

# Instructions for Authors

## Aims and Scope

The **Asia Pacific Journal of Medical Toxicology (APJMT)** is a peer-reviewed journal, published by Mashhad University of Medical Sciences, Mashhad, Iran.

APJMT aims to develop the knowledge of medical toxicology and tries to provide information in the field of toxicology for medical and health care professionals. It also seeks to reflect the situation of epidemiology of poisonings and research in medical toxicology in this region and worldwide. The main text is published in English.

The journal accepts and welcomes high quality papers in the forms of original research articles and rarely review articles and scientific letters relevant to medical practice in toxicology.

Ethics and malpractice statements of the Asia Pacific Journal of Medical Toxicology (APJMT) are based on COPE's Best Practice Guidelines for Journal Editors and pertain to all parties involved in the publishing: the editor, the peer reviewer and the author.

## Manuscript Submission

Manuscripts addressed to the Editor of The APJMT should be submitted via our online submission system, which is available at the Manuscript Central website, <http://www.mums.ac.ir/j-pjmt>. Alternatively, the manuscript could be sent via email to [apjmt@mums.ac.ir](mailto:apjmt@mums.ac.ir).

Articles and images will be accepted only on condition that they are submitted exclusively for this journal.

## Ethics

Published research must comply with the guidelines for human studies and animal welfare regulations. It should be stated that the study has been conducted according to the Declaration of Helsinki. Authors should state that subjects have given their informed consent and that the study protocol has been approved by the institute research committee.

## Peer review process

All manuscripts will be peer reviewed by experts and on the basis of their feedback; papers will be accepted totally or accepted subject to revision or rejected.

## Preparation of Manuscripts

All manuscripts submitted to APJMT should adhere to the "Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals" which have been explained in the following instructions. Manuscripts should be concise and typed double-spaced saved as Microsoft Word® 2007 format. Journal titles cited in the references must be conformed to the abbreviations used in Index Medicus and follow the Vancouver style as shown below. Manuscripts should be accompanied by a covering letter indicating that the final manuscript has been seen and approved by all the authors. The covering letter should also note the type of manuscript submitted (original article, short communication, case report, medical images for education, or letter to the editor).

**Original articles:** Original articles should not exceed 250 words in abstract and 3500 in main text from introduction through references. They should be compiled in the following order: Title Page, Abstract, Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, Limitations, Conclusion, Acknowledgments, References, Tables with titles and Figures with legends (see below). The total number of tables and figures combined may not exceed 6, and the number of references may not exceed 50.

**Case Reports:** Case Reports should not exceed 100 words in abstract and 2500 words in main text from

introduction through references. They should include following sections: Introduction, Case reports and Discussion (Comments). The total number of table and figures combined may not exceed 3, and the number of references may not exceed 15.

**Short communication:** These are short articles of original research consistent which are not exceeding 2500 words from introduction through references. On the second page, an abstract of fewer than 250 words should be included. The manuscript should be divided into the following sections: Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion and Conclusion. The total number of tables and figures combined may not exceed 3, and the number of references may not exceed 15.

**Letter to editor:** Letters to the editor should be limited to commentaries on previous articles published in APJMT. Letters that are commentaries on previous articles must be submitted within 6 months after publication of the article. Length of Letters to the Editor should be no more than 2 pages, including references. Only 1 table or figure may accompany a Letter to editor.

## Details of manuscript structure

**1. The title page:** A title page should be indicating the manuscript title plus the full names and affiliations of all authors involved in the preparation of the manuscript. One author should be designated as the corresponding author and full contact information including phone number and email address should be provided for this person. At the end of the title page, a short running head not more than 40 characters (including letters and spaces), a word count for the main text (excluding abstract, acknowledgments and references), a separate word count for the abstract and total number of figures and tables should be expressed.

**2. The Abstract:** The recommended format for a structured abstract, with the following headings for an original article includes: Background, Methods, Results and Conclusion followed by maximum 5 Keywords. Keywords must be MeSH terms; others could be rewritten by the editor.

**3. Introduction:** This section should be concise and clear, giving relevant details and background, providing a context to the study. The objective of the study and the main questions and their significance should be clearly stated. Only directly pertinent references should be provided. No data or conclusions from the work should be reported.

**4. Methods:** This section should be consisting of details relevant to the procedures of the study. Study design and sampling along with selection and description of participants (inclusion and exclusion criteria) should be explained. Methods of collecting data including instruments, questionnaires, interviews, etc. should be mentioned. If any equipment or specific reagent was used, the name of the manufacturer, city and country should be provided. Statistical analysis should be described by specifying the computer software employed and statistical tests used.

Moreover, it is necessary to mention if the study has been conducted according to the Declaration of Helsinki, and that the subjects have given the informed consent.

**5. Results:** The results should be presented in a logical sequence with referring tables and illustrations, giving the main or most important findings. All data in the tables or illustrations should

not be repeated in the text. Data in graphs and tables should not be duplicated. Tables and figures should be restricted to those explaining the argument of the paper and providing supporting data. It is better to use graphs as an alternative to tables with many entries. All the tables and graphs should be referenced in the text. Please send an original Excel file as well as a TIFF file with at least 300-dpi resolution for each graph. Tables should be included in the text at the end of the manuscript. Tables should be used only when they can present information more efficiently than running text.

**6. Discussion:** This section should include implications of the main findings and exploring possible mechanism or explanation for those findings and their limitations, followed by reference to other relevant studies discussing discrepancies and similarities. Finally, recommendations for future research and clinical practice could be given.

**7. References:** References should be given in the Vancouver style and numbered consecutively in the order which they are first mentioned in the text. Citation in the text should be in line with text in parenthesis with Arabic numbering style. Below, some examples of correct format are illustrated:

### Journal Article

Baud FJ, Barriot P, Toffis V, Riou B, Vicaut E, Lecarpentier Y, et al. Elevated blood cyanide concentrations in victims of smoke inhalation. *N Engl J Med* 1991 Dec 19; 325(25):1761-6.

### Chapter in a Book

Schwartz DT. Diagnostic Imaging. In: Flomenbaum NE, Goldfrank LR, Hoffman RS, Howland MA, Lewin NA, Nelson LS, editors. *Goldfrank's Toxicologic Emergencies*. 8th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill; 2006. p.63-87.

### Book

Penney DG. Carbon monoxide poisoning. 1st ed. Boca Raton: CRC Press; 2008.

### Website

World health organization (WHO). Neglected tropical diseases, Snakebite [Internet]. 2009. Available from: [http://www.who.int/neglected\\_diseases/diseases/snakebites/en](http://www.who.int/neglected_diseases/diseases/snakebites/en) (Accessed Nov 7, 2012).

### Conference Paper

Alshari R. Opioid poisoning and medical complications in Asia Pacific region. In: Proceedings of the 10th Annual Congress of Asia Pacific Association of Medical Toxicology; 2011 Nov 11-14; Penang, Malaysia. p.48.

**8. Acknowledgement:** In this section; special thanks, personal assistance and dedications should be mentioned. Contributions from individuals who do not have the quality for authorship should also be acknowledged here.

**9. Conflict of interest:** Declarations of interest refers to statements of financial support and/or statements of potential conflict of interest. Within this section also disclosure of scientific writing assistance (use of an agency or agency/freelance writer), grant support and numbers and statements of employment should be noted if applicable.

**10. Funding and support:** Source of funding and any financial support should be mentioned if applicable. Also, the approval of the research by institute research committee should be stated if applicable.

**11. Legend:** Legends or captions for figures should be listed on a separate page, double spaced.