed by the first author. This must include:

- 1) information on prior or duplicate publication or submission elsewhere any part of the work as defined earlier in this document;
- 2) a statement of financial or other relationships that might lead to a conflict of interest (see below);
- 3) a statement saying that the manuscript was read and approved by all authors, that the requirements for authorship was met as stated earlier in this document,

and that each author believes the manuscript represents honest work;

- 4) the name, address, and telephone number of the corresponding author who is responsible for communicating with the other authors about revisions and final approval of the proofs.

The covering letter with above specifications should provide any additional information that may be helpful to the Editor, such as the type of article in the particular journal that the manuscript represents. The manuscript must be accompanied by copies of permissions to reproduce published material, to use illustrations or report information about identifiable people, or to name people for their contributions.

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