

medicina fluminensis

The Journal of Croatian Medical Association - Rijeka Branch and Faculty of
Medicine - University of Rijeka

Types of articles published in *Medicina Fluminensis*®

Please Note: Beginning March 1, 2008 *Medicina Fluminensis*® is following new policies.

Medicina Fluminensis® publishes the following types of articles: *Editorials, Original scientific papers, Short communications, Preliminary communications, Reviews, Mini-reviews, Professional papers, Case reports, Conference papers, Meeting abstracts, Letters to the Editor, Book reviews and Appendixes.*

The category of the scientific and professional papers is suggested by the author(s), but the final decision is made by the Editor-in-Chief on the basis of the peer-reviews. The Editor and/or the Editorial board also decides whether the paper will be published according to the suggestions made by referees. Declined papers will not be returned to the author(s).

We recommend that authors follow our style guidelines for all article types. Please follow all other formatting instructions in Medicina Fluminensis Instructions to Authors.

1. Editorials

Editorial articles are short articles describing news about the journal or the opinion of the Editor-in-chief, the Publisher or a Guest Editor of a thematic series. Most Editorials comment on other material (eg. an innovative original article) appearing in the same issue of the journal or on changes in journal activities or policies.

We encourage our editorial writers to **express their opinions**, giving the author the opportunity to present criticism or address controversy. The intention is very much that the article should offer a personal perspective on a topic of recent interest. The article does not have a determined structure. The manuscript should not exceed 10 A4 pages without references, tables and figures, but when the author is invited to write an Editorial, the page limit may be exceeded.

2. Original scientific paper

Original scientific paper contains **unpublished reports** of the results of original scientific research. These include prospective clinical trials, laboratory research, retrospective clinical analyses (eg. case series), meta-analyses, and related research. It may describe instrumental developments, innovative applications and/or strategies for problem solving with a multidisciplinary approach. The paper has to contain all the necessary information to enable reproducibility of the described work.

The text is limited to 20 A4 pages without references, tables and figures. The article must have a **full structured abstract** which consists of no more than 250 words and is divided into five paragraphs: **Aim, Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions.**

The manuscript text is divided into five organizational components: **Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions.**

The **Introduction** should briefly present the background knowledge necessary for the reader to understand why the findings of the article are an advance on the knowledge in the field. It should first describe the current knowledge in a specialized field, then it should describe a finding or set of findings that led directly to the work described in the article. The authors should end the Introduction with their hypothesis and findings with which it is consistent.

In the **Methods** section describe in details the materials used in the experiments and the methods by which the experiments were carried out. This section should be detailed enough to allow other researchers to replicate the work.

The **results** describe the findings of experiments, which is preferably followed by tables or figures. Results should be presented without extensive discussion, which is reserved for the Discussion and Conclusions sections.

In the **Discussion** in one sentence state what was done and what was found. Then discuss and interpret the data shown in the paper are interpreted. Any limitations to the interpretations should be acknowledged, and fact should clearly be separated from speculation. Also, be sure to relate the findings of the paper to other findings in the field. This serves to show how the findings contribute to knowledge, or correct the errors of previous work. It is also preferable that you point out future directions.

3. Short communications

Short communications are urgent communications of important unpublished results of completed, original research or describe original laboratory techniques (methods, apparatus, etc.). They are short reports of smaller studies and are not intended to present preliminary data on structured, ongoing research but instead present unanticipated or novel observations of a finished research which may encourage others to perform related research or reassess their clinical practice.

Short communications should include a **structured abstract** of no more than 200 words and is divided into five paragraphs: **Aim, Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions**. The **manuscript text is organized as the text for Original scientific paper** and should not exceed 10 A4 pages without references, tables and figures.

4. Preliminary communications

Preliminary Communication articles are short articles which describe essential findings from original research, and should be published rapidly. They represent brief reports of findings which should be new and not be published as part of full research articles in any journal. These short contributions contain less detail than full articles. The manuscript should not exceed 10 A4 pages without references, tables and figures. Preliminary communications have **the same structure as original scientific papers**.

5. Reviews

Review articles are concise and critical summaries of excellent scientific research articles which deal with specific research areas of high current interest in any area. Each article should concentrate on the most recent developments in the field and should aim for concise presentation of relevant information.

The manuscript text is limited to 20 A4 pages without references, tables and figures and **doesn't have a structured Abstract** (max. 250 words). The Abstract must outline clearly the major focus of the review. **The structure of the manuscript text is set by the author itself.**

6. Mini-reviews

A mini-review provides a concise, focused review of the literature related to a question of current interest in the scientific community.

It should contain a **brief Abstract** of no more than 100 words. Summarize what the minireview is about as concisely as possible. The suggested length for the minireview is approximately 10 A4 pages without references, tables or figures.

7. Professional papers

Professional papers are articles which present already published results of original scientific research and focus on their applicability to medical practice or educational purposes. They are concise and critical reviews of a chosen topic, pointing to trends and controversies in the field and contain useful information for medical specialists but are not related to original researches, and the contents do not bring new observations. They should be understandable to non-specialists.

These manuscripts are systematic, critical assessments of literature and data sources pertaining to certain topics, emphasizing factors such as cause, diagnosis, prognosis, therapy, or prevention.

The text is limited to 20 A4 pages without references, tables and figures. The article must have a **full structured abstract** which consists of no more than 250 words and is divided into five paragraphs: **Aim, Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions.**

The manuscript text is divided into five organizational components: **Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions.**

8. Case reports

Case reports articles may present unique case of unknown symptom or disease, new or unusual treatments, new correlations of two or more diseases, new variant of known disease's course, disease course indicating new therapeutic or side effects.

The article must have a **full structured abstract** which consists of no more than 250 words and is **divided into four paragraphs: Aim, Case report, Discussion, Conclusions.**

The manuscript text is also **divided into four paragraphs: Introduction, Case report, Discussion, Conclusions.**

Authors must obtain the written permission of those whose 'case' is being presented.

9. Conference papers

Conference papers are published only by prior arrangement with the Editorial Board. Invitation is considered only for national or international meetings addressing novel topics and having a potential influence on medical care. On review of a proposal, the Editorial Board will recommend a length and format for the report. Even after invitation, acceptance of the written report is at the discretion of the Editorial Board.

Conference papers aim to summarize the most important research presented at a recent conference in the subject area of the journal. **Page limit is 5 A4. These papers should include Conference details (title, date, location).**

10. Meeting abstracts

Meeting abstracts represent a summary (brief or extended) prepared for a meeting. They are published only by prior arrangement with the Editorial Board which will recommend a length and format for the report.

11. Letters to the Editor

The Editor welcomes letters and comments, particularly pertaining to recently published articles in *Medicina*, as well as letters reporting original observations and research. The *letters* and *replies* should be prepared according to journal format.

Letters to the Editor may be written as a response to short reports of a novel, topical finding of general interest, comments on original research papers or other technical material published in *Medicina*, communication of preliminary results of exceptional interest that are particularly topical and relevant or, a scientific perspective on a topical issue of international public interest. Letters pertaining to a recently published article should be received no later than 6 months after the article's publication. Priority is given for the importance of the message, novelty of thought, and clarity of presentation.

The Letter should contain no more than 5 A4 pages and no more than 15 references and no Acknowledgments section.

A right of reply will be extended to the original authors. The Editor reserves the right to edit letters in accordance with *Medicina* style, to shorten letters, delete objectionable comments, and make other changes.

12. Book review

Book review articles are short articles (up to 5 A4 pages) which are written by specialists for the general community. The aim of a Book review article is to give a brief summary of the book's strengths and weaknesses and to evaluate the book's overall usefulness to its intended audience.

12. Appendixes

A) News

New informations on relevant happenings.

B) In memoriam

Death noticies with a short biography.

C) "Erratum", "Retraction", or 'Apology"

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