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AIMS AND SCOPE

Aims and Scope

npj Primary Care Respiratory Medicine is an online-only, open access, multidisciplinary journal dedicated to publishing high-quality research in all areas of the primary care management of respiratory and respiratory-related allergic diseases. Papers published by the journal represent important advances of significance to specialists within the fields of primary care and respiratory medicine.

The journal is an open access, fully-indexed, international academic journal relevant to anyone with an interest in the primary care management of respiratory and respiratory-related allergic diseases. It is the official journal of the Primary Care Respiratory Society UK ([PCRS-UK](#)) and the International Primary Care Respiratory Group ([IPCRG](#)). The journal publishes Articles, Review Articles, Brief Communications, Perspectives, Correspondence, Editorials, Protocols and Case Reports relating to all aspects of respiratory and respiratory-related allergic conditions. It also publishes news and articles concerning the policies and activities of the PCRS-UK, IPCRG, and related organisations worldwide.

The aims of the journal are:

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2. To inform and educate healthcare professionals worldwide of the research and service developments of relevance to primary care that promotes excellence in their care of patients with respiratory and respiratory-related allergic diseases.

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- Methods
- Results
- Discussion
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- Competing Interests
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- Funding
- References
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Journal article, in press:

Gallardo RL, Juneja HS, Gardner FH. Normal human marrow stromal cells induce clonal growth of human malignant T-lymphoblasts. *Int J Cell Cloning* (in press).

Complete book:

Atkinson K, Champlin R, Ritz J, Fibbe W, Ljungman P, Brenner MK (eds). *Clinical Bone Marrow and Blood Stem Cell Transplantation*. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge, UK, 2004.

Chapter in book:

Coccia PF. Hematopoietic cell transplantation for osteopetrosis. In: Blume KG, Forman SJ, Appelbaum FR (eds). *Thomas' Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation*, 3rd edn. Blackwell Publishing: Malden, MA, USA, 2004: 1443–1454.

Abstract:

Syrjala KL, Abrams JR, Storer B, Heiman JR. Prospective risk factors for five-year sexuality late effects in men and women after haematopoietic cell transplantation. *Bone Marrow Transplant* 2006; **37**(Suppl 1): S4 (abstract 107).

Letter:

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Appeals

Even in cases where editors did not invite resubmission, some authors ask the editors to reconsider a rejection decision. These are considered appeals, which, by policy, must take second place to the normal workload. In practice, this means that decisions on appeals often take several weeks. Only one appeal is permitted for each manuscript, and appeals can only take place after peer review.

Decisions are reversed on appeal only if the editors are convinced that the original decision was a serious mistake, not merely a borderline call that could have gone either way. Further consideration may be merited if a referee made substantial errors of fact or showed evidence of bias, but only if a reversal of that referee's opinion would have changed the original decision. Similarly, disputes on factual issues need not be resolved unless they were critical to the outcome. Thus, after careful consideration of the authors' points, most appeals are rejected by the editors.

If an appeal merits further consideration, the editors may send the authors' response or the revised paper to one or more referees, or they may ask one referee to comment on the concerns raised by another referee. On occasion, particularly if the editors feel that additional technical expertise is needed to make a decision, they may obtain advice from an additional referee.

Correction and Retraction Process

Published content is final and cannot be amended. The online version is part of the published record hence the original version must be preserved and changes to the paper should be made as a formal correction. If an error is

noticed in an article, a correction should accompany the article. An HTML (or full-text) version of the correction will also be created and linked to the original article.

Please note the following categories of corrections to peer reviewed content:

- Erratum. Notification of an important error made by the journal that affects the publication record or the scientific integrity of the paper, or the reputation of the authors, or of the journal.
- Corrigendum. Notification of an important error made by the author that affects the publication record or the scientific integrity of the paper, or the reputation of the authors or the journal.
- Retraction. Notification of invalid results. All co-authors must sign a retraction specifying the error and stating briefly how the conclusions are affected.

Decisions about corrections are made by the Editor (sometimes with peer-reviewers' advice) and this sometimes involves author consultation. Requests to make corrections that do not affect the paper in a significant way or impair the reader's understanding of the contribution (a spelling

mistake or grammatical error, for example) are not considered.

In cases where co-authors disagree about a correction, the editors may take advice from independent peer reviewers and impose the appropriate correction, noting the dissenting author(s) in the text of the published version.

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