



Medicina Clínica

AUTHORS INFORMATION PACK

GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION

MEDICINA CLÍNICA, founded in 1946, is a journal devoted to promoting the research and the clinical practice among the specialist of internal medicine and other medical specialist. The journal publishes original scientific articles, editorials, short communications, reviews as well as other relevant information to internal medicine and related fields.

Types of article

Any article sent to this journal will follow the guidelines described in the section "Ethics in the publication" of this guide for authors, therefore it is essential to consult it before sending the manuscripts.

In particular, the manuscripts corresponding to the **originals sections** the authors must clearly indicate at the end of the section "Material and methods" that such guidelines have been followed, as well as the informed consent of the patients has been obtained and has been approved by the corresponding ethics committee. Likewise, in the manuscripts corresponding to the **Scientific Letters** section, the authors must clearly indicate in the articles body that the protocols and procedures of the institutional centres related with the patient's data publication have been followed, as well as the subject privacy. In the section **Images in medicine** the authors should also indicate clearly in the article body that the protocols and procedures of the institutional centres related with the patient data publication have been followed, and the patients consents for its publication has been obtained, as well as the subject privacy has been respected.

Any article in this journal involving experiments with human or animal subjects will follow the guidelines in the "Human and animal rights" described in the "Ethics in publishing" section of this guide for authors. Authors should clearly indicate in the manuscript that such guidelines have been followed, as well as the statement that informed consent was obtained for experimentation with human subjects.

For any section of this journal: Original articles, Review articles, Short communications, Images and videos, **the three epigraphs: Ethical considerations, Funding and Conflict of interest** should be added **at Essential title page information**.

Ethical considerations: If the work involves the use of human subjects, the author should ensure that the work described has been carried out in accordance with [The Code of Ethics of the World Medical Association](#) (Declaration of Helsinki) for experiments involving humans; [Uniform Requirements for manuscripts submitted to Biomedical journals](#). Authors should include a statement that informed consent was obtained for experimentation with human subjects, and all the ethical procedures were performed. The privacy rights of human subjects must always be observed. The **approval of the institutional review board (IRB)** or

the appropriate committee must be stated in this epigraph.

Funding: You are requested to identify who provided financial support for the conduct of the research and/or preparation of the article and to briefly describe the role of the sponsor(s), if any, in study design; in the collection, analysis and interpretation of data; in the writing of the report; and in the decision to submit the article for publication. If the funding source(s) had no such involvement then this should be stated.

Conflict of interest: All authors must disclose any financial and personal relationships with other people or organizations that could influence (bias) their work, **even if it is not directly related to the current manuscript**. Examples of potential competing interests include **employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent applications/registrations, and grants or other funding, as well as travel grants and participation in courses and conferences as a paid expert**. If there are no interests to declare then please state this: 'Declarations of interest: none'.

STATISTICAL STANDARDS: REPRODUCIBILITY OF RESULTS AND STATISTICS

Medicina Clínica will prioritize those articles that facilitate the transparency and reproducibility of their results. We advise the authors to follow the publication guidelines of the Equator network, endorsed by the ICMJE, such as CONSORT or STROBE.

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

Original research about etiology, physiopathology, pathology, epidemiology, clinical aspects, diagnosis, prognosis and treatment are recommended for this section. Analytic studies like transversal surveys, case-controls studies, cohort studies and randomized controlled trials will be preferentially considered for publication.

The article must have the following headings: Introduction; Patients and Methods; Results; and Discussion. The text is limited to a maximum of 3,000 ; 4,000 words, not including references, abstract and figure legends. The abstract is limited to a maximum of 250 words and need to be structured. There should be no more than 30 references. The total combined number of tables and figures should not exceed 6.

The limit of the number of authors depends on the characteristics of the work, the complexity of the study, the number of patients included in relation to the rarity of the entity being analyzed and the number of participating centers, among other characteristics. The Editorial Committee will decide in each case.

In manuscripts with a large number of authors, we recommend that a writing committee of a maximum of 6-8 authors be included, representing the study group. The rest can appear at the bottom of the page as members of said group and are fully considered as authors in the bibliometric databases.

BRIEF REPORTS

Original research with a limited number of patients or sample, and specific objectives and results are suitable for this section. The article must have the same headings as those from Original Articles. The text is limited to a maximum of 1,300 words, not including references, abstract and figure legends. The abstract is limited to a maximum of 180 words and need to be structured. There should be no more than 10 references. The total combined number of tables and figures should not exceed 3. Up to 6 authors are accepted.

CLINICAL REPORTS/ CASE SERIES

Submitted studies from case series with a remarkable contribution to medical knowledge will be considered in this section. The text is limited to 1,700 words not including figure legends and references. There should be no more than 10 references. The total combined number of tables and figures should not exceed 4. The abstract is limited to a maximum of 180 words and need to be structured. Up to 4 authors are accepted.

REVIEW ARTICLES

Reviews of current work reflecting progress in various fields of medicine are requested from recognized specialists. Voluntary contributions will be subject to consideration by the Editorial Board. The text is limited to 4,200 words not including abstract, figure legends, and references. The abstract is limited to a maximum of 150 words and does not need to be structured. Up to 6 figures or tables will be accepted. References are limited to a maximum of 60. Up to 3 authors are accepted.

SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS

Medicina Clínica will give priority to systematic reviews presented following the PRISMA statement (<http://www.prisma-statement.org/>). This should include, the PRISMA table where the authors must mention the sections and lines of their manuscript at which they address each point recommended by the statement.

The maximum length of the text will be 3,500 words and up to 6 figures or tables will be accepted. It is essential to include a structured summary (foundation and objective, material and method, results and conclusions), both in Spanish and English, with a length of no more than 150 words. Between 3 and 8 keywords will be included.

The main text must include the following sections: introduction, material and method, results, discussion and conclusion, in addition to the declaration of conflicts of interest, ethical declaration, acknowledgments and references.

SPECIAL ARTICLES

Articles reflecting original opinions and interpretation of relevant topics, narrative and practical reviews are included in this section. Voluntary contributions will be subject to consideration by the Editorial Board. The text is limited to 4,000 words. Up to 4-5 figures or tables will be accepted. References are limited to a maximum of 30. Up to 4 authors are accepted.

DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT

Update articles focused on the progress of diagnosis and treatments, enhancing the benefits in continuous medical education for readers will be considered for this section. The text is limited to 3,600 words not including figure legends and references. There should be no more than 30 references. The total combined number of tables and figures should not exceed 4. Up to 3 authors are accepted.

CONSENSUS AND GUIDELINES STATEMENTS

Consensus documents and clinical practice guidelines must be promoted and endorsed by at least two scientific Societies, or promoted by health authorities. Authors are required to attach a letter arguing its importance to the clinical community. The consensus documents and clinical

guidelines will be based on a recent systematic search, reported according to PRISMA-S^{*}. The analysis of the degree of evidence of the publications found will be based on guidelines such as AGREE-II[§] or GRADE[&]. In case of not being able to provide first-level evidence, the authors: (1) will highlight the convenience of covering this scientific gap; and (2) explain the method used to reach consensus.

* Systematic Reviews (2021) 10:39 <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13643-020-01542-z>

§ https://www.agreetrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/AGREE_II_Spanish.pdf

& GRADE system: classification of the quality of the evidence and grading of the strength of the recommendation. DOI: 10.1016 / j.ciresp.2013.08.002

The articles in this section will be published without restrictions on the website. In the printed version, only the title, authors, affiliations and structured abstract of a maximum of 500 words will be published.

Clinical Medicine will not accept to publish any Consensus Document or Clinical Guide that does not have the **Funding and Conflict of interests** sections of all authors perfectly detailed and completed.

EDITORIALS

They are always commissioned, although unsolicited editorials may occasionally be considered previous consultation with the Editor. The text is limited to a maximum of 2,000 words, tables and figures are not allowed. There should be no more than 20 references. Up to 2 authors are accepted.

IMAGES IN MEDICINE

Any kind of images (clinical, endoscopic, radiography, microbiological, pathological) of common medical conditions with visual remarks for learning are suitable for this section. The text is limited to a maximum of 200 words. Graphics resources (arrows, asterisk, etc..) can be mandatory for visual remarks. Articles of this section can be selected only for the Web edition.

SCIENTIFIC LETTERS

Letters containing original investigation with small number of cases and with an specific conclusion are the first choice for this section. Letters should contain fewer than 700 words, one table or figure and must contain no more than 5 references. Up to 3 authors are accepted.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters related to articles published by the journal are the first choice for this section as well as letters providing opinions and unusual observations and experiences. The letters related with published articles must be received within three weeks after the publication of the article and will be sent to the author of the article, who will have 4 weeks in which to answer. Letters should contain fewer than 700 words, one table or figure, and must contain no more than 5 references. After publication of the reply, no further correspondence will be accepted. Up to 3 authors are accepted.

The editorial office will inform authors of manuscript acceptance by the Editorial Board. In accordance with the referees' reports, papers may be rejected or modifications suggested, if

necessary. Authors are entirely responsible for the views, conclusions and methods presented in their manuscripts.

Contact details for submission

You can send your manuscript at <https://www.editorialmanager.com/medcli/default.aspx>

Language

This journal is published in Spanish and in English language. Manuscripts can be sent in both languages. The journal will publish a version in printed and online format with the articles received in its original language, and another version only online with articles translated into English.

Submission checklist

You can use this list to carry out a final check of your submission before you send it to the journal for review. Please check the relevant section in this Guide for Authors for more details.

Ensure that the following items are present:

One author has been designated as the corresponding author with contact details:

- E-mail address
- Full postal address

All necessary files have been uploaded:

Manuscript:

- Include keywords
- All figures (include relevant captions)
- All tables (including titles, description, footnotes)
- Ensure all figure and table citations in the text match the files provided
- Indicate clearly if color should be used for any figures in print

Graphical Abstracts / Highlights files (where applicable)

Supplemental files (where applicable)

Further considerations

- Manuscript has been 'spell checked' and 'grammar checked'
- All references mentioned in the Reference List are cited in the text, and vice versa
- Permission has been obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including the Internet)
- Relevant declarations of interest have been made
- Journal policies detailed in this guide have been reviewed
- Referee suggestions and contact details provided, based on journal requirements

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BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Ethics in publishing

Please see our information pages on [Ethics in publishing](#) and [Ethical guidelines for journal publication](#).

Studies in humans and animals

If the work involves the use of human subjects, the author should ensure that the work described has been carried out in accordance with [The Code of Ethics of the World Medical Association](#) (Declaration of Helsinki) for experiments involving humans. The manuscript should

be in line with the [Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals](#) and aim for the inclusion of representative human populations (sex, age and ethnicity) as per those recommendations. The terms [sex and gender](#) should be used correctly.

Authors should include a statement in the manuscript that informed consent was obtained for experimentation with human subjects. The privacy rights of human subjects must always be observed.

All animal experiments should comply with the [ARRIVE guidelines](#) and should be carried out in accordance with the U.K. Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act, 1986 and associated guidelines, [EU Directive 2010/63/EU for animal experiments](#), or the National Institutes of Health guide for the care and use of Laboratory animals (NIH Publications No. 8023, revised 1978) and the authors should clearly indicate in the manuscript that such guidelines have been followed. The sex of animals must be indicated, and where appropriate, the influence (or association) of sex on the results of the study.

Informed consent and patient details

Studies on patients or volunteers require ethics committee approval and informed consent, which should be documented in the paper. Appropriate consents, permissions and releases must be obtained where an author wishes to include case details or other personal information or images of patients and any other individuals in an Elsevier publication. Written consents must be retained by the author and copies of the consents or evidence that such consents have been obtained must be provided to Elsevier on request. For more information, please review the [Elsevier Policy on the Use of Images or Personal Information of Patients or other Individuals](#). Unless you have written permission from the patient (or, where applicable, the next of kin), the personal details of any patient included in any part of the article and in any supplementary materials (including all illustrations and videos) must be removed before submission.

Declaration of competing interest

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Declaration of interest

All authors must disclose any financial and personal relationships with other people or organizations that could inappropriately influence (bias) their work. Examples of potential competing interests include employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent applications/registrations, and grants or other funding. Authors must disclose any interests in two places: 1. A summary declaration of interest statement in the title page file (if double-blind) or the manuscript file (if single-blind). If there are no interests to declare then please state this: 'Declarations of interest: none'. This summary statement will be ultimately published if the article is accepted. 2. Detailed disclosures as part of a separate Declaration of Interest form, which forms part of the journal's official records. It is important for

potential interests to be declared in both places and that the information matches. [More information](#).

Declaration of generative AI in scientific writing

The below guidance only refers to the writing process, and not to the use of AI tools to analyse and draw insights from data as part of the research process.

Where authors use generative artificial intelligence (AI) and AI-assisted technologies in the writing process, authors should only use these technologies to improve readability and language. Applying the technology should be done with human oversight and control, and authors should carefully review and edit the result, as AI can generate authoritative-sounding output that can be incorrect, incomplete or biased. AI and AI-assisted technologies should not be listed as an author or co-author, or be cited as an author. Authorship implies responsibilities and tasks that can only be attributed to and performed by humans, as outlined in Elsevier's [AI policy for authors](#).

Authors should disclose in their manuscript the use of AI and AI-assisted technologies in the writing process by following the instructions below. A statement will appear in the published work. Please note that authors are ultimately responsible and accountable for the contents of the work.

Disclosure instructions

Authors must disclose the use of generative AI and AI-assisted technologies in the writing process by adding a statement at the end of their manuscript in the core manuscript file, before the References list. The statement should be placed in a new section entitled 'Declaration of Generative AI and AI-assisted technologies in the writing process'.

Statement: During the preparation of this work the author(s) used [NAME TOOL / SERVICE] in order to [REASON]. After using this tool/service, the author(s) reviewed and edited the content as needed and take(s) full responsibility for the content of the publication.

This declaration does not apply to the use of basic tools for checking grammar, spelling, references etc. If there is nothing to disclose, there is no need to add a statement.

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Submission of an article implies that the work described has not been published previously (except in the form of an abstract or as part of a published lecture or academic thesis, see '[Multiple, redundant or concurrent publication](#)' section of our ethics policy for more information), that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, that its publication is approved by all authors and tacitly or explicitly by the responsible authorities where the work was carried out, and that, if accepted, it will not be published elsewhere including electronically in the same form, in English or in any other language, without the written consent of the copyright-holder.

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Use of inclusive language

Inclusive language acknowledges diversity, conveys respect to all people, is sensitive to differences, and promotes equal opportunities. Content should make no assumptions about the beliefs or commitments of any reader; contain nothing which might imply that one individual is superior to another on the grounds of age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, disability or health condition; and use inclusive language throughout. Authors should ensure that writing is free from bias, stereotypes, slang, reference to dominant culture and/or cultural assumptions. We advise to seek gender neutrality by using plural nouns ("clinicians, patients/clients") as default/wherever possible to avoid using "he, she," or "he/she." We recommend avoiding the use of descriptors that refer to personal attributes such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, disability or health condition unless they are relevant and valid. When coding terminology is used, we recommend to avoid offensive or exclusionary terms such as "master", "slave", "blacklist" and "whitelist". We suggest using alternatives that are more appropriate and (self-) explanatory such as "primary", "secondary", "blocklist" and "allowlist". These guidelines are meant as a point of reference to help identify appropriate language but are by no means exhaustive or definitive.

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Sex and gender reporting

Reporting guidance

For research involving or pertaining to humans, animals or eukaryotic cells, investigators should integrate sex and gender-based analyses (SGBA) into their research design according to funder/sponsor requirements and best practices within a field. Authors should address the sex and/or gender dimensions of their research in their article. In cases where they cannot, they should discuss this as a limitation to their research's generalizability. Importantly, authors should explicitly state what definitions of sex and/or gender they are applying to enhance the precision, rigor and reproducibility of their research and to avoid ambiguity or conflation of terms and the constructs to which they refer (see Definitions section below). Authors can refer

to the [SSex and Gender Equity in Research \(SAGER\) guidelines](#) and the [S SAGER guidelines checklist](#). These offer systematic approaches to the use and editorial review of sex and gender information in study design, data analysis, outcome reporting and research interpretation - however, please note there is no single, universally agreed-upon set of guidelines for defining sex and gender.

Definitions

Sex generally refers to a set of biological attributes that are associated with physical and physiological features (e.g., chromosomal genotype, hormonal levels, internal and external anatomy). A binary sex categorization (male/female) is usually designated at birth ("sex assigned at birth"), most often based solely on the visible external anatomy of a newborn. Gender generally refers to socially constructed roles, behaviors, and identities of women, men and gender-diverse people that occur in a historical and cultural context and may vary across societies and over time. Gender influences how people view themselves and each other, how they behave and interact and how power is distributed in society. Sex and gender are often incorrectly portrayed as binary (female/male or woman/man) and unchanging whereas these constructs actually exist along a spectrum and include additional sex categorizations and gender identities such as people who are intersex/have differences of sex development (DSD) or identify as non-binary. Moreover, the terms "sex" and "gender" can be ambiguous—thus it is important for authors to define the manner in which they are used. In addition to this definition guidance and the SAGER guidelines, the [Sresources on this page](#) offer further insight around sex and gender in research studies.

Authorship

All authors should have made substantial contributions to all of the following: (1) the conception and design of the study, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data, (2) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content, (3) final approval of the version to be submitted.

Changes to authorship

Authors are expected to consider carefully the list and order of authors **before** submitting their manuscript and provide the definitive list of authors at the time of the original submission. Any addition, deletion or rearrangement of author names in the authorship list should be made only **before** the manuscript has been accepted and only if approved by the journal Editor. To request such a change, the Editor must receive the following from the **corresponding author**: (a) the reason for the change in author list and (b) written confirmation (e-mail, letter) from all authors that they agree with the addition, removal or rearrangement. In the case of addition or removal of authors, this includes confirmation from the author being added or removed.

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In line with the position of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors, the journal will not consider results posted in the same clinical trials registry in which primary registration resides to be prior publication if the results posted are presented in the form of a brief structured (less than 500 words) abstract or table. However, divulging results in other

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Reporting clinical trials

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Registration of clinical trials

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Referees

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PREPARATION

Peer review

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