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# Instructions for Contributors

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**AIMS AND SCOPE.** *Palliative & Supportive Care* publishes papers on psychiatric disorders and their management in the palliative care setting, including but not limited to depression, delirium, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder and bereavement. Evolving constructs of particular relevance to the interface of psychiatry/psychology and palliative medicine, such as demoralization, meaning, dignity, hopelessness, will to live, suffering, and developmental growth at the end of life are a major focus of this journal. Research focusing on these issues, including epidemiology, diagnostic screening, assessment, management, and intervention drug and psychotherapy trials, are also addressed. In addition, the journal provides a forum for the discussion of psychosocial and sociocultural matters such as caregiver burden, health care provider burnout, counseling interventions, the impact of psychosocial factors related to intervention of pain and physical symptom control, and communication issues. The journal features full-length research reports and review articles as well as short communications.

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Each manuscript will normally be reviewed by at least two referees with relevant scientific experience. Authors may suggest appropriate reviewers, but final selection of referees will be made by the Editor. Reviewers are asked to evaluate manuscripts for their scientific merit and clarity of presentation.

**MANUSCRIPT PREPARATION AND STYLE.** Manuscripts must be in English and typed double-spaced on one

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**MANUSCRIPT ELEMENTS AND ORDER.** Unless there are obvious and compelling reasons for variation (e.g. review articles, short communications), manuscripts should be organized as follows:

**Title page.** This is page 1. The title should be concise, informative, and free of abbreviations, chemical formulae, technical jargon, and esoteric terms. This page should include (a) the article's full title, (b) names and affiliations of all authors, (c) the name, mailing address, email address, and telephone number of the corresponding author, (d) the address for reprint requests if different from that of the corresponding author, (e) a short title of 50 characters or less, and (f) a list of the number of manuscript pages, number of tables, and number of figures.

**Abstract and keywords page.** This is page 2 and should include (a) the article's full title, (b) an abstract of no more than 300 words, and (c) up to 5 keywords or phrases that reflect the content and major thrust of the article. The abstract should give a succinct account of the article contents utilizing these specific abstract headings: Objectives; Methods; Results; Significance of Results.

**Introduction.** This section begins on page 3 and should clearly state the objective of the research in the context of previous work bearing directly on the subject. An extensive review of the literature is not usually appropriate.

**Methods.** This section should be brief but provide sufficient information to permit others to replicate the study. Pertinent details of species, apparatus and equipment, procedures and experimental design should be described.

*All experiments involving human subjects must be conducted in accordance with principles embodied in the Declaration of Helsinki (Code of Ethics of the World Medical Association). Experiments involving animal subjects must conform to the principles regarding the care and use of animals adopted by the American Physiological Society*

and the Society for Neuroscience. The editor may refuse papers that provide insufficient evidence of adherence to these principles.

**Results.** The results should be presented clearly and concisely, using figures and tables to summarize or illustrate the important findings. Quantitative observations are often more effectively displayed in graphs than in tables.

**Discussion.** The discussion should summarize the major findings and explain their significance in terms of the study's objectives and relationship to previous, relevant work. This section should present compact, clearly developed arguments rather than wide-ranging speculation or uncritical collation of earlier reports.

**Acknowledgments.** Use a separate page to recognize the contributions of individuals and supporting institutions.

**References.** In the text, references should be cited as follows:

as shown by Cella and Tusky (1990)  
(Bloom et al., 2000)  
(Cella & Tusky, 1990; Bloom et al., 2000)

The alphabetical list of references begins a new page, and must be typed double-spaced. Each in-text citation must have a corresponding reference and vice versa. List works by different authors who are cited within the same parentheses in chronological order, beginning with the earlier work. Journal titles should not be abbreviated. Only published articles and articles in press should appear in this list. Responsibility for the accuracy of references cited lies with the authors. Brief examples:

*Journal article*

Cella, D.F. & Tusky, D.S. (1990). Measuring quality of life today: Methodological aspects. *Oncology*, 4, 29–38.

*Book*

Tompar-Tiu, A. & Sustento-Seneriches, J. (1995). *Depression and Other Mental Health Issues: The Filipino American Experience*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

*Chapter in an edited book*

Karnofsky, D.A. & Burchenal, J.H. (1949). The clinical evaluation of chemotherapeutic agents in cancer. In *Evaluation of Chemotherapeutic Agents in Cancer*, Macleod, C.M. (ed.), pp. 191–205. New York: Columbia University Press.

For more than one work by the same author(s) published in the same year, use (Jones, 1986a, 1986b) in text and likewise in the reference section.

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Artwork should normally be in black and white; if authors have color figures, the publisher will provide a price quotation for the additional production costs. All figures must be identified on the back with the short title of the paper, figure number, and figure orientation (top or bottom). Preferably, figures should be mounted on heavy sheets of the same size as the manuscript. Four complete sets of figures should be carefully packaged in protective envelopes, one to accompany each copy of the manuscript. Each figure must be cited and its approximate position clearly indicated within the text.

Figures must be numbered consecutively with Arabic numerals and be accompanied by a descriptive caption typed double-spaced on a separate sheet. The captions, collected at the end of the manuscript, should concisely describe the figure and identify any symbols and/or calibration bars.

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