

The American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Instructions for Author



About the Journal

Aims and Scope

The American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse is now published six times per year and provides an important and stimulating publication for the exchange of ideas between the diverse researchers examining the neurobiology, pathophysiology, and treatment of addictive disorders. The journal includes a wide range of translational research from preclinical through clinical aspects of substance use and addictive disorders. The Journal covers these topics with focused data presentations and authoritative reviews of timely developments in our field.

Manuscripts in neurobiology may include molecular biology, cellular physiology, and human and animal pharmacology of abused drugs. Submissions in pathophysiology may include behavioral pharmacology, neuroimaging, and family-genetic studies of assessments, pharmacotherapies, behavioral therapies, large-scale treatment follow-up studies, and new modalities of care. Manuscripts may also include the medicinal use of substances traditionally considered substances of abuse. Reviews and Perspectives of emerging fields are encouraged.

Please refer to [Resources for Authors and Editors](#) prior to submission.

Contact

Technical questions regarding submission should be addressed to the Editorial Assistant (Robbi Banks at robbi.banks@utsouthwestern.edu).

Questions regarding the Journal's potential interest in a manuscript should be addressed to the Editor (Bryon Adinoff, MD, at ajdaa-editor@utsouthwestern.edu).

Manuscript submission

Manuscripts should be submitted electronically via the journal's [online submission system](http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/lada) (<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/lada>). Please submit one Word document of your article with a title page that includes author attribution and affiliation and one Word document without a title page in order to aid in the blind review process. All figures and tables should be uploaded as separate files.

The author will be asked to acknowledge that the paper has not been published elsewhere and that it has not been submitted simultaneously for publication elsewhere. Authors are responsible for obtaining permission to reproduce copyrighted material from other sources and are required to sign an agreement for the transfer of copyright to the publisher. All accepted manuscripts, artwork, and photographs become the property of the publisher.

All parts of the manuscript should be typewritten, double-spaced, with margins of at least one inch on all sides. Number manuscript pages consecutively throughout the paper. A Declaration of Interests should be noted on the cover letter of all submitted manuscripts (see "Declaration of Interests" below).

Types of Articles

Title Page

The title page should include:

- The complete manuscript title
- A running head title, not exceeding 50 character spaces.
- The full names of all authors and their affiliations
- Name and address for correspondence, including telephone number and e-mail address
- All sources of support, including pharmaceutical and industry support, that require acknowledgement
- In upper right hand corner, number of words, figures and tables. Word count includes only the main body of text (i.e., not tables, figures, abstracts or references).

Abstract

No more than 250 words organized under the following sub headers:

- Background
- Objectives
- Methods (include # of subjects)
- Results
- Conclusion.

The Abstract must be included in the Main Document.

Perspective

Perspective articles may cover a wide variety of topics of current interest relevant to addictive disorders or the medicinal use of substances generally associated with substance use. The Journal will consider topics spanning the development and treatment of addictive disorders, including predisposing vulnerabilities, diagnosis, intervention and consequences and ranging from preclinical to service to policy research. Authors are encouraged to submit manuscripts that evoke discussion. Perspectives may be invited. Perspectives should not exceed 2000 words and be limited to 20 references.

Review

Comprehensive reviews of the literature are encouraged. Preference will be given to reviews exploring emerging fields. Reviews should not exceed 4000 words.

Original Article

Original articles should not exceed 3500 words. Generally, we will consider a series of cases that illustrate an important clinical or research issue as a regular article. Discussions should address the translational application of the reported findings. This is particularly important for manuscripts addressing preclinical questions. When appropriate, this narrative should reflect how the presented

findings promote the reduction of substance use and/or prevalence of substance use disorders via prevention, treatment, service delivery, or policy. Novel case reports and other uncontrolled observations should be submitted as Letters to the Editor.

Letters to the Editor

Brief letters (maximum of 500 words, including references) will be considered if they include a cover letter indicating that the correspondence is “for publication.” Case reports will be peer reviewed. Letters commenting on an article published in the Journal must be received within 3 months of the article’s print publication. Letters received after the deadline will not be considered for publication; those considered will be sent to the article’s corresponding author to reply on behalf of the group. Such letters must include the title and author of the article and the month and year of publication. Letters that do not meet these specifications will be returned un-reviewed. Letters will be published on a space available basis.

Supplemental Information

Additional tables or figures can be submitted in a separate file as supplemental data for posting online.

Abbreviations

Only a very small number of abbreviations are considered “standard” and thus acceptable for use. Spell out all abbreviations (other than those for units of measure) the first time they are used; idiosyncratic abbreviations not generally known in the field should not be used.

Editing Resources

Authors for whom English is a second language may choose to have their manuscript professionally edited before submission or during the review process. Authors wishing to pursue a professional English-language editing service should make contact and arrange payment with the editing service of their choice. For more details regarding the recommended services, please refer to [Resources for Authors and Editors](#).

References

References to cited literature should be identified by a numbered list at the end of the paper in order of appearance. Please cite in text with the number in parentheses.

Examples:

- *Journal:* Chung T, Langenbucher J, Labouvie E, Pandina RJ, Moos RH. Changes in alcoholic patients’ coping responses predict 12-month treatment outcomes. *J Consult Clin Psychol* 2001; 69(1):92-100.
- *Book:* Monti PM, Abrams DB, Kadden RM, Cooney NL. *Treating Alcohol Dependence: A Coping Skills Training Guide*. New York, NY: Guilford Press, 1989.
- *Contribution to a Book:* Pantalon MV, Schottenfeld RS, Monitoring therapist and patient behavior during behavioral interventions of illicit drug abuse: process research perspectives. In *Contingency Management Interventions for Illicit Drug Abuse*. Higgins S, Silverman K, eds. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association Books, 1999; 309-325.

Illustrations

Illustrations submitted (line drawings, halftones, photos, photomicrographs, etc.) should be clean originals or digital files. Digital files are recommended for highest quality reproduction.

- 300 dpi or higher
- Sized to fit on journal page
- EPS, TIFF, or PSD format only
- Submitted as separate files, not embedded in text files

Color illustrations

Color illustrations will be considered for publication; however, the author will be required to bear the full cost involved in their printing and publication. Good-quality color prints should be provided in their final size. The publisher has the right to refuse publication of color prints deemed unacceptable.

Tables and Figures

Each complete figure (including titles and footnotes) should be understandable without reference to the text. Tables and figures (illustrations) should not be embedded in the text, but should be included as separate sheets or files. A short descriptive title should appear above each table with a clear legend and any footnotes suitably identified below. All units must be included. Figures should be completely labelled, taking into account necessary size reduction. Captions should be typed, double-spaced, on a separate sheet. All original figures should be clearly marked in pencil on the reverse side with the number, author's name, and top edge indicated. If error bars are included, note whether standard deviations or standard errors of the mean are used.

Proofs

Page proofs are sent to the designated corresponding author. They must be carefully checked and returned within 48 hours of receipt. Please note that in the proof stage, only typographical errors, printer's errors and errors of scientific fact can be corrected. No substantial author's changes will be made.

Reprints

Each corresponding author of the article will receive a complete copy of the issue in which the article appears. Reprints of an individual article are available for order at the time authors review page proofs.

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.

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

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