

Instructions to Authors

Sri Lanka Journal of Child Health, 2000; **29**: 61-62

All papers for publication should be sent to the editors, Sri Lanka Journal of Child Health, Sri Lanka College of Paediatricians, Wijerama House, No. 6, Wijerama Mawatha, Colombo 7.

General

Authors must submit 3 copies of the original manuscript on double space typescript. Text should be printed on one side of A4 sheets, which should be numbered. Avoid repetitions between tables and texts and between different sections of the paper. A separate title page should be provided including the title (which should be concise but informative), author/s name/s with their highest medical and scientific degrees and their current appointments. This page should include the full postal address for correspondence along with telephone number, fax number and e-mail address. The number of authors should be kept to a minimum.

Original Articles

Papers should contain original work not presented for publication or published elsewhere. The editors retain the right to shorten the article or make changes to conform to the style of the journal and to improve clarity. A structured format is preferred with the following headings: Introduction, Design, Method, Results, Discussion and Conclusions.

The abstract should not be more than 200 words, structured wherever possible and should include the main purpose of the study, the essential elements of the design, the most important results illustrated by numerical data and implications and relevance of the results as conclusions.

Authors should provide up to four key words or phrases for the index.

All measurements must be in SI units apart from blood pressure measurements, which should be in mm Hg, and drugs in metric units.

Abbreviations should be used rarely and should be in parenthesis preceded by the words in full before the first appearance.

Generic names should be used for drugs and if necessary, brand name may follow in brackets.

Short reports

Length must not exceed 900 words, including an abstract of less than 50 words, one or two small tables of illustration and up to six references. If more illustrations are required, the text must be reduced accordingly.

The title should be no longer than seven words.

Annotations

The annotations are commissioned by the editors who welcome suggestions for topics or authors.

Tables and illustrations

Table should be presented separately in double line spacing without rule lines. Illustrations should be used only when data cannot be expressed clearly in other ways. When graphs are submitted the numerical data on which they are based should be supplied. Illustration should be trimmed to remove all redundant areas and the top should be marked on the back.

Ultrasound scans, radiographs, etc, should be arrowed on an overlay to indicate areas of interest or should be accompanied by explanatory line drawings.

If photographs of patients are used, either the subjects should not be identifiable or their pictures must be accompanied by written permission to use the figure. Permission forms are available from the Editor.

Legends for illustrations should be triple-spaced on a separate sheet and should not appear on the illustrations.

Colour illustrations are encouraged. Send both transparencies and prints for this purpose.

Please note that the cost of reproducing any colour figures will be charged to the authors (please contact the editorial office for costs).

References

References should appear in the text as superscript in parenthesis, or within square brackets numbered in order of appearance. They should be listed at the end of the article. They should have the names of up to

five authors, followed by initials. If there are more than five authors, the first four only should be given followed by et al. The title of the article should be followed by the title of the journal (abbreviated to the style of index Medicus), year of publication, volume number and first and last pages. Reference to books should give the names of authors (and/or editors) title, place of publication and publisher, followed by the year of publication. ACCURACY OF REFERENCES IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE AUTHOR.

Some examples of references:

Journal articles

With author

de Alencar F E C, Cerutti C Jr, Durlacher R R, Boulos M, Alves F P, Milhous W, et al. Atovaquone and proguanil for the treatment of malaria in Brazil. *Journal of Infectious Diseases* 1997; **175**:1544-7.

Without author

Coffee drinking and cancer of pancreas [editorial] *British Medical Journal* 1981; **283**: 628.

Book references

Personal author/s

Colson J H, Armour W J, Sports injuries and their treatment. 2nd ed. Lond; S Paul, 1986.

Editor/s Compiler/s as author/s

Diener H C, Wilkinson M. editors, drug-induced headache. New York Springer-Verlag, 1988.

Chapter in a book

Weinstein L, Swartz M N. Pathologic properties of invading microorganisms. In: Sodeman WA Jr, Sodeman WA, editors. Pathologic physiology: of disease. Philadelphia: Saunders, 1974; 457-72.

