

«LA MEDICINA DEL LAVORO» publishes original contributions, brief reports, reviews and letters related to the field of occupational health and industrial hygiene. Papers are accepted on the understanding that they have not already been published or submitted for publication elsewhere. Manuscripts, in either Italian or English, should be submitted in duplicate to *The Editorial Board*, «*La Medicina del Lavoro*», Via San Barnaba 8, 20122 Milano, Italy. Papers are submitted to reviewers and the editorial board reserves the right to suggest alterations or to reject any article. Authors will be informed of the reasons for any suggestions or rejections. Opinions expressed by authors are not in any way binding for the Journal.

MANUSCRIPTS - Manuscripts should be clearly type-written with double spacing and wide margins. All pages, including references, must be numbered consecutively. The surname of the senior author and the running title should appear at the top of all pages, including references and tables, and on the back of figures. The first page of the manuscript should contain the title of the article, the initial of author's or authors' name, the name in full for female authors, the surname, affiliation of each author, indication of any financial support for the research, and complete address of the author responsible for correspondence. If the article has already been the subject of a personal communication, a footnote should be added giving the date and place. After acceptance, a diskette with a copy of the final version of the manuscript will be required for typesetting.

TABLES - Tables should be typed on separate sheets of white paper. Each table should be numbered consecutively with arabic numerals. The title should contain sufficient information to render the table self-explanatory without reference to the text.

FIGURES - Figures should be numbered consecutively with arabic numerals in pencil on the reverse side. All legends should be typed together on a separate sheet. *Paper version*: Black and white prints of photographs, drawings, graphs, diagrams should be submitted, usually 10x15 cm. *Electronic version*: files should be saved on formatted diskettes or CDs for PC or MAC. Images should be saved as a separate file (10x15 cm) and should have a resolution of 300 dpi and be saved as JPEG, with medium compression. Designs, graphs, diagrams (black and white) should have a resolution of 800 dpi and they should be saved in either a BMP (bit map) or TIFF format. If figures or graphs taken from other journals or books are intended to be published, the contributor must obtain prior written authorization to do so from the author and the publisher of such material. A copy of this authorization should be sent to the editorial board of the Journal and the source of the material used should be quoted in the article.

ARRANGEMENT OF MANUSCRIPT - It is recommended that articles be divided into *Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, Summary, References*. Methods should be described in detail only when they are original or substantially modified compared to previous methods. For methods already known and reported in the literature, quotation of the original articles is sufficient. Repetition in the text under *Results* of data already given in tables and figures should be avoided.

ACCOMPANYING LETTER - In an accompanying letter, the author responsible for correspondence should declare that all the authors have read and agreed with the content and interpretation of the article submitted. The accompanying letter should also contain a declaration signed by each author concerning the existence of financial agreements that may constitute a potential conflict of interest with the subject matter dealt with in the article. Individual signatures on copies of the same letter sent via fax directly to the Journal will also be accepted (see **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**).

SUMMARY - The summary should report the results of the study concisely but clearly and with adequate description. It will be divided into: *background, objectives, methods, results, conclusions*, and it must be composed by no more than 250 words.

REFERENCES - Responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of references lies with the author. References should be listed in alphabetical order (and in chronological order if the same authors are listed more than once) and numbered consecutively.

References should be compiled following the examples below:

- KALLIOMAKI PL, KALLIOMAKI K, KORHONEN O, et al: Respiratory status of stainless steel and mild steel welders. *Scand J Work Environ Health* 1986; 8 (suppl 1): 117-121
 - MC MAHON B, PUGH TF: *Epidemiology. Principles and methods*. Boston (MA): Little Brown and Co, 1970
 - FOGARI R, ORLANDI C: Essential hypertension among workers of a metallurgical factory. In Rosenfeld JB, Silverber DS, Viskoper R (eds): *Hypertension control in the community*. London: Libbey J, 1985: 270-273
 - GALLI DA, COLOMBI A, ANTONINI C, CANTONI S: Monitoraggio ambientale e biologico dell'esposizione professionale a pigmenti e coloranti azoici. In Foà V, Antonini C, Galli DA (eds): *Atti del convegno Materie coloranti ed ambiente di lavoro*. Milano, 14-15 marzo 1984. Fidenza: Tipografia Mattioli, 1985: 129-137
 - RANOFSKY AL: *Surgical operations in short-stay hospitals: United States 1975*. Hyattsville (MA): National Center for Health Statistics, 1978 (DEHW publ no PHS 78-1785; Vital and health statistics, series 13, no 34)
 - INTERNATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH ON CANCER: *Some chemicals used in plastics and elastomers*. Lyon: IARC, 1986 (IARC monographs on the evaluation of the carcinogenic risk of chemicals to humans no 39)
- Names of journals should be abbreviated according to *Index Medicus*. Unpublished personal communications and unpublished communications at congresses should not be included in the References but quoted in full in the text. References in the text should be indicated by the corresponding arabic numeral in brackets.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST - A conflict of interest exists when professional judgement on a matter of primary interest, such as the interpretation of one's own results or of those obtained by others, might be influenced, even unknowingly, by a secondary interest, such as an economic advantage or personal rivalry. A conflict of interest is not in itself anti-ethical. Nevertheless, it must be publicly and openly acknowledged. Such acknowledgement shall have no bearing on the decision to publish. Therefore, in conformity with the recommendations of the Sixth version of the "Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals" of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) of November 2003, when sending an article for publication in *La Medicina del Lavoro*, in the accompanying letter, enclosed with the manuscript, each author should declare the existence or otherwise of financial connections (consultancies, ownership of shares, patents, etc.) that might constitute a potential conflict of interest in relation to the subject matter of the article. In the case of existence of such financial connections, the authors concerned must declare them in a brief but complete definition.

PROOFS - Contributors will receive one set of proofs for correction of printing errors. No substantial alterations may be made to the proof. Correction of proofs by the author relieves the editorial board of all responsibility for any errors in the printed text.

REVIEWS - Books and other publications on occupational health and industrial hygiene which authors or publishers wish to be reviewed in the Journal should be sent to the editorial board.

ADVERTISEMENTS, BACK ISSUES AND REPRINTS - Advertisers and persons interested in back issues and reprints should contact: Mattioli 1885 SpA - Casa Editrice, Strada di Lodesana 649/sx, Loc. Vaio 43036 Fidenza (Parma), Tel. 0524/892111, Fax 0524/892006.

«La Medicina del Lavoro» is protected by international copyright law.