The Medical Journal of Malaysia (MJM) welcomes articles of interest on all aspects of medicine in the form of original papers, review articles, short communications, continuing medical education, case reports, commentaries and letter to Editor. Articles are accepted for publication on condition that they are contributed solely to The Medical Journal of Malaysia.

**NOTE:** MJM is published bimonthly i.e. January, March, May, July, September and November.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL MANUSCRIPTS**

Please ensure that your submission to MJM conforms to the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals.

Neither the Editorial Board nor the Publishers accept responsibility for the views and statements of authors expressed in their contributions.

The Editorial Board further reserves the right to reject papers read before a society given below.

**MANUSCRIPTS**

Manuscripts should be submitted in English (British English). Manuscripts should be submitted online through MJM Editorial Manager, http://www.editorialmanager.com/mjm.

Instructions for registration and submission are found on the website. Authors will be able to monitor the progress of their manuscript at all times via the MJM Editorial Manager.

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MJM charges a one-time, non-refundable Article Processing Charge (APC) upon submission. Waiver of the APC applies only to authors from developing countries. Authors whose articles are invited by the editor. In addition, recipients of the MJM Reviewer Recognition Award from the previous year may enjoy a waiver of the APC for the next calendar year (e.g. recipients of MJM Reviewer Recognition Award 2022 will enjoy waiver of APC for articles submitted between January and December 2023).

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All submissions must be accompanied by a completed Copyright Assignment Form, Copyright Transfer Form and Conflict of Interest Form duly signed by all authors. Forms can be downloaded from MJM website at https://www.e-mjm.org.

Manuscript text should be submitted as Microsoft Word documents. Tables and flow-charts should be submitted as Microsoft Word documents. Images should be submitted as separate JPEG files (minimum resolution of 300 dpi).

**PIER REVIEW PROCESS**

All submissions must include at least two (2) names of individuals who are especially qualified to review the work. All manuscripts submitted will be reviewed by the Editor-in-Charge before they are sent for peer review. Manuscripts that are submitted to MJM undergo a double-blinded peer review and are managed online. Proposed reviewers must not be involved in the work presented, nor affiliated with the same institution(s) as any of the authors or have any potential conflicts of interests in reviewing the manuscript. The selection of reviewers is the prerogative of the Editors of MJM.

**ELIGIBILITY AS AN AUTHOR**

Eligibility follows the recommendation of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) for eligibility to be considered as an author for submitted papers. The ICMJE recommends that authorship be based on the following four (4) criteria:

1. **Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work; AND**
2. **Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content; AND**
3. **Final approval of the version to be published; AND**
4. **Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.**

**TYPES OF PAPERS**

Original Articles:

Original Articles are reports on findings from original unpublished research. Preference for publications will be given to high quality original research that make significant contribution to medicine. Original articles should consist of a structured Abstract and the Main Text. The word count for the structured abstract should not exceed 500 words. The main text of the articles should not exceed 4,000 words, tables/illustrations/figures/images up to five (5) and references up to 40. Manuscript describing original research should conform to the IMRaD format, more details are given below.

Original articles of cross-sectional and cohort design should follow the corresponding STROBE check-lists; clinical trials should follow the CONSORT check-list.

**Review Articles:**

Review Articles are solicited articles or systematic reviews. MJM solicits review articles from Malaysian experts to provide a clear, up-to-date account of a topic of interest to medical practice in Malaysia or on topics related to their area of expertise. Unsolicited reviews will also be considered, however, authors are encouraged to submit systematic reviews rather than narrative reviews. Review articles shall consist of a structured Abstract and the Main Text. The word count for the structured abstract should not exceed 500 words. Systematic Review are papers that presents exhaustive, critical assessments of the published literature on relevant topics in medicine. Systematic reviews should be prepared in strict compliance with MOOSE or PRISMA guidelines, or other relevant guidelines for systematic reviews.

**Short Communications:**

Short communications are short research articles of important preliminary observations, findings that extends previously published research, data that does not warrant publication as a full paper, small-scale clinical studies, and clinical audits. Short communications should not exceed 1,500 words and shall consist of a Summary and the Main Text. The summary should be limited to 100 words and provided immediately after the title page. The number of tables/illustrations/figures/images should be limited to three (3) and the number of references to ten (10).

**Continuing Medical Education (CME) Articles:**

A CME article is a critical analysis of a topic of current medical interest. The article should include the clinical question or issue and its importance for general medical practice, specialist practice, or public health. It shall consist of a Summary and the Main Text. The summary should be limited to 250 words and provided immediately after the title page. Having a unique learning outcome. Diagnosis, pathology, or management of the case is more valuable than the finding of a rare entity. Being able to report the outcome and length of survival of a rare problem is more valuable than merely describing what treatment was rendered at the time of diagnosis. There should be no more than seven (7) authors.

Please note that all Case Reports will be published in the new MJM Case Reports Journal (www.mjmcasereports.org).

**Commentaries:**

Commentaries will usually be invited articles that comment on articles published in the same issue of the MJM. However, unsolicited commentaries on issues relevant to medicine in Malaysia are welcomed. They should not exceed 2,000 words. They may be unstructured but should be concise. When presenting a point of view, it should be supported with the relevant references where necessary.

**Letters to Editor:**

Letters to Editors are responses to items published in MJM or to communicate a very important message that is time sensitive and cannot wait for the full process of peer review. Letters that include statements of statistics, facts, research, or theories should not exceed 1,000 words (5 references). Letters should not exceed 1,000 words; with a maximum of two (2) tables; three (3) graphs; and up to ten (10) references. It should consist of a Summary and the Main Text. The summary should be limited to 250 words and provided immediately after the title page. Having a unique learning outcome. Diagnosis, pathology, or management of the case is more valuable than the finding of a rare entity. Being able to report the outcome and length of survival of a rare problem is more valuable than merely describing what treatment was rendered at the time of diagnosis. There should be no more than seven (7) authors.

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**ORIGINAL ARTICLES**

- **Original Articles** are reports on findings from original unpublished research. Preference


Books and Other Monographs:

Personal Author(s)


Chapter in Book


Corporate Author


Online articles

Webpage: Webpages are referenced with their URL and access date, and as much other information as is available. Cited date is important as webpage can be updated and URLs change. The cited should contain the month and year accessed.


Newspaper Article

Panitchwilliam V. ‘No outdoor activities if weather too hot’. the Sun; 2016; March 18: 9(col. 1-3).

Magazine Article


Tables:

All tables and figures should have a concise title and should not occupy more than one printed page. The title should concisely and clearly explain the content of the table or figure. They should be numbered consecutively with Roman numerals (e.g Table I) and figures with Arabic numerals (e.g. Figure 1), and placed after the sections of the manuscript which they reflect, particularly the results which they describe on separate pages. Cite tables in the text in consecutive order. Indicate table footnote with lower-case letters in superscript font. Place the information for the footnote beneath the body of the table. All tables and figures should also be sent in electronic format on submission of the manuscript and supplementary files through the journal management platform. Clinical Photographs should conceal the subject’s identity. Tables and flow-charts should be submitted as Microsoft Word documents. Images should be submitted as separate JPG files (minimum resolution of 300 dpi).

Photographs of Patients:

Proof of permission and/or consent from the patient or legal guardian must be submitted with the manuscript. A statement on this must be included as a footnote to the relevant photograph.

Colour reproduction:

Illustrations and diagrams are normally reproduced in black and white only. Colour reproductions can be included if so required and upon request by the authors. However, a nominal charge must be paid by the authors for this additional service; the charges to be determined as and when on a per article basis.

Abbreviations:

Use only standard abbreviations. The full-term for which an abbreviation stands should precede its first use in the abstract, article text, tables, and figures, unless it is a standard unit of measurement. Abbreviations shall not be used in the Title. Abbreviations should be kept to a minimum.

Formatting of text:

Numbers one to ten in the text are written out in words unless they are used as a unit of measurement, except in tables and figures. Use single hard-returns to separate paragraphs. Do not use tabs or indents to start a paragraph. Do not use automatic formatting of your software, such as hyphenation, en-dotes, headers, or footers (especially for references). Submit the Manuscript in plain text only, removed all ‘field codes’ before submission. Do not include line numbers. Include only page number.

BETTER PAPER AWARD

All original papers which are accepted for publication by the MJM, will be considered for the ‘Better Paper Award’ for the year of publication. No award will be made for any particular year if none of the submitted papers are judged to be of suitable quality.