SN Comprehensive Clinical Medicine

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Description

SN Comprehensive Clinical Medicine is a comprehensive journal dedicated to all disciplines of clinical medicine and its subspecialties.

- Focuses on ensuring results are accurately reported
- Editorial process of SN Comprehensive Clinical Medicine does not judge on research significance
- Reviewers are asked to focus on the validity of the data and conclusions presented

Aims and Scope

SN Comprehensive Clinical Medicine is a broadly based, peer reviewed journal publishing in all disciplines of clinical medicine and their subspecialties. The journal serves the international medical community for the dissemination of information connecting research, theory and practice in these fields.

The editorial process of *SN Comprehensive Clinical Medicine* does judge on research and education value: all valid research including longer and brief reports, case studies, negative and positive results, study protocols will be considered (see all formats considered below). Reviewers are asked to focus on the validity of the data and conclusions presented to ensure that results are accurately reported. The journal reviews each submission from a 'sound science' perspective.
The journal meets international research integrity standards.

SN Comprehensive Clinical Medicine welcomes submissions from a wide range of medical fields from basic and translational research, clinical studies and methods and research to health care delivery.
The following article types are considered for publication:

- Research
- Brief report
- Case report
- Image
- Review
- Perspective
- Study protocols
- Editorials
- Correspondence
- Matters arising
- Hypothesis
- Comment
- Consensus article
- Methodology
- Meeting report

In addition to direct submissions, ***SN Comprehensive Clinical Medicine*** welcomes papers that have been referred from Springer Nature's prestigious clinical medicine journal portfolio.

This journal also publishes guest-edited collections. The peer review process for these articles is the same as the peer review process of the journal in general. Additionally, if the guest editor(s) authors an article in their special issue, they will not handle the peer review process.

Online Manuscript Submission

Manuscripts must be submitted online through the Editorial Manager® system that manages the entire workflow of all manuscripts. Careful attention to the submission process is critical.
Editorial Manager® supports a wide range of submission file formats. For manuscripts, Word is preferred and will make submission easier. WordPerfect, RTF, TXT, and LaTex are also acceptable. For figures, use

TIFF, GIF, JPEG, EPS, PPT, or Postscript. PDF is not an acceptable file format.
For Questions related to manuscript submission or preparation, please contact the Editorial Office of ***SN Comprehensive Clinical Medicine***: mariafe.delaserna@springernature.com

Manuscript Submission
Submission of a manuscript implies: that the work described has not been published before; that it is not under consideration for publication anywhere else; that its publication has been approved by all coauthors, if any, as well as by the responsible authorities – tacitly or explicitly – at the institute where the work has been carried out. The publisher will not be held legally responsible should there be any claims for compensation.

Permissions
Authors wishing to include figures, tables, or text passages that have already been published elsewhere are required to obtain permission from the copyright owner(s) for both the print and online format and to include evidence that such permission has been granted when submitting their papers. Any material received without such evidence will be assumed to originate from the authors.

Submission Process Overview

The following separate files are needed for the submission process:
1. Cover letter that identifies the type of article and confirms that it complies with all Instructions for Authors
2. Manuscript file that includes the title page, details page and abstract (Word format preferred)
3. Separate files for each table and figure
4. Comments to the editorial staff (if any)
5. Supplemental Files (optional)
6. ICJME Conflict of Interest (COI) form for each author found here
7. Checklists should be completed as appropriate, and included at the end of the manuscript:
    - Case Reports – CARE Guidelines
    - Observational studies – STROBE
    - Randomized trials – CONSORT
    - Systematic review, meta-analysis – PRISMA
    - Diagnostic accuracy – STARD
    - Quality improvement studies – SQUIRE
    - Animal research – ARRIVE
    - Multivariable prediction model for individual prognosis or diagnosis – TRIPOD

More information about checklists can be found at Equator Network

To submit: Go to https://www.editorialmanager.com/sncm and log in as an author
You will be asked to complete the following steps:

1. Begin submission with selection of an article type
2. Upload your manuscript, preferably as a Word file.
3. Select classifications (used to match the manuscript with appropriate reviewers)
4. Provide any additional comments, if desired
5. Enter the full title of the article
6. Enter the abstract
7. Enter authors' information for each author (title, full name, e-mail address, institution and country)
8. Declarations:
   All manuscripts must contain the following sections under the heading '**Declarations**', to be placed before 'References'. If any of the sections are not relevant to your manuscript, please include the heading and write 'Not applicable' for that section.
   i. **Funding** (information that explains whether and by whom the research was supported)
   ii. **Conflicts of interest/Competing interests** (include appropriate disclosures)

iii. **Ethics approval** (include appropriate approvals or waivers)
iv. **Consent to participate** (include appropriate statements)
v. **Written Consent for publication** (include appropriate statements)
vi. **Availability of data and material** (data transparency)
vii. **Code availability** (software application or custom code)
viii. **Authors' contributions**

9. Create pdf for review
10. Correct or approve the pdf for submission

Article Types

- **Researches**
  Reports of unpublished articles of data on medical research.
- **Brief report**
  Original researches with a maximum of 3 figures and 2500 words.
- **Case Report**
  A brief report of a small group of patients (1 to 3) or a family.
- **Perspective**
  Submissions for Viewpoints should raise an issue, provide a perspective, or make an argument about a topic relevant to clinical medicine.
- **Correspondence**
  Submissions should express views related to articles previously published in the journal or present ideas/findings of scientific interest that do not constitute original research.
- **Editorials**
  Comments on one or more articles in the Journal or present the opinion on cutting edge topic in the field. They are also the introductory articles for collections. Editorial articles are solicited by invitation only.
- **Matters Arising**
  Timely scientific or academic comments and clarifications on original research papers published in the journal. These comments should be based on knowledge contemporaneous with the original paper, rather than subsequent scientific or academic developments. They can be published alongside a Reply from the original authors
- **Review**
  Narrative and meta-analyses review articles that discuss and summarize relevant evidences related to the bases of diseases, diagnoses and therapies.
- **Consensus articles**
  Consensus articles are evidence based analyses of issues relevant to health services, health care management, public health and health policy. Authors are expected to integrate findings, ideas and/or conceptual frameworks from a variety of sources in a clear and balanced way.
- **Images**
  Significant, good quality images illustrating innovative or unusual therapeutic techniques or a short clinical case with a significant medical image.
- **Methodology**
  Short article giving a brief description of a specific development, technique or procedure, or it may describe a modification of an existing technique, procedure or device applicable to medicine. The technique, procedure or device described should have practical value and should contribute to clinical diagnosis or management. It could also present a software tool, or an experimental or computational method. The main criteria for publication will be the novelty of concepts involved, the validity of the technique and its potential for clinical applications.
- **Study Protocols**
  Articles documenting the design of prospective research and that are intended to facilitate dissemination of ongoing studies and promote transparency.

- **Comments**
  Short papers presenting the opinion of experts on special topics of general interest.
- **Hypothesis**
  Articles that present a novel argument, interpretation or model intended to introduce a new hypothesis or theory. They should provide the following: 1) New interpretation of recent data or findings in a specific area of investigation, 2) Presentation of previously posed hypotheses or theories, 3) Hypothesis presented should be testable in the framework of current knowledge, 4) May include original data as well as personal insights and opinions.
- **Meeting report**
  The Meeting Report article type denotes an account of proceedings at a recent conference of broad interest to the target readership of the journal.

Instructions for Authors

General requirements for all submissions:

Title Page

Title

The title page should include:

• A concise and informative title
• The name(s) of the author(s)
• The affiliation(s) and address(es) of the author(s)
• The e-mail address, and telephone number(s) of the corresponding author

Abstract

Abstracts are only to be included for *Original Articles, Brief Communications, Case Reports and Reviews, Points of View, Matters Arising, Technical Note, Editorials and Pictorial Assays*
Structured abstracts for Original Articles submissions should be of 150 to 250 words, and should be divided into the following sections:

• Background/Objective
• Methods
• Results
• Conclusions

Abstracts for other types of articles do not require those headings.

Keywords

Please provide 4 to 6 keywords which can be used for indexing purposes.

Text

The text should be written in standard scientific English and carefully proofread. Non-standard abbreviations should be avoided wherever possible; if used they should be defined on first use and be dissimilar from other abbreviations.

Text Formatting

• Use a normal, plain font (e.g., 11-point Times Roman) for the text.
• Use italics for emphasis.
• Use the automatic page numbering function to number the pages.
• Do not use field functions.
• Use tab stops or other commands for indents, not the space bar.
• Use the table function, not spreadsheets, to make tables.
• Use the equation editor or MathType for equations.
• Save your file in docx format (Word 2007 or higher) or doc format (older Word versions).

Footnotes

Footnotes can be used to give additional information, which may include the citation of a reference included in the reference list. They should not consist solely of a reference citation, and they should never

include the bibliographic details of a reference. They should also not contain any figures or tables. Footnotes to the text are numbered consecutively; those to tables should be indicated by superscript lower-case letters (or asterisks for significance values and other statistical data). Footnotes to the title or the authors of the article are not given reference symbols. Always use footnotes instead of endnotes.

Acknowledgments

Include details about support for the work including Funder, Award Number, and Grant Recipient. The names of funding organizations should be written in full. Acknowledgments for people can be also added in the manuscript.

Declarations

All manuscripts must contain the following sections under the heading '**Declarations**', to be placed before 'References'. If any of the sections are not relevant to your manuscript, please include the heading and write 'Not applicable' for that section.

i. **Funding** (information that explains whether and by whom the research was supported)

ii. **Conflicts of interest/Competing interests** (include appropriate disclosures)

A statement specifying whether or not the authors have a conflict of interest should be included. Further details on *Disclosure of Potential Conflicts of Interest* can be found below.

iii. **Ethics approval** (include appropriate approvals or waivers)

iv. **Consent to participate** (include appropriate statements)

v. **Consent for publication** (include appropriate statements)

vi. **Availability of data and material** (data transparency)

vii. **Code availability** (software application or custom code)

viii. **Authors' contributions**

A statement specifying the contributions of every author should be added in the text. Further details on the *Criteria for Authorship* can be found below.

References

Citation

Reference citations in the text should be identified by numbers in square brackets. Some examples:

1. Negotiation research spans many disciplines [3].
2. This result was later contradicted by Becker and Seligman [5].
3. This effect has been widely studied [1-3, 7].

Reference list

The list of references should only include works that are cited in the text and that have been published or accepted for publication. Personal communications and unpublished works should only be mentioned in the text. Do not use footnotes or endnotes as a substitute for a reference list.

The entries in the list should be numbered consecutively.

- **Journal article**
  Smith JJ. The world of science. Am J Sci. 1999;36:234–5.
- **Article by DOI**
  Slifka MK, Whitton JL. Clinical implications of dysregulated cytokine production. J Mol Med. 2000; https://doi.org/10.1007/s001090000086
- **Book**
  Blenkinsopp A, Paxton P. Symptoms in the pharmacy: a guide to the management of common illness. 3rd ed. Oxford: Blackwell Science; 1998.
- **Book chapter**
  Wyllie AH, Kerr JFR, Currie AR. Cell death: the significance of apoptosis. In: Bourne GH, Danielli JF, Jeon KW, editors. International review of cytology. London: Academic; 1980. pp. 251–306.
- **Online document**
  Doe J. Title of subordinate document. In: The dictionary of substances and their effects. Royal

Society of Chemistry. 1999. http://www.rsc.org/dose/title of subordinate document. Accessed 15 Jan 1999.

Always use the standard abbreviation of a journal's name according to the ISSN List of Title Word Abbreviations, see ISSN.org LTWA. If you are unsure, please use the full journal title.

For authors using EndNote, Springer provides an output style that supports the formatting of in-text citations and reference list, here: EndNote style (zip, 3 kB).

Tables

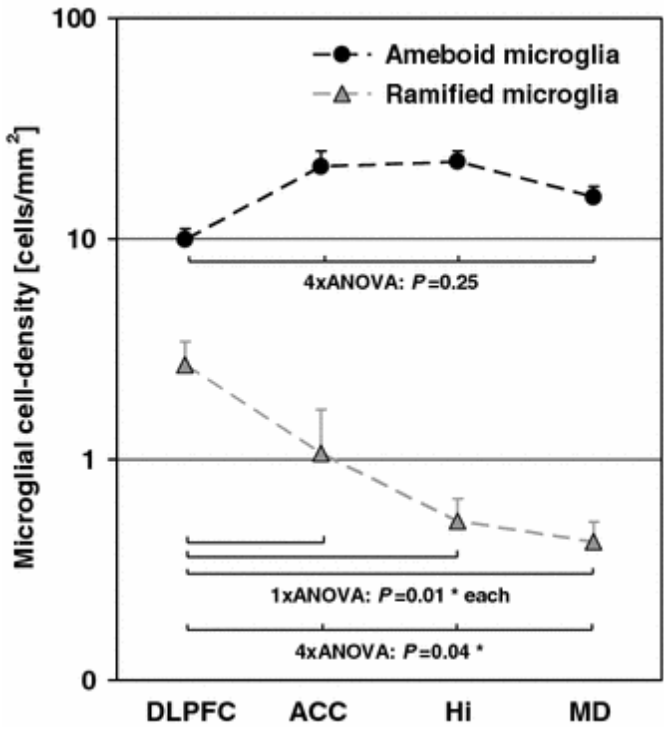
• All tables are to be numbered using Arabic numerals.
• Tables should always be cited in text in consecutive numerical order.
• For each table, please supply a table caption (title) explaining the components of the table.
• Identify any previously published material by giving the original source in the form of a reference at the end of the table caption.
• Footnotes to tables should be indicated by superscript lower-case letters (or asterisks for significance values and other statistical data) and included beneath the table body.

Artwork and Illustrations Guidelines

Electronic Figure Submission

• Supply all figures electronically.
• Indicate what graphics program was used to create the artwork.
• For vector graphics, the preferred format is EPS; for halftones, please use TIFF format. MSOffice files are also acceptable.
• Vector graphics containing fonts must have the fonts embedded in the files.
• Name your figure files with "Fig" and the figure number, e.g., Fig1.eps.

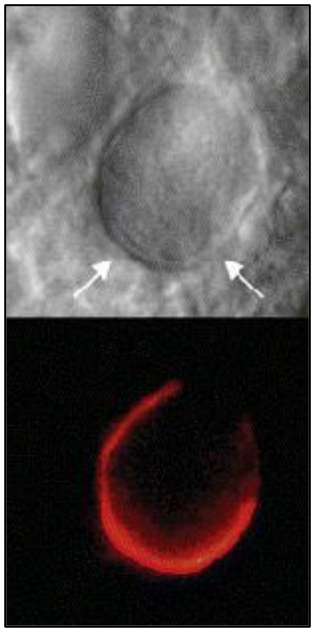
Line Art



• Definition: Black and white graphic with no shading.
• Do not use faint lines and/or lettering and check that all lines and lettering within the figures are legible at final size.
• All lines should be at least 0.1 mm (0.3 pt) wide.
• Scanned line drawings and line drawings in bitmap format should have a minimum resolution of 1200

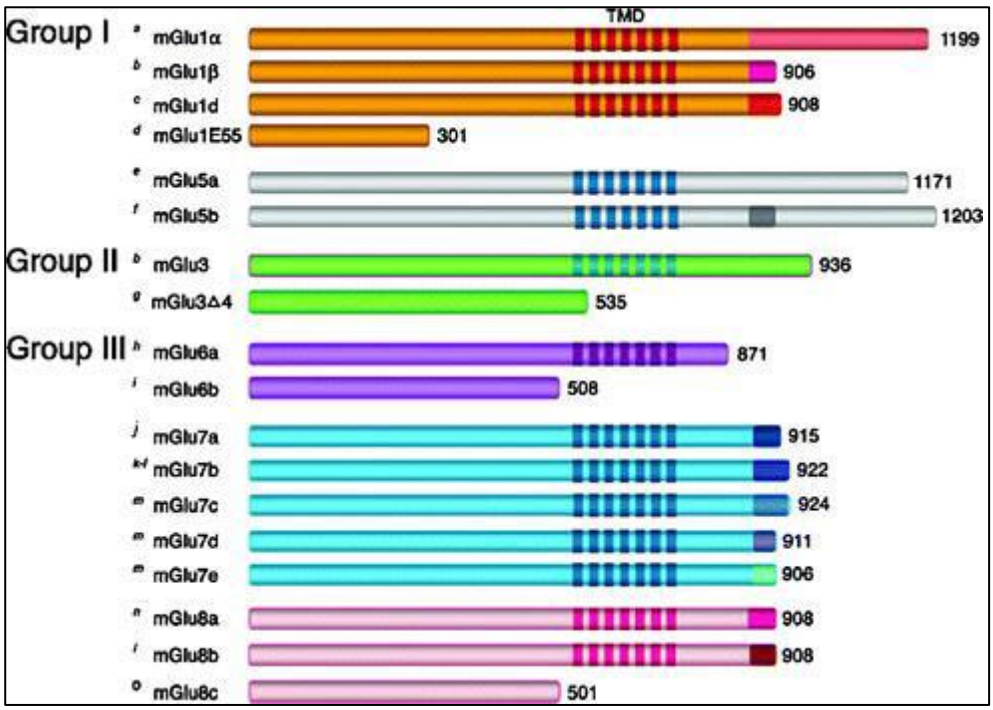
dpi.
• Vector graphics containing fonts must have the fonts embedded in the files.

Halftone Art



• Definition: Photographs, drawings, or paintings with fine shading, etc.
• If any magnification is used in the photographs, indicate this by using scale bars within the figures themselves.
• Halftones should have a minimum resolution of 300 dpi.

Combination Art



• Definition: a combination of halftone and line art, e.g., halftones containing line drawing, extensive lettering, color diagrams, etc.
• Combination artwork should have a minimum resolution of 600 dpi.

Color Art

• Color illustrations should be submitted as RGB (8 bits per channel).

Figure Lettering

• To add lettering, it is best to use Helvetica or Arial (sans serif fonts).

• Keep lettering consistently sized throughout your final-sized artwork, usually about 2–3 mm (8–12 pt).
• Variance of type size within an illustration should be minimal, e.g., do not use 8-pt type on an axis and 20-pt type for the axis label.
• Avoid effects such as shading, outline letters, etc.
• Do not include titles or captions within your illustrations.

Figure Numbering

• All figures are to be numbered using Arabic numerals.
• Figures should always be cited in text in consecutive numerical order.
• Figure parts should be denoted by lowercase letters (a, b, c, etc.).
• If an appendix appears in your article and it contains one or more figures, continue the consecutive numbering of the main text. Do not number the appendix figures "A1, A2, A3, etc."
• Figures in online appendices (Electronic Supplementary Material) should, however, be numbered separately.

Figure Captions

• Each figure should have a concise caption describing accurately what the figure depicts. Include the captions in the text file of the manuscript, not in the figure file.
• Figure captions begin with the term Fig. in bold type, followed by the figure number, also in bold type.
• No punctuation is to be included after the number, nor is any punctuation to be placed at the end of the caption.
• Identify all elements found in the figure in the figure caption; and use boxes, circles, etc., as coordinate points in graphs.
• Identify previously published material by giving the original source in the form of a reference citation at the end of the figure caption.

Figure Placement and Size

• Figures should be submitted separately from the text, if possible.

Permissions

If you include figures that have already been published elsewhere, you must obtain permission from the copyright owner(s). Please be aware that some publishers do not grant electronic rights for free and that Springer will not be able to refund any costs that may have occurred to receive these permissions. In such cases, material from other sources should be used.

Accessibility

In order to give people of all abilities and disabilities access to the content of your figures, please make sure that:
• All figures have descriptive captions (blind users could then use a text-to-speech software or a text-to-Braille hardware)
• Patterns are used instead of or in addition to colors for conveying information (colorblind users would then be able to distinguish the visual elements)
• Any figure lettering has a contrast ratio of at least 4.5:1

Electronic Supplementary Material

Springer accepts electronic multimedia files (animations, movies, audio, etc.) and other supplementary files to be published online along with an article or a book chapter. This feature can add dimension to the author's article, as certain information cannot be printed or is more convenient in electronic form. Before submitting research datasets as electronic supplementary material, authors should read the journal’s Research data policy. We encourage research data to be archived in data repositories wherever possible.

Submission

• Supply all supplementary material in standard file formats.
• Please include in each file the following information: article title, journal name, author names; affiliation and e-mail address of the corresponding author.
• To accommodate user downloads, please keep in mind that larger-sized files may require very long download times and that some users may experience other problems during downloading.

Audio, Video, and Animations

• Aspect ratio: 16:9 or 4:3
• Maximum file size: 25 GB
• Minimum video duration: 1 sec
• Supported file formats: .avi, .wmv, .mp4, .mov, .m2p, .mp2, .mpg, .mpeg, .flv, .mxf, .mts, .m4v, .3gp

Text and Presentations

• Submit your material in PDF format; .doc or .ppt files are not suitable for long-term viability.
• A collection of figures may also be combined in a PDF file.

Spreadsheets

• Spreadsheets should be submitted as .csv or .xlsx files (MS Excel).

Specialized Formats

• Specialized format such as .pdb (chemical), .wrl (VRML), .nb (Mathematica notebook), and .tex can also be supplied.

Collecting Multiple Files

• It is possible to collect multiple files in a .zip or .gz file.

Numbering

• If supplying any supplementary material, the text must make specific mention of the material as a citation, similar to that of figures and tables.
• Refer to the supplementary files as “Online Resource”, e.g., "... as shown in the animation (Online Resource 3)", “... additional data are given in Online Resource 4”.
• Name the files consecutively, e.g. “ESM_3.mpg”, “ESM_4.pdf”.

Captions

• For each supplementary material, please supply a concise caption describing the content of the file.

Processing of supplementary files

• Electronic supplementary material will be published as received from the author without any conversion, editing, or reformatting.

Accessibility

In order to give people of all abilities and disabilities access to the content of your supplementary files, please make sure that
• The manuscript contains a descriptive caption for each supplementary material
• Video files do not contain anything that flashes more than three times per second (so that users prone to seizures caused by such effects are not put at risk)

Special Requirements for Submission Types

Original Article

• An Original Article should consist of a scholarly investigation on any aspect of clinical, translational or computational medicine that produces new knowledge.
• There are no specific limits to number of authors, word count, or tables/figures; still authors are expected to communicate their message succinctly.
• **Abstract**: Structured abstract, maximum of 250 words. The abstract should provide the context or background for the study and should state the study's purpose, basic procedures, main findings (include data values and their statistical and clinical significance, if appropriate, not just descriptive terms), and principal conclusions. It should emphasize new and important aspects of the study or observations, note important limitations, and not over-interpret findings. It should include the following sections: Background/Objective, Methods, Results, and Conclusions.
• **Body of Manuscript**: The text should be divided into the following sections: Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, and Conclusions.
• **Introduction**: Provide a context or background for the study (that is, the nature of the problem and its significance). State the specific purpose or research objective of, or hypothesis tested by, the study or observation. Cite only directly pertinent references and do not include data or conclusions from the work being reported.
• **Methods**: The guiding principle of the Methods section should be clarity about how and why a

study was done in a particular way. Methods section should aim to be sufficiently detailed such that others with access to the data would be able to reproduce the results. It should include a statement indicating that the research was approved by an independent local, regional or national review body.
• **Results**: Present your results in logical sequence in the text, tables, and figures, giving the main or most important findings first. Do not repeat all the data in the tables or figures in the text; emphasize or summarize only the most important observations. Provide data on all primary and secondary outcomes identified in the Methods section. Give numeric results not only as derivatives (e.g. percentages) but also as the absolute numbers from which the derivatives were calculated, and specify the statistical significance attached to them, if any.
• **Discussion**: Begin the discussion by briefly summarizing the main findings and explore possible mechanisms or explanations for these findings. Emphasize the new and important aspects of your study and put your findings in the context of the totality of the relevant evidence. State the limitations of your study and explore the implications of your findings for future research and for clinical practice or policy.
• **Conclusions**: Link the conclusions with the goals of the study but avoid unqualified statements and conclusions not adequately supported by the data.

Brief Communication

• Submissions should provide a high-quality original research presented in a short format.
• The articles should not be preliminary reports and should be of significant and broad interest to the readers of ***SN Comprehensive Clinical Medicine***.
• Abstract: no headings required, 250 words maximum
• The text should be divided into the following sections: Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, and Conclusions. The sections Results and Discussion can be merged into a single section.
• Maximum number of figures: 3
• Maximum article length: 2,500 words (applies to the body of the manuscript only)

Case Report

• Submissions should provide informative original case reports of clinical impact.
Case reports should make a contribution to medical knowledge and must have educational value or highlight the need for a change in clinical practice or diagnostic/prognostic approaches.
• The Abstract must include headings: Introduction; Case Presentation; Conclusions. 250 words maximum.
• The text should be divided into the following sections: Introduction, Case Presentation and Conclusions.
• The Case Presentation section should include a description of the patient's relevant demographic details, medical history, symptoms and signs, treatment or intervention, outcomes and any other significant details.
• Conclusions should include an explanation of the case relevance and its importance to the field.

Points of view

• Maximum number of authors: 7
• Abstract: no headings required, 250 words maximum
• Maximum article length: 2,500 words (applies to the body of the manuscript only)

Letter to the editor

• Maximum number of authors: 4
• No abstract
• Maximum article length: 1,500 words
• Reference limit: 5; the first reference must be the publication in question.

Review Article

• Review articles should address a focused topic, issue or question relevant to clinical medicine.
• Submissions should be balanced, comprehensive, and up-to-date.
• Submissions should not simply restate the literature but rather interpret and integrate the findings to provide a framework for understanding the literature on a particular topic.
• Maximum number of authors: 7
• Abstract: no headings required, 250 words maximum
• Maximum article length: 5,500 words (applies to the body of the manuscript only)

Matters Arising

- The article title of the initial Matters Arising article should refer to, but not be identical to, the article title of the original published paper.
- The main text should be as concise as possible, and ideally not exceed 1,200 words.
- Manuscripts should include no more than 2 figures or tables.
- The article should be measured in tone, and should not contain inflammatory or otherwise intemperate language.
- References should not exceed the total of 15 citations

Pictorial essays

Articles should not exceed 7500 characters, not be signed by more than 5 authors, and not include more than 1 figure, 1 table and 5 references. No abstract and keywords are required, and the text should not be divided into separate sections.

Technical Note

Articles should not exceed 7500 characters, not be signed by more than 5 authors, and not include more 5 references. Figures and tables are welcome. No abstract and keywords are required.

Editorials

Editorials should not exceed 20.000 characters, not be signed by more than 3 authors, include no more than 2 figures or tables and references should not exceed the number of 20. Abstract and keywords are not required.

Opinion papers

They should not exceed 20.000 characters, not be signed by more than 4 authors, and include no more than 2 tables or figures. Abstracts and keywords are highly recommended. References should not exceed the number of 20.

Hypothesis and Theory

Hypothesis and Theory should not exceed 12,000 words and no more than 2 figures and tables.

Study Protocols

Study Protocol articles have a maximum word count of 12,000 and may include up to 4 Figures/Tables.

Ethics approval and consent to participate: Manuscripts reporting studies involving human participants, human data or human tissue must:
• Include a statement on ethics approval and consent (even where the need for approval was waived).
• Include the name of the ethics committee that approved the study and the committee's reference number if appropriate.
• See below for more information on *Ethical Responsibilities of Authors, Compliance with Ethical Standards and Research Involving Human Participants and/or Animals.*
Consent for publication: If your manuscript contains any individual person's data in any form,

Written consent to publish must be obtained from that person, or in the case of children, their parent or legal guardian. All presentations of case reports must have consent to publish. If your manuscript does not contain any personal data, please state "Not applicable" in this section.
SN CCM requires authors to follow the CARE guidelines. The CARE checklist should be provided as a supplementary file. Submissions received without these elements will be returned to the authors as incomplete. The checklist is intended to assist authors in writing up their reports and to optimize the quality of reporting.

Criteria for Authorship

The criteria for authorship adopted by **SN Comprehensive Clinical Medicine** are set by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (https://www.icmje.org/) A discussion of role of authors and criteria for authorship can be found here.

Authorship credit should be based only on:
1) substantial contributions to conception and design,
acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data;
2) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content;
and 3) final approval of the version to be published.
Conditions 1, 2, and 3 must all be met.
Acquisition of funding, the collection of data, feedback on the manuscript, or general supervision of the research group, by themselves, do not justify authorship.

Disclosure of Potential Conflicts of Interest

Authors must disclose all relationships or interests that could influence or bias the work. Although an author may not feel there are conflicts, disclosure of relationships and interests affords a more transparent process, leading to an accurate and objective assessment of the work. Awareness of real or perceived conflicts of interests is a perspective to which the readers are entitled and is not meant to imply that a financial relationship with an organization that sponsored the research or compensation for consultancy work is inappropriate. Examples of potential conflicts of interests that are directly or indirectly related to the research may include but are not limited to the following:
• Research grants from funding agencies (please give the research funder and the grant number)
• Honoraria for speaking at symposia
• Financial support for attending symposia
• Financial support for educational programs
• Employment or consultation
• Support from a project sponsor
• Position on advisory board or board of directors or other type of management relationships
• Multiple affiliations
• Financial relationships, for example equity ownership or investment interest
• Intellectual property rights (e.g. patents, copyrights and royalties from such rights)
• Holdings of spouse and/or children that may have financial interest in the work
In addition, interests that go beyond financial interests and compensation (non-financial interests) that may be important to readers should be disclosed. These may include but are not limited to personal relationships or competing interests directly or indirectly tied to this research, or professional interests or personal beliefs that may influence your research.
The corresponding author collects the conflict of interest disclosure forms from all authors. (Please note that each author should complete a disclosure form.) Examples of forms can be found here
Please make sure to submit all Conflict of Interest disclosure forms together with the manuscript.

See below examples of disclosures:
Funding: This study was funded by X (grant number X).
Conflict of Interest: Author A has received research grants from Company A. Author B has received a

speaker honorarium from Company X and owns stock in Company Y. Author C is a member of committee Z. If no conflict exists, the authors should state:
Conflict of Interest: Author A, Author B, and Author C declare that they have no conflict of interest.

Ethical Responsibilities of Authors

This journal is committed to upholding the integrity of the scientific record. As a member of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) the journal will follow the COPE guidelines on how to deal with potential acts of misconduct.
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