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The author is responsible for the accuracy of the references.

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Proprietary substances and materials, and instruments. The correct designation and the manufacturer's name should be given. Where the manufacturer is not well known, the address should also be included.

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Title page

- The name(s) of the author(s)
- A concise and informative title
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Abstract. Each paper must be preceded by an abstract presenting the most important results and conclusions in no more than 150 words.

Keywords. Up to 6 keywords should be supplied after the Abstract for indexing purposes.

Abbreviations should be defined at first mention in the abstract and again in the main body of the text and used consistently thereafter.

The **Introduction** should state the purpose of the investigation and give a short review of the pertinent literature.

The **Materials and methods** section should follow the Introduction and should provide enough information to permit repetition of the experimental work.

The **Results** section should describe the outcome of the study. Data should be presented as concisely as possible, if appropriate in the form of tables or figures, although very large tables should be avoided.

The **Discussion** should be an interpretation of the results and their significance with reference to work by other authors. **Acknowledgements.** These should be as brief as possible. Any grant that requires acknowledgement should be mentioned. The names of funding organisations should be written in full.

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Appendix. If there is more than one appendix, they should be numbered consecutively. Equations in appendices should be designated differently from those in the main body of the paper, e.g. (A1), (A2) etc. In each appendix equations should be numbered separately.

References

The list of References should only include works that are cited in the text and that have been published or accepted for publication. Personal communications should only be mentioned in the text.

References should be *numbered in the order in which they appear* in the text and listed in *numerical order*. Journal titles should be abbreviated according to *Index Medicus*. References with correct punctuation should be styled as follows

Journal papers:

Woo WJ, Lanigan SW (2002) Recent Advances in Laser Therapy for the Treatment of Cutaneous Vascular Disorders. *Lasers Med Sci* 17:9-12

Books:

Berlin H-P, Müller GJ (2003) Applied Laser Medicine, Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg

Chapters in books:

Berlin H-P, Waldschmidt J, Muller G (1990) Laser treatment of cutaneous and deep vessel anomalies. In Waidelich W (ed) Laser Optoelectronics in Medicine, Springer-Verlag Berlin, Heidelberg, pp 526-8

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If available the Digital Object Identifier (DOI) of the cited literature should be added at the end of the reference in question.

Example: Dyall KG (1998) Relative and non-relative finite nucleus optimized double zeta basis sets for the elements. *Theor Chem Acc* 99: 366-371 DOI 10.1007/s002149800025

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Please utilise the Word templates made available to the authors.

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