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Annals of Human Biology is an international, peer-reviewed journal published six times a year in simultaneous print and electronic editions. ***Annals of Human Biology*** is an important vehicle for the dissemination of papers concerning research into human population biology, reporting investigations on the nature, development and causes of human variation, embracing the disciplines of human genetics, auxology, environmental physiology, ecology, epidemiology ageing and global health.

Annals of Human Biology has a wide readership of human biologists, epidemiologists, auxologists, paediatricians, population geneticists, biological and physical anthropologists, gerontologists, physiologists and public health workers. ***Annals of Human Biology*** is the official journal of the Society for the Study of Human Biology.

Further information about the Journal, including links to the online sample copy and contents pages, can be found on the Journal homepage: <http://informahealthcare.com/ahb>.

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Authors are required to provide the names of at least three potential reviewers who are not collaborators.

Article Types Considered by ***Annals of Human Biology***

- [Research Papers](#)
- [Review Articles](#)
- [Short Reports](#)
- [Human Biological Surveys](#)
- [Book Reviews](#)

Manuscript Preparation

File preparation and types

Authors should prepare manuscripts according to Council of Science Editors (CSE) Scientific Style and Format (7th edition) and are also referred to recent copies of the Journal and encouraged to copy the published format of papers therein. Microsoft Word format (.doc or .docx files) is preferred. Documents must be typed in 12pt font, double-spaced, with margins of at least 2.5 cm on all sides. Tables and figures should not appear in the main text, but should be submitted as separate digital files and designated with the appropriate file type on ScholarOne Manuscripts. Manuscripts must be submitted in grammatically correct English. Manuscripts which do not meet this standard cannot be

reviewed and will be returned to the author. References should be given in Harvard style (see References section for example).

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Title Page

A title page should be provided comprising the manuscript title plus the full names, affiliations and email addresses of all authors involved in the preparation of the manuscript. One author should be clearly designated as the corresponding author and full contact information, including phone number, provided for this person. Three to five key terms that are not in the title should also be included on the title page. These keywords will assist indexers in cross indexing your article.

Abstract

Authors submitting papers should note that structured abstracts (up to 200 words) are required. These should outline the questions investigated, the design, essential findings and main conclusions of the study under the following sub-headings: Background, Aim, Subjects and methods, Results, Conclusion.

For review articles, abstracts should be structured as follows: Context, Objective, Methods (including data sources, study selection and data extraction), Results and Conclusion. They should be written in an informative style permitting their use, without revision, by abstracting services, give essential details of research findings without further reference to the text, and avoid generalisations and nonessential information.

Structured abstracts are not required for Short Reports.

Main Text

The main text should, in general, but not necessarily, be divided into sections with the headings: Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusion.

Research Papers

Research papers, which must report original research, will typically be between 5000 and 8000 words, debating and exploring theoretical and methodological issues, methodological approaches, and original studies relevant to human biology. However, there is not necessarily an upper limit on length. Authors of longer papers are encouraged to contact the Editors with a synopsis.

Review Articles

The body of a review article should be a comprehensive, scholarly evidence-based review of the literature, accompanied by critical analysis and leading to reasonable conclusions. Wherever possible details of the literature search methodology should be provided, i.e. the databases searched (normally Medline and at least one or two other databases), the search terms and inclusive dates, and any selectivity criteria imposed.

Review articles or essays are generally commissioned by invitation of the Editors but authors are invited to contact the Editors with proposals.

Short Reports

Short reports will normally be on topics of more restricted breadth than research papers, including papers which would be regarded as including essentially preliminary findings. Typically, they should have a maximum of approximately 1500 words, have no more than two tables or figures, and a maximum of around fifteen references. Short reports generally follow the same format as full papers, except that a structured abstract is not required.

Human Biological Surveys

Human biological surveys describe surveys of the morphological, genetic and biodemographic characteristics of a sample. Such investigations are not usually hypothesis driven but rather seek to record the biological structure (physical status) of the sample at a particular moment in time. Such surveys would include those carried out with the aim of investigating, for example, secular trends in somatic and developmental characteristics, nutritional surveys of specific groups, morphological and genetic surveys, and biodemographic information on migration and marriage structure. Please [click here](#) for further information, including preparation guidelines.

Book Reviews

Book reviews are by invitation.

Acknowledgments and Declaration of Interest Statement

Acknowledgments and Declaration of interest sections are different, and each has a specific purpose.

The Acknowledgments section details special thanks, personal assistance, and dedications. Contributions from individuals who do not qualify for [authorship](#) should also be acknowledged here.

Declarations of interest, however, refer to statements of financial support and/or statements of potential conflict of interest. Within this section also belongs disclosure of scientific writing assistance (use of an agency or agency/ freelance writer), grant support and numbers, and statements of employment, if applicable. For a more detailed list of points to include, please see "Declaration of Interest section" below.

Acknowledgments section

Any acknowledgments authors wish to make should be included in a separate headed section at the end of the manuscript preceding any appendices, and before the references section. Please do not incorporate acknowledgments into notes or biographical notes.

Declaration of Interest section

All declarations of interest must be outlined under the subheading 'Declaration of interest'. If authors have no declarations of interest to report, this must be explicitly stated. The suggested, but not mandatory, wording in such an instance is: *The authors report no declarations of interest*. When submitting a paper via ScholarOne Manuscripts, the 'Declaration of interest' field is compulsory (authors must either state the disclosures or report that there are none). If this section is left empty authors will not be able to progress with the submission.

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Please note: grant number(s) of NIH/Wellcome Trust-funded papers must be included in the Declaration of Interest statement.

References

References should be given in the Harvard style. Citation in the text is by author and date (Smith 2001). The list of references appears alphabetically by primary author's last name. Examples:

Journal: Cameron N, Grieve CA, Kruger A, Leschner KF. 1993. Secondary sexual development in rural and urban South African black children. *Ann Hum Biol.* 20:583-593.

Book: Bogin B, 1999. *Patterns of Human Growth*, 2nd ed. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

Book edited: Weiner JS, Lourie JA, eds. 1981. *Practical human biology*. London: Academic Press.

Contribution to a Book: Fairman C Winter JSD. 1974. Gonadotropins and sex hormone patterns in puberty. In: Grumbach MM, Grave CD, Mayer EF, editors. *The Control of the Onset of Puberty*. New York: Wiley. 32p.

Electronic Resource: British Heart Foundation. 2003. Coronary heart disease statistics. Available online at: www.dphpcox.ac.uk/bhfhprg/stats, accessed 9 September 2009.

Periodical titles should be abbreviated and conform to the style given by Index Medicus.

Tables and figures

Tables and figures should be referred to in text as follows: Figure 1, Figure 2; Table I, Table II. The place at which a table or figure is to be inserted in the printed text should be indicated clearly on a manuscript. Each table and/or figure must have a legend that explains its purpose without reference to the text.

Tables should be used only when they can present information more efficiently than running text. Care should be taken to avoid any arrangement that unduly increases the depth of a table, and the column heads should be made as brief as possible, using abbreviations liberally. Lines of data should not be numbered nor run numbers given unless those numbers are needed for reference in the text. Columns should not contain only one or two entries, nor should the same entry be repeated numerous times consecutively. Tables should be grouped at the end of the manuscript on separate pages.

Figures/Illustrations (line drawings, halftones, photos, photomicrographs, etc.) should be submitted as digital files for highest quality reproduction and should follow these guidelines:

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- Sized to fit on journal page
- EPS, JPG, TIFF, or PSD format only
- Submitted as separate files, not embedded in the text
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Authors are asked to take into account the diverse audience of the journal. Please avoid the use of terms that might be meaningful only to a local or national audience, or provide a clear explanation where this is unavoidable. Some specific points on style follow:

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2. Acronyms for protein and gene names should in all cases be explained the first time they appear. In articles where acronyms are numerous, authors should include a table that lists all acronyms, each acronym's meaning or origin, and a short description of the function of each gene or protein.
3. Latin terminology, including microbiological and species nomenclature, should be italicized.
4. Use standard convention for human and animal genes and proteins: italics for genes and regular font for proteins, and upper case for human products and lower case for animal products.
5. "US" is preferred to "American", "USA" to "United States", and "UK" to "United Kingdom".
6. Double quotation marks rather than single are to be used unless the "quotation is 'within' another".
7. Punctuation of common abbreviations should adhere to the following conventions: "e.g."; "i.e."; "cf.". Note that such abbreviations should not generally be followed by a comma or a (double) point/period.

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9. Apostrophes should be used sparingly. Thus, decades should be referred to as follows: “The 1980s [not the 1980’s] saw ...”. Possessives associated with acronyms (e.g. APU), should be written as follows: “The APU’s findings that ...” but note that the plural is “APUs”.
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16. Authors must adhere to SI Units
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 Figures and tables within appendices should continue the sequence of numbering from the main body of the text. Sections within appendices should be numbered, for example, C.1, C.2. Equations in appendices should be numbered, for example, (C 1), (C 2). If there is only one appendix, it is referred to as “the appendix” and not called “Appendix A”.

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For abbreviations and nomenclature, authors should consult the most recent edition of the *CSE Style Manual* available from the Council of Science Editors, 60 Revue Drive, Suite 500 Northbrook, IL, 60062, USA.

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