

THE JOURNAL OF ALLERGY AND CLINICAL IMMUNOLOGY: IN PRACTICE

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DESCRIPTION

JACI: *In Practice* covers the spectrum of conditions treated by allergist-immunologists in their practices. The emphasis of the journal is on information that is **practical for clinicians**-material that can be used in everyday practice or will help in acquiring new knowledge or skills that can be directly applied to patients. A major goal of JACI: *In Practice* is to provide our readers with a high level of evidence to support their clinical decisions in diagnosis and management.

Content

All JACI: *In Practice* content is peer-reviewed. The journal welcomes original research articles that fit into the above scope. For each original article, a highlight box indicates what is already known about this subject, what this study adds, and how the new information impacts current management guidelines. Shorter original research and instructive case reports are presented as Clinical Communications. "Images in Allergy" submissions that consist of clinical pictures (e.g., X-rays, CT scans, biopsies, allergens, endoscopic visualizations of the airway, eruptions, etc.) and impart important clinical information are also included. In addition, JACI: *In Practice* features various types of review articles that will primarily be invited by the editors. Many of these will offer CME. The original and review articles are supplemented by Editorials, AAAAI Practice Papers, and a regular Ask the Expert column.

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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

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To find out more, please visit the Preparation section below.

INTRODUCTION

The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology: In Practice covers the spectrum of conditions treated by allergist-immunologists in their practice: asthma, allergic bronchopulmonary aspergilosis, hypersensitivity pneumonitis, allergic and nonallergic rhinitis, nasal polyps, chronic sinusitis, urticaria and angioedema (including /HAE), atopic dermatitis, contact dermatitis, anaphylaxis, food allergy, drug allergy, insect sting allergy, mast cell disorders, ocular allergy, eosinophilic gastrointestinal disorders, and immune deficiency. It also covers symptoms and signs for which patients are referred to the allergist-immunologist, such as cough, pruritis, rash, dyspnea, and eosinophilia. The emphasis of the journal is on **practical information for clinicians** that they can use in everyday practice or that will help them acquire new knowledge or skills they can directly apply to their practice. Mechanistic or translational studies without immediate or near future clinical relevance are discouraged.

Article types

The Journal will consider publication of several types of manuscripts:

A. Original articles. These articles should describe fully, but as concisely as feasible, the results of original clinical research. Original Articles should not exceed 3,500 words, not including the abstract, figure legends, and references. Abstracts should be 250 words or less. Each figure legend should be held to 60 words or less. Each Original Article may be accompanied by a total of no more than 8 graphic presentations (tables and/or figures).

Each Original Article will be accompanied by a *highlights box* that provides bulleted answers to the following questions (each answer should be no longer than 35 words):

1. What is already known about this topic?

2. What does this article add to our knowledge?

3. How does this study impact current management guidelines?

B. Clinical Communications. Clinical Communications are brief reports of clinical or laboratory observations or case series. Single case reports will only be considered if they demonstrate a novel, impactful insight, rather than simply an educational point. Clinical Communications are limited in scope, and without sufficient depth of investigation to qualify as Original Articles. Like Original Articles, these manuscripts are subject to peer review.

A Clinical Communication must:

(1) Be brief. A Clinical Communication should not exceed 1,000 words, not including the figure legend(s) and references. The figure legend(s) should be held to 60 words or less. Please note: Clinical Communication manuscripts that are determined to exceed these limits will be returned to the authors for shortening prior to review.

(2) Have a short, relevant title.

(3) Have a complete title page.

(4) Present a list of Key words, as relevant.

(5) Provide 1-2 sentences (maximum 40 words) that summarize the clinical implications and importance of the report to be used in a *Clinical Implications box* published at the beginning of the article.

(6) Begin with the salutation "To the Editor:"

(7) Have no more than nine references.

(8) List the references as complete bibliographic citations following the closure of the letter.

(9) Be limited to a total of 2 figures and/or tables. (Additional figures or tables may be placed in the article's Online Repository; please see the relevant section below.)

C. Images in Allergy. Images in Allergy articles consist of clinical pictures (e.g., X-rays, CT scans, biopsies, allergens, endoscopic visualizations of the airway, eruptions, etc.) that impart important clinical information. They are accompanied by a brief description, limited to 500 words.

D. Correspondence and **Replies.** Correspondence concerning recent publications in *JACI: In Practice* will be considered for publication and accepted based on their pertinence, their scientific quality, and available space in the Journal. If the correspondence is considered acceptable, a response will be requested from the authors of the referenced *JACI: In Practice* article. Upon review and approval by the Editor, the Correspondence and relevant Reply will both be published together. Both Correspondence and Reply manuscripts must:

(1) Be no longer than 500 words.

(2) Have a short, relevant title, distinct from the title of the referenced article. Please note that all Replies should have the title "Reply to [Corresponding author's name]."

(3) Have a complete title page.

(4) List the references as complete bibliographic citations at the end of the letter with the journal article being discussed as the first reference. The total number of references should be no more than seven. Replies should include the Correspondence to which they are replying as one of the references. (5) Have no more than one graphic presentation (table or figure).

(6) Begin with the salutation "To the Editor:".

E. Review articles. Review articles published in the Journal are invited by the Editors. Proposals for review articles may be emailed to the Editorial Office (InPractice@aaaai.org), but current space constraints do not usually allow for the acceptance of unsolicited review manuscripts.

F. Rostrum articles. Opinion articles about subjects of particular interest and/or debate may be accepted for peer review after preliminary review by the Editor. Proposals for rostrum articles may be emailed to the Editorial Office (InPractice@aaaai.org); they will be evaluated based on level of interest, novelty, and the current needs of the Journal.

G. Practice Options from Beyond Our Pages. This feature is focused on identifying, critiquing, and placing into context research studies that have the potential to change our clinical practices. Published studies beyond the pages of the *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology: In Practice* and the *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology* that have a high likelihood of changing practice **NOW** should be the focus of submissions in this series. Articles to consider are meta-analyses, randomized double-blind placebo-controlled trials, effectiveness studies, new diagnostic breakthroughs, etc.

Who should submit: The *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology: In Practice* is seeking Allergy-Immunology Fellows-In-Training partnered with faculty members to submit an article of 1000 words or less.

The article's title should be a succinct description of the major topic and the potential practice change. The manuscript text should be arranged in the following format:

Reference: The study that is being reviewed (see web site for accepted bibliographic style).

Background: The authors should clearly state the current clinical practice and/or guideline and how this study has the potential to change the current practice.

Methods: Summary of the methods used in the study that is being reviewed.

Results: Summary of the main results. (Possibly include a small table. Please note that permissions would need to be obtained for any tables reproduced from the original study).

Critical appraisal: The authors should discuss any major limitations of the study and how they influence the potential to translate the findings into practice. Comparisons with previous studies that addressed similar practice questions should be considered and appropriately cited in a reference list at the end of the manuscript.

Recommendation: The authors should briefly state the recommended practice change.

"Practice Options Beyond From Our Pages" contributions should adhere to the "Guide for Authors" of the *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology: In Practice* for bibliographic style, general format, and other matters.

Authors do not require an invitation to submit. Submission does not guarantee publication. Suggestions for revisions may be made before the contribution is considered acceptable.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK 10 Jan 2016

Ethics in publishing

For information on Ethics in publishing and Ethical guidelines for journal publication see https://www.elsevier.com/publishingethics and https://www.elsevier.com/journal-authors/ethics.

Human and animal rights

If the work involves the use of human subjects, the author should ensure that the work described has been carried out in accordance with The Code of Ethics of the World Medical Association (Declaration of Helsinki) for experiments involving humans, http://www.wma.net/en/30publications/10policies/b3/index.html; Uniform Requirements for manuscripts submitted to Biomedical journals, http://www.icmje.org. Authors should include a statement in the manuscript that informed consent was obtained for experimentation with human subjects. The privacy rights of human subjects must always be observed.

All animal experiments should be carried out in accordance with the U.K. Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act, 1986 and associated guidelines, EU Directive 2010/63/EU for animal experiments, or the National Institutes of Health guide for the care and use of Laboratory animals (NIH Publications No. 8023, revised 1978) and the authors should clearly indicate in the manuscript that such guidelines have been followed. **All animal studies need to ensure they comply with the ARRIVE guidelines.** More information can be found at http://www.nc3rs.org.uk/page.asp?id=1357.

Conflict of Interest

All authors must disclose any financial and personal relationships with other people or organizations that could inappropriately influence (bias) their work. The Journal requires all authors to acknowledge, on the title page of the manuscript, all funding sources that supported their work. Authors are also required to disclose to the Editor, in separate signed documents, any commercial associations that might pose a conflict of interest. These include consultant arrangements, speakers' bureau participation, stock or other equity ownership, patent licensing arrangements, support such as financial or materials grants for research, employment, or expert witness testimony. See also http://www.elsevier.com/conflictsofinterest. Further information and an example of a Conflict of Interest form can be found at: http://service.elsevier.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/286/supporthub/publishing.

If the paper is accepted for publication, disclosure of any such associations will be published as a footnote to the article. No article can be published in the Journal unless a signed and completed Conflict of Interest statement has been received from each author. *JACI: In Practice* uses the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) Form for Disclosure of Potential Conflicts of Interest. A copy of the form can be downloaded from the EES Web site (http://ees.elsevier.com/inpractice/).

Required documents

Conflict of Interest disclosures and permissions forms (when applicable) must be received in the Editorial Office before an accepted manuscript can be sent to the publisher. These forms can be uploaded electronically with your manuscript submission, or sent via email to the Editorial Office (InPractice@aaaai.org). A template of the Conflict of Interest form is available for downloading from the EES Web site (http://ees.elsevier.com/inpractice/img/Forms.html). (If you are submitting your Conflict of Interest disclosure forms to us as part of your electronic submission in EES, please be sure to include all of these forms with each subsequent version of your manuscript.)

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If applicable, authors of manuscripts submitted to *JACI: In Practice* must provide the Editorial Office with proof of permission to reuse any previously published material that has appeared in another publication. Additionally, in the case of photographs of identifiable persons, a signed release showing informed consent must be provided. Because articles appear in both the print and online versions of the journal, wording in the permissions form/release should specify "permission to publish in all forms and media." Written permission to reuse the specified material can be uploaded with the manuscript submission or forwarded to the Editorial Office by email (InPractice@aaaai.org) or fax (319-467-7583). Acceptance of a manuscript is conditional upon receipt of permission.

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Only in exceptional circumstances will the Editor consider the addition, deletion or rearrangement of authors **after** the manuscript has been accepted. While the Editor considers the request, publication of the manuscript will be suspended. If the manuscript has already been published in an online issue, any requests approved by the Editor will result in a corrigendum.

Reporting clinical trials

Randomized controlled trials should be presented according to the CONSORT guidelines. At manuscript submission, authors must provide the CONSORT checklist accompanied by a flow diagram that illustrates the progress of patients through the trial, including recruitment, enrollment, randomization, withdrawal and completion, and a detailed description of the randomization procedure. The CONSORT checklist and template flow diagram can be found on http://www.consort-statement.org.

Special instructions regarding statistical analyses and reporting

1. METHODS: Reporting on Statistical Methods. The Consolidated Standards of Reporting Trials (CONSORT) statement is a set of guidelines for reporting on the methods and results of randomized and nonrandomized medical research studies.

The first CONSORT statement provides a checklist of items that should be included in a manuscript that reports the results of a randomized clinical trial (RCT). Items 7 through 12 of the checklist are relevant to the statistical methods section for a manuscript submitted to *JACI: In Practice* based on a RCT. Thus:

• With respect to item 12, the statistical methods and commercial software should be cited.

• Item 7 and item 12 of the checklist are relevant to the Statistical Methods section of a manuscript submitted to *JACI: In Practice* based on a nonrandomized study. Thus:

2. RESULTS.

Items 13 through 19 of the CONSORT checklist describe items that are important to the Results section for a manuscript submitted to *JACI: In Practice* based on a RCT (some of the items might not be relevant if the study is nonrandomized). Thus:

2A. Results: Descriptive Statistics at Baseline

If the distribution for a continuous variable is approximately normally distributed, then report either • the sample mean and the sample standard deviation or

• the sample mean and the 95% confidence interval for the population mean.

If the distribution for a continuous variable is known (or suspected) to be nonnormal, then report either

•the sample median and the sample interquartile range or

• the sample median and the sample first and third quartiles.

Many blood and urine measurements are log-normally distributed-i.e., the logtransformed variable is approximately normally distributed. If the distribution for a continuous variable is known (or suspected) to be lognormal, then an alternative to sample medians and quartiles is to report either • the sample geometric mean (calculate as the exponentiation of the sample mean of the natural log-transformed data) and the sample coefficient of variation or

• the sample geometric mean and the 95% confidence interval.

If the distribution of the variable is categorical, then report the raw numbers and the percentages for the categories. Do not use more than three digits for the percentages-i.e., 79% or 79.3% are fine, but 79.32% is not.

Statistical tests, along with reported *P* values, for comparing groups at baseline are not necessary unless there is a strong reason to include them.

2B. Results: Outcomes

• Every *P* value should be reported using two digits after the decimal point. If each of the first two digits after the decimal point is zero, then a third digit can be used. If each of the first three digits after the decimal point is zero, then simply report P < .001.

• If the *P* value is close to the level to be used for claiming a statistical significance or if each of the first two digits after the decimal point is zero, then a third digit can be used. For example, if the significance level is 0.05, then P = .046 or P = .054 can be reported. Nonsignificant results (e.g., where the *P* value is > 0.05) should be accompanied by *P* values; it should not simply be stated that they are nonsignificant (NS).

• *P* values alone are not sufficient to report the results of statistical tests. *JACI: In Practice's* readers need to see the magnitude of the effects via point estimates and 95% confidence intervals for the group comparisons.

An estimate of odds ratios and relative risks (and their corresponding confidence interval estimates) should not exceed two digits beyond the decimal point.

The following is an excellent article that discusses many of the statistical errors that arise in immunologic research: Murphy JR. Statistical errors in immunologic research. J Allergy Clin Immunol 2004;114:1259-63.

The following is an excellent article that discusses the reporting of subgroup analyses in clinical research: Wang R, Lagakos SW, Ware JH, Hunter DJ, Drazen JM. Statistics in medicine-reporting of subgroup analyses in clinical trials. NEJM 2007;357:2189-2194.

Finally, if authors desire more detailed guidance on appropriate methods for analyzing study outcomes, then they can visit the Web sites of other biomedical journals. An excellent example is the Web site of the Annals of Internal Medicine (http://www.annals.org/shared/author_info.html).

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Adherence to key guidelines

JACI: In Practice endorses the following guidelines and encourages authors to make every attempt to conform to their recommendations:

STROBE statement for observational studies

When preparing observational reports, we encourage authors to review the STROBE (Strengthening the Reporting of Observational Studies in Epidemiology) Statement, available at www.strobe-statement.org.

PRISMA guidelines for systematic reviews and meta-analyses

For meta-analysis of RCTs, we encourage authors to consult the recommendations of the PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses) statement, available at www.prisma-statement.org.

STARD statement for diagnostic studies

For reports of diagnostic studies, we recommend the STARD (Standards for Reporting of Diagnostic Accuracy) Statement, available at www.stardstatement.org.

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Referees

Please submit the names and institutional e-mail addresses of several potential referees. For more details, visit our Support site. Note that the editor retains the sole right to decide whether or not the suggested reviewers are used.

PREPARATION

The title page, abstract, key words, abbreviations, text, acknowledgments, references, tables, and figure legends should be included in a single file (.doc or .docx format). Figures should be loaded as separate files in the format specified below.

The text should be organized into the following sections: Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion. Each section should begin on a new page. The generic terms for all drugs and chemicals should be used.

Basic formatting

All sections should be double-spaced. On each page, the last name of the first author and the page number should appear in the upper right corner. Begin numbering with the title page as page 1. Be sure to display line numbers (1, 2, 3, and so forth) in the left margin of the manuscript. The line numbering should be continuous throughout the entire manuscript, from the title page through final page (i.e., do not begin numbering from 1 again at the top of each page).

NEW SUBMISSIONS

Submission to this journal proceeds totally online and you will be guided stepwise through the creation and uploading of your files. The system automatically converts your files to a single PDF file, which is used in the peer-review process.

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References

There are no strict requirements on reference formatting at submission. References can be in any style or format as long as the style is consistent. Where applicable, author(s) name(s), journal title/book title, chapter title/article title, year of publication, volume number/book chapter and the pagination must be present. Use of DOI is highly encouraged. The reference style used by the journal will be applied to the accepted article by Elsevier at the proof stage. Note that missing data will be highlighted at proof stage for the author to correct.

Formatting requirements

There are no strict formatting requirements but all manuscripts must contain the essential elements needed to convey your manuscript, for example Abstract, Keywords, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Conclusions, Artwork and Tables with Captions.

If your article includes any Videos and/or other Supplementary material, this should be included in your initial submission for peer review purposes.

Divide the article into clearly defined sections.

Figures and tables embedded in text

Please ensure the figures and the tables included in the single file are placed next to the relevant text in the manuscript, rather than at the bottom or the top of the file.

REVISED SUBMISSIONS

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Regardless of the file format of the original submission, at revision you must provide us with an editable file of the entire article. Keep the layout of the text as simple as possible. Most formatting codes will be removed and replaced on processing the article. The electronic text should be prepared in a way very similar to that of conventional manuscripts (see also the Guide to Publishing with Elsevier: https://www.elsevier.com/guidepublication). See also the section on Electronic artwork.

To avoid unnecessary errors you are strongly advised to use the 'spell-check' and 'grammar-check' functions of your word processor.

Article structure

Subdivision - unnumbered sections

Divide your article into clearly defined sections. Each subsection is given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line. Subsections should be used as much as possible when cross-referencing text: refer to the subsection by heading as opposed to simply 'the text'.

When selecting a title for your paper

Please consider the following guidelines:

- Keep the title succinct: Limit it to 12 words or fewer.
- Communicate a single subject or idea in the title.
- Construct the title around the article's key words.

• Include the specific symptom, condition, intervention, mechanism, or function of the paper's central focus.

• Mention any defining population, age, gender, or animal species that distinguishes the work.

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