

# Guideline on Individual Article Types

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## **Original Research Article**

An original research article should contain 3500-5000 words (excluding the title, abstract, acknowledgements, texts used in tables and graphs, and references). It should be written under the following headings:

1. Title and authorship
2. Abstract
3. Introduction
4. Methodology
5. Results
6. Discussion
7. Conclusion
8. References

## **Title with Author Information**

- The title of the article should be complete, clear, and concise. It should not contain abbreviations.
- Provide names of all authors below the Title of the article.
- Enter surname first, followed by initials of first and middle name.
- Separate author names from each other by a comma and a space.
- Indicate each author by an Arabic number in superscript. The number should correspond to the designation and affiliation of authors provided subsequently. Multiple authors with same designation and affiliation may be indicated by same number.
- Provide designation and affiliation of authors in the same sequence as they were indicated by the superscript numbers.
- Specify the corresponding author and provide corresponding details which should include:
  - Full name of the corresponding author.
  - Designation and Affiliation.
  - E-mail address.

## **Abstract with Key words**

- It should summarize the major aspects of the entire content of the paper giving the reader a general idea of your work and your results but avoiding unnecessary details.
- It should be STRUCTURED, organised into the following headings:

- Background: Describe briefly about the context of the study.
  - Objectives: State clearly the objectives of the paper in simple language.
  - Methodology: Mention clearly the basic study design, the study population and the key methods used. Do not go into details of the methodology.
  - Results: Mention only the main findings pertinent to your objectives; mention the effect sizes and statistical significance.
  - Conclusion
- Word limit: 250 words.
  - Avoid abbreviations in the abstract.
  - References should not be mentioned in abstract.
  - Key words: 3 to 6 in alphabetical order
  - Use words listed in MeSH index [available from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.gov/mesh>]

## Introduction

- Provide a brief background of the study including what was known on the subject before your study.
- State clearly the objective of the research (this should be mentioned under Introduction section and not as a separate heading) and describe only relevant things related to it.
- Give only pertinent references and do not discuss extensively about the subject.

## Methodology

The methodology section should contain information regarding the plan of the study.

- Describe the study design in detail along with the type of study, study duration and study site.
- The study population should be described in terms of its size, age, gender and other characteristics as required.
- Sample size with its basis and the sampling method used should be described.
- Mention the exclusion and inclusion criteria.
- Depending on the type of study, procedure undertaken for randomization, matching, blinding, etc. should be clearly mentioned. Also mention briefly about important ethical issues such as ethical clearance and informed consent from the subjects.
- The methodology including the method of data collection should be described in sufficient details such that other workers can reproduce the methods. The materials used in the study should be clearly mentioned (including the manufacturer's name in parenthesis). If names of drugs, chemicals are to be used, use generic names.
- Describe how statistical analysis was done and how data was summarised (mean, percentage, etc.). Mention the statistical tests done for measuring statistical significance of the findings. Also mention the statistical software, along with the version, used for data analysis.

## Results

The results section should contain the key findings of your study in logical order without any interpretation of the data. The data may be illustrated in appropriate tables and graphs. If findings have been documented in tables, do not repeat it in the text. While giving your results, mention not only the derivatives of your results (e.g. percentage) but also the absolute numbers you derived from your study. Specify the method of statistical analysis and its outcome (p-value, confidence interval).

## Discussion

The discussion section should describe the relevance and interpretation of your results.

- Organise it according to the sequence in which your results are mentioned.
- Emphasize only important and new findings from your study and do not repeat all your results. Make sure the objectives of your study are addressed by your interpretation of results.
- For experimental studies, it is useful to begin the discussion by summarizing briefly the main findings, then explore possible mechanisms or explanations for these findings, provide references to compare and contrast the results with other relevant studies, state the limitations of the study, and explore the implications of the findings for future research and for clinical practice.

## Conclusion

The conclusion section should include the interpretation of your results in link to your objectives. Do not deviate from the objectives and do not include statements and conclusions not supported by your results. Do not claim priority and do not allude to work in progress.

## References

- In modified Vancouver system (as adapted by the NLM in Citing Medicine). See the section 'Citation and Referencing'.

## Audit

An audit is written in the same format as an original research article i.e. Title, abstract, introduction, methods, results, discussion, conclusion and references. An audit should include data regarding the composition of cases, profile of patients of certain cases in one or more hospital settings.

If large scale study has been done, including many centres/ geographic regions that contributes significantly to scientific literature, then it may be placed in original research article section rather than in audit section. The decision regarding this, however, rests on the editorial board.

## **Case Report/Series**

Case reports should illustrate a point of general/public health interest or discuss a different presentation/management or contribute new information in the field of medicine.

Please ensure that following issues have been addressed before submitting a case report:

- An informed written consent should be obtained from all the patients/guardians (in case of minors). A copy of this does not need to be presented during the manuscript submission but the Editorial Board may ask for these documents whenever deemed necessary; failure to produce it may lead to the manuscript being rejected.
- The identity of the patient must not be revealed in text or by figures. In case it is not possible, it should be informed to the patient/guardians and this should be mentioned in the written consent.

A case report should be written in following sections:

### **Title with Author Information**

- Title should be concise and accurate while at the same be representative of the case report.
- Avoid unnecessary adjectives and punctuations.
- Provide name, affiliation, designation in the style mentioned under the section 'Title with Author Information' of Original Research Article.
- Specify the corresponding author and provide corresponding address as mentioned in the general format.

### **Abstract with key words**

- Should summarize the case presentation, management and outcome; also focussing briefly on rationale of reporting that particular case.
- Should be NON-STRUCTURED.
- Avoid abbreviations in abstract.
- Word limit: up to 250 words.
- Key words: 3 to 6 in alphabetical order
- Use words listed in MeSH index [available from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.gov/mesh>]

## **Introduction**

- Talk briefly about the disease being reported and about why you think this case is important and why you decided to write it up.
- Avoid long theoretical discourse.

## **Case Report**

- Discuss about the presenting features, important medical/social/family history, relevant investigations, differential diagnoses made (if relevant), treatment (if relevant), outcome and follow up.
- Also mention the rationale behind reporting the case.
- Word limit (including Introduction, Case report, Discussion and Conclusion): 1000 to 2000.

## **Discussion**

- Discuss about your case report with latest literatures and evidences available.
- Highlight the important feature your report conveys and also the limitations of your study.
- Avoid repetition of details already mentioned in the report.

## **Conclusion**

- Specifically mention the 'take home messages' that you want to convey via your case report.

## **References**

- In modified Vancouver system (as adapted by the NLM in Citing Medicine). See the section 'Citation and Referencing'.

## **Review Article**

Review articles should include latest researches and information that adds to current scientific knowledge. It should contain no more than 6000 words. It should be written under the following headings:

1. Title and authorship
2. Abstract
3. Introduction
4. Body
5. Discussion and Conclusion
6. References

## **Title with Authorship Information**

- Title should be concise and accurate while at the same be representative of the content.
- Avoid unnecessary adjectives and punctuations.
- Provide name, affiliation, designation in the style mentioned under the section 'Title with Author Information' of Original Research Article.
- Specify the corresponding author and provide corresponding address as mentioned in the general format.

## **Abstract with Key words**

- Describe briefly the topic of your article, the objectives of your study, the major studies investigated and the conclusions drawn from them.
- The abstract should be NON-STRUCTURED.
- Avoid abbreviations and references in abstract.
- Key words: 3 to 6 in alphabetical order.
- Use words listed in MeSH index [available from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.gov/mesh>]

## **Introduction**

- Describe the theme of your article in detail including its importance.
- Mention the background of the subject being studied.
- The objectives of your study should be mentioned in this section. Do not compare or discuss studies in this section.

## **Body**

- The body of your review should be arranged in headings, depending on the methods/ issues you describe.
- Include pertinent results and critical analysis of the studies that have been reviewed.
- Describe and evaluate the studies in details along with comparison between them.

## **Discussion and Conclusion**

The conclusion section should start with restating your objectives. It should include your conclusions along with the discussion and implications of the study and recommendation for future research.

## **References**

- In modified Vancouver system (as adapted by the NLM in Citing Medicine). See the section 'Citation and Referencing'.

## **Editorial**

Editorial is written in each issue by one of the members of the Editorial Board on pertinent topics. Thus the content type and format for this section is determined internally. This section is not open for external author unless specifically invited.

## **Medical Education**

In this section, articles relating to various aspects of medical education relating to both undergraduate and postgraduate levels and both medical and paramedical field are published. Articles under this section include discussions about education system in medical field, developments in this field, current trends and changes in teaching-learning process, future aspects of medical education and other pertinent topics.

A Medical Education article should be written in following sections:

### **Title**

- A concise and accurate title that is representative of the contents of the article.

### **Author Information**

- Name, affiliation, designation in the style mentioned under general format.
- Specify the corresponding author and provide corresponding address as mentioned in the general format.

### **Abstract with Key words**

- Provide a brief NON-STRUCTURED abstract of the article highlighting the main theme of article and recommendations thereof.
- Avoid abbreviation and references in abstract.
- Word limit: up to 250 words.
- Key words: 3 to 6 in alphabetical order.

### **Main body of the article**

This section need not have a predefined heading and sub-heading. Depending upon the subject matter the author may present the content under relevant headings and sub-headings; in such a way as to present the subject in a clear and fluent manner. Please focus upon the conclusions of your discussion and recommendations you would like to suggest.

## **References**

- In modified Vancouver system (as adapted by the NLM in Citing Medicine). See the section 'Citation and Referencing'.

## **Invited Articles**

This is a special section of JKMC where articles on important topics from experts are invited by the Editorial Board for publication in JKMC. The articles may or may not fall under one of the sections of JKMC. In the previous case, the format will be same as of that particular article type. But being specially invited articles, the formats and limitations do not apply strictly and will be decided internally by the Editorial Board and the invited author(s).

## **Letter to the Editor**

The readers are invited to send comments, criticisms and questions related to specific article published in JKMC will be published under this section. Besides, comments and suggestions regarding other aspects of the journal are also invited and due consideration to such comments and suggestion will be given but whether they need to be published will be decided by the editorial board.

- The letter should be addressed to the Chief Editor and should be accompanied by a cover letter as with any other article. (Declaration file need not be submitted.)
- A clear mention of the article about which the letter is being written should be mentioned. This includes not only the author name and article title but also the article type, volume number, issue number, and if possible, date of publication and pagination.
- State your comment, criticism or queries in clear and precise manner. Background information and unnecessary theoretical discourse should be avoided. However, specific information on the subject matter of concern can be put in precise way.
- In case your letter demands a response from the author(s) of the related article, the author(s) will be informed of this and asked for a response. The author's response will be published along with the letter. If the author does not respond, the letter will be published with a note mentioning that the author was invited to respond but did not respond.
- Provide your complete information (full name, designation, affiliation and e-mail address) at the end of the letter.



## Student JKMC

Student JKMC is a special section of JKMC where articles relating to medical students' experiences, career prospects, view-points about various aspects of medical education and profession are published.

### Who can write for Student JKMC?

- Medical Students including interns and post-graduate residents.
- Nursing Students

For educational articles, involvement of an expert co-author is advised (though not mandatory). The co-author should be actively involved in preparing the article with regards to discussion of ideas in the articles, providing necessary resources, writing and rewriting of the article and approval of final version. Simply adding the expert's name (honorary authorship) is not recommended.

### What can you write about?

This is an open discussion forum for students. Hence you can write on your experiences, ideas, comments regarding various aspects of medical education and profession. Examples of some areas you can write about include (but not limited to):

- Life: about various aspects of life of medical students, e.g. entering into the medical profession, social life inside and outside the medical school, electives etc.
- Career: about the best utilization of your time in medical school, discussion about various specialities, conferences, what after medical school/internship etc.
- Experience: thought-provoking events you encounter during your studies, clinical rotations, and social interactions pertaining to medical field.
- Education: articles with educational content (apart from those that are normally found in your textbooks!).
- Technology and Medicine: about the ever-increasing use of technology in medical field. You can talk about what's in the web, about the Android and Windows, Medscape, ACLS Simulator apps..and what not!!!
- View point: what's going on in your medical school, country relating to medical field? Is it going the right way? How do you think should things be?
- ...and many more.

### Format

- Title: Precise and representative title of your article. Should be short, accurate and unambiguous.

- Information about author and co-author(s) in the style mentioned under general format.
- Abstract, Keywords: not needed.
- Main text: (no need to give the heading as 'Main text').  
Word limit: 750-1500
- References (if any)  
In modified Vancouver system (as adapted by the NLM in Citing Medicine). See the section 'Citation and Referencing'.

## **Book Review**

This is a special section in JKMC that includes reviews on medical/paramedical books and also non-medical books that are somehow related to medical education/profession. It should provide all pertinent information about the book and discuss about relevance and significance of the book along with constructive criticism and suggestions.

A typical book review should include the following:

### **Book Information**

#### *Title*

- Title of the book itself should be the title of the book review. The author may, however, add some words/phrases preceding or following the title of the book to make up the title of the review.
- If the title of the book is in other language other than English, provide the English translation of the title in parenthesis.

#### *Author*

- Provide full name of the author including, if available, designation and affiliation.

**Genre** (optional; mainly for non-medical books)

#### *Editor/Translator*

- Provide full name of Editor/Translator, if any.

#### *Publisher*

#### *Date of Publication*

**Edition** (if not the first edition)

#### *Pages*

- Provide the total number of pages on which the text of the book appears.
- Do not count pages for such items as introductory material, appendixes, and indexes unless they are included in the pagination of the text.

**Price** (optional)

**Availability** of the book may be mentioned, particularly if the book is available on the Internet.

**Image of the Book Cover** (optional)

### **Reviewer Information**

Provide your full name, designation, affiliation, e-mail address and postal address/phone number (optional).

### **Main Body of the Review**

We do not specify any specific heading or subheading for this section. The reviewer may present the text in paragraph manner with or without relevant headings or subheadings. The content should be concise, focussed and discuss strong points, weaknesses and limitations of the book.

### **References**

Reference section may be added if the reviewer quotes specific contents from other sources. Citation and referencing should be done in the same style as for other article types (see the section 'Citation and Referencing'). But quoting the contents of the book being reviewed does not need formal citation.