

Instructions to Authors

It is requested that five copies of each manuscript be submitted to the Editor-in-Chief.

Editor-in-Chief

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Submitting manuscripts

Please submit five copies of each manuscript, printed on only one side of each sheet of paper. Rejected manuscripts will not be returned to the authors (except for original illustrations).

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Structure: The **first page** should include the following: title of the paper; the first name(s) and surname of each author (name of the author to whom communications should be addressed should be underlined and the postal address telephone/fax numbers, and e-mail address, given); name of the institution or hospital where the work was done, its location, and the source of any support received. The first author's name should not be placed in the upper right corner, nor in the bottom corner, of the following pages. The **second page** should include: the abstract (no more than 150 words) and up to 6 key words (terms from the medical subject headings of **Index Medicus** should be used whenever possible). The **rest of the paper** should be arranged in the following order: text, acknowledgements, references, tables, figure legends.

Elements of the manuscript

Structured abstract: Abstracts (up to 150 words) should be provided in a structured format (see *Annals of Internal Medicine* (1987) 106: 598-604), and should briefly describe: the problem being addressed in the study, how the study was performed, the results, and what the

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authors conclude from their results, using the following sections in sequence: **Objective**, the exact question(s) addressed by the article. **Design**, the basic design of the study; **Setting**, the location and level of clinical care; **Patients and participants**, the manner of selection and number of patients or participants who entered and completed the study; **Interventions**, the exact treatment or intervention, if any; **Measurements and results**, the methods of assessing patients and key results; **Conclusions**, key conclusions including direct clinical applications.

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Materials and methods: Clinical and technical procedures should be included. Generic names of drugs should be used. If an author desires, brand names may be inserted in parentheses. In the text, authors should state that human studies have been conducted according to the principles established in Helsinki. If studies were approved by an ethical committee, it should be stated. Authors of animal studies should state that they adhered to the guidelines on animal experimentation of a physiological society. The Materials and methods section will be set in small print.

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References: The numerals used in the text [which should be put in square brackets] refer to a list of references prepared and numbered in the order of appearance. If abstracts are cited, they must be indicated as such and must not have been published more than 3 years previously. No references can be made to personal communications, unpublished data, theses, or manuscripts submitted or in preparation. Journal names must be abbreviated according to the List of Journals Indexed in the Index Medicus. References should be prepared in the structure of the following examples:

Journal articles: Falkers P, Luyten P (1997) From morphology to function: new euro applications in functional magnetic resonance. *Ital J Neurol Sci* 18:367-372

Books: Sindic CJM (1996) The detection of IgA, IgM and free light chains abnormalities in cerebrospinal fluid. In: Thompson EJ, Trojan J, Livrea P (eds) *Cerebrospinal Fluid Analysis in Multiple Sclerosis*. Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg, pp 41-50

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Acknowledgments: These should be limited to people who have contributed significantly to the study.

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