

Guide for Authors

Heart, Lung and Circulation publishes articles integrating clinical and research activities in the fields of basic cardiovascular science, clinical cardiology and cardiac surgery, with a focus on emerging issues in cardiovascular disease. The Journal particularly invites submissions concerned with the issues of cardiovascular ageing, indigenous cardiovascular health, devices, and tissue repair and replacement. The Journal promotes multidisciplinary dialogue between cardiologists, cardiothoracic surgeons, cardio-pulmonary physicians and cardiovascular scientists and allied health professionals with an interest in cardiovascular diseases.

The Journal accepts original articles, current reviews, brief communications and letters to the Editor.

SUBMISSION OF MANUSCRIPTS

Articles submitted for review must be original works and may not be submitted for review elsewhere whilst under review for the Journal.

All manuscripts, correspondence and editorial material for publication should be submitted online via the Elsevier Editorial System at <http://www.ees.elsevier.com/hlc>. Authors simply need to 'create a new account' (ie, register) by following the instructions at the website, using their own email address and selected password. Authors can then submit manuscripts containing text, tables, and images (figures) online. The entire peer-review process will then be managed electronically to ensure timely review and publication. Authors can expect an initial decision on their submission within six weeks.

Following Registration, enter the 'Author area' and follow the instructions for submitting 'Entry data' and a complete manuscript, including the cover letter abstract, and, where required, tables and figures. Under 'Entry data', indicate the number of authors in the box.

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Every submission, regardless of category, must include:

Cover letter, stating the category of article (Original Articles, How-to-do-it, Brief Communication, Images, or Letters to the Editor) and the section to which they wish to submit (Cardiac Surgery; Cardiology; Cardiovascular Basic Science).

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Sources of outside support for research, including funding, equipment, and drugs, must be named in the cover letter.

Complete manuscript: This includes title page, abstract, text, tables, acknowledgments, required disclosures (see below), references and illustrations. The financial support for the project must be acknowledged, or 'no external financial support' declared. The ethical guidelines that have been followed must be stated clearly. The role(s) of the funding organisation, if any, in the collection of data, its analysis and interpretation, and in the right to approve or disapprove publication of the finished manuscript must be described in the Methods section of the text.

Note that the online manuscript submission program requires separate entries of some information that also appears in the manuscript. These separate entries are needed to manage processing and reviewing your manuscript and correspondence.

In addition, the following must be submitted in Hard Copy direct to the Editorial Office if applicable:

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PREPARATION OF MANUSCRIPT

Microsoft Word is the preferred software program. Manuscripts written in 11 point Arial or Times New Roman fonts are preferred and more reliably convert to PDF files during electronic submission.

Manuscripts should be typed double-spaced throughout (including title page, abstract, text, references, tables, and legends) with one (1) inch (2.5 cm) margins all around.

Arrange manuscript as follows: (1) title page, (2) abstract and keywords if required, (3) text, (4) acknowledgments, (5) disclosures if required, (6) references, (7) tables (each complete with title and footnotes) (8) Figures and (9) figure legends. Number pages consecutively, beginning with the title page as page 1 and ending with the legend page.

Word Limits by Category of Manuscript

- **Original articles:** Maximum 4500 words including title page, abstract, text, figure legends and references.
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- **Images:** One or two photographs and brief descriptions.
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- **Clinical Spotlight:** Maximum 1500 words including title page, abstract, text, references and figure legends. A case report must involve one or more of the following features to be accepted – it is a description of an original or new procedure or technology, a common problem with a rare or interesting complication, a difficult differential diagnosis, or a difficult management problem involving new therapies, with an emphasis on new technologies. Please be aware that Clinical Spotlights are no longer a priority for the journal and will be considered in only exceptional instances.

Sections of the Manuscript

(Items in order from top to bottom)

- **Title Page** (first page) should contain
 - Title:** Short and informative.
 - Running Head:** Short title of 30 characters and spaces.
 - Authors:** List all authors by first name, all initials, family name and highest academic degree using 'MD, PhD' for holders of both degrees. Do not include initial degrees (eg BSc).
 - Institution and Affiliations:** List the name and full address of all institutions where the work was done. List departmental affiliations of each author affiliated with that institution after each institutional address. Connect authors to departments using numbered superscripts.
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Purpose, procedures, findings and principle conclusions must be covered in under 200 words. Avoid abbreviations and acronyms. For Original Articles, the Abstract should be divided into Background, Methods, Results, Conclusions. No abstract is required for Images, Correspondence, Commentaries, Editorials and Reviews.

Provide up to six **Keywords**, at least five of which should be selected from those recommended by the Index Medicus Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) browser list (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/meshhome.html>)
- **Main Body Text**

Text should be organised as follows:

Introduction (purpose of study and brief review of background)
Material (or Patients) and Methods (described in detail)
Results (concisely reported in tables and figures, with brief text descriptions)
Discussion (clear and concise interpretation of results).
Conclusion (brief summation of study)
- **Acknowledgments**

This is compulsory. Grants, financial support and technical or other assistance are acknowledged at the end of the text before the references. *All financial support for the project must be acknowledged. If there has been no financial assistance with the project, this must be clearly stated.*
- **References**

Consecutive numbers in square brackets should be used to indicate references in the text, e.g., [1,2], as part of the text and not raised above it. The full reference should be cited in a numbered list essentially according to the Vancouver Uniform Requirements (see <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?CMD=search&DB=journals>).

Endnotes should be placed at the end of the manuscript following the Acknowledgements.

Journal References should contain the names of the first 6 authors (surnames followed by initials), followed by "et al.", Title of communication in lower case lettering, Title of Journal [abbreviated according to International Serials Data System-List of Serial title Word Abbreviations, 1985 (ISDS-ISO International Centre, 20 rue Bachaumont, 75002 Paris, France)], year of publication; volume number: first and last page number. For communications which have been accepted for publication, but not yet printed, the reference must contain the journal name and year.

1. Ordlijn TM, Shainoff JR, Lawrence SO, and Simpson-Haidaris PJ. Thrombin cleavage enhances exposure of heparin binding domain in the N-terminus of the fibrin beta chain. *Blood* 1996;88:2050-61.
2. Copley AL. The endothelial fibrin lining. *Thromb Res* 1983;(SV):1-154.

Book References should contain Author Name(s) in the same format as above: Title. Publisher's location: Name; Year of publication. page range.

Davies JT, Rideal EK. *Interfacial Phenomena*. New York-London: Academic Press; 1961. p. 110-30.

References to multi-author books with editor(s) should contain Author Name(s) in the same format as above: Title of contribution. In: Name(s) of editor(s). Title of book. Publisher's location: Name; Year of publication. If necessary page range (see below).
 Blomback B. Fibrinogen to fibrin transformation. In: Seegers WH, editor. *Blood Clotting Enzymology*. New York-London: Academic Press; 1967. p. 143-215.

Material referred to by the phrase '**personal communication**' or '**submitted for publication**' are not considered full references and should only be placed in parentheses at the appropriate place in the text, e.g., (Hessel 1997 personal communication).

Internet address

Health Care Financing Administration. 1996 statistics at a glance. Available at: <http://www.hcfa.gov/stats/stathili.htm><http://www.hcfa.gov/stats/stathili.htm>. Accessed December 2, 1996.

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Tables should be typewritten *double-spaced* on separate sheets (one to each page). Do not use vertical lines. Each table should be numbered (Arabic) and have a title above. Legends and explanatory notes should be placed below the table. Abbreviations used in the table follow the legend in alphabetic order. Lower case letter superscripts beginning with 'a' and following in alphabetic order are used for notations of within-group and between-group statistical probabilities. Tables should be self-explanatory, and the data should not be duplicated in the text or illustrations. Tables must be submitted as part of the text file and not as illustrations.

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Images or figures are submitted online as one or more separate files that may contain one or more images. Within each file containing images, use the figure number (eg, Figure 1A) as the image filename.

Symbols, letters, numbers and contrasting fills must be distinct, easily distinguished and clearly legible when the illustration is reduced in size.

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Figure legends should be numbered (Arabic) and typed *double-spaced* in order of appearance beginning on a separate sheet. Identify (in alphabetic order) all abbreviations appearing in the illustrations at the end of each legend. Give the type of stain and magnification power for all photomicrographs. All abbreviations used on a figure and in its legend should be defined in the legend. **Cite the source** of previously published (print or electronic) material in the legend. Note that written permission has been obtained for the use of any previously published material.

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Language (Usage and Editing services): Please write your text in good English (American or British usage is accepted, but not a mixture of these). Authors who feel their English language manuscript may require editing to eliminate possible grammatical or spelling errors and to conform to correct scientific English may wish to use the English Language Editing service available from Elsevier's WebShop <http://webshop.elsevier.com/languageediting/> or visit our customer support site <http://support.elsevier.com> for more information.

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References, Illustrations and Tables: Cite in numeric order by order of mention in the text.

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Numbers: Numbers should be written in words up to 10 and numerals thereafter, except when writing formulae, fractions and decimals.

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The Methods section must contain a statement assuring that all animals received humane care in accordance with the 'Statement on Animal Experimentation' by the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia, or its equivalent in other Countries (for example the 'Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals' published by the National Institutes of Health).

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