

The student medical journal invites articles for the following categories.

Manuscript categories

Original research papers

A maximum of 2000 words with a maximum of six tables or figures and 20 references using the Vancouver style; all articles must include a structured abstract of not more than 250 words. The paper should generally follow the IMRAD format.

Review articles

A maximum of 3000 words and 10 references using the Vancouver style; all articles must include an abstract of not more than 250 words.

Perspective

A maximum of 400 words in length, including title, text, name and address of author(s), and maximum two references included. Tables and figures are not permitted.

Student Diary / Life

Articles for the Student Diary / Life section can be about anything to do with medicine and being a medical student. Articles can cover special projects, (such as organizing a health camp or cultural event), general life experiences and student issues or problems (such as studying for exams or elective experiences), or political topics (such as describing or critiquing a health care system) - the list is endless.

The ideal word count for this section is around 750 - 1000. If you mention any facts references should be given.

Case Reports

Case reports of outstanding interest or clinical relevance are welcomed. The word limit is 1200 words, with up to 10 references and 3 tables or illustrations.

Review

The review section includes articles that critically appraise a book, CD ROM, film, audio CD, theatre play, or other form of media, which has a link to medicine or medical students. The maximum

number of words for a review is 1000 words. Illustrations may be included.

Submission of Manuscripts

Covering letter

The covering letter should state:

1. The manuscript category
2. The title
3. The name, address, contact numbers and e-mail address of the author responsible for correspondence
4. Any ethical issues addressed

Please submit an original copy and 2 photocopies of all parts of the manuscripts. All submissions must be accompanied by an electronic copy of the manuscript and illustrations.

Preparation of the Manuscript

Manuscript typing

All parts of manuscript, including tables, figure legends and references must be typed with double-spacing on A4 (212x297mm) paper. Arrange components in the following order: title page, abstract, text, references, tables in numerical sequence and figure legends. Begin each component on a separate page. Number all pages consecutively, starting with the title page.

Title page

This should give the title of the paper, authors listed in the form and order in which they are to appear in the published article along with their institutional affiliations. The name, address, telephone number and the e-mail address of the corresponding author should be stated. The number of words of main text (excluding words in the title page, abstract, reference list and any boxes or tables) should be included.

Abstract

The abstract should be limited to 250 words and be structured as follows:

Objectives: a clear statement of the main aim of the study and the major hypothesis tested or research question posed.

Method: including factors such prospective, randomization, blinding, placebo control etc.

- participants (instead of patients or subjects) – give clear definitions of how selected, entry and exclusion criteria.
- interventions – what, how, when and for how long. This heading can be excluded if there was no intervention.
- Main outcome measures

Results: main results with (for quantitative studies) 95% confidence intervals, and where appropriate the exact level of statistical significance and the number needed to treat/harm.

Conclusions: primary conclusions and their implications, suggesting areas for further research if appropriate. Do not go beyond the data in the

paper. Conclusions are important because this is often the only part that readers look at.

References

These should be numbered in the order in which they appear in the text. At the end of the article the full list of references should follow the Vancouver style. Note that we require the complete name of the journal (not its abbreviation).

Please give the names and initials of all authors unless there are more than six, when only the first six should be given followed by et al.

Please note

These instructions serve only as a guideline for students. It is not compulsory to strictly adhere to these guidelines. You will be able to seek guidance from the editorial board of the journal.