

Guidelines for Authors

The *Italian Journal of Wound Care* publishes scientific original contributions in Italian and English.

Italian authors are invited to upload their article in Italian and, if accepted, they will be required to have it translated in English. Non-Italian authors are invited to upload their article in English and, if accepted, they will be required to have it translated in Italian.

Professional copyediting can help authors improve the presentation of their work and increase its chances of being taken on by a publisher. In case you feel that your manuscript needs a professional English language copyediting checking language grammar and style, you can find a reliable revision service at:



Once approved by the Scientific Committee, contributions will be sent to at least two anonymous reviewers.

Contributions must be 5000 words long max.

Manuscript

Manuscript must be prepared as follows.

General structure

- Double spaced;
- Use the automatic page numbering and continuous line numbering functions;
- The file will include *tables with their captions, at the bottom of the text; figures must be uploaded online separately (high resolution) as supplementary files.*
- Manuscript must be divided in: Title page (first page), Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions, References.

Title page (first page)

- First page must include Title (informative and concise), Authors (names and surnames; if there are multiple authors indicate each author's contribution, e.g. study concept and design, manuscript/drafting revising, data analysis and interpretation, study supervision, and coordination, manuscript final approval, etc.), Affiliations, Details of the Corresponding Author (address of the affiliation, telephone and fax

numbers, e-mail), Abstract (300 words max.), Key words (3 to 5), Possible conflict of interest, Funds, Acknowledgments, etc.

Pay special attention to Title and Abstract in English as they will be used to index the Journal;

Abstract must not include citations and must summarise the content of the paper, i.e. definition of the problem, objectives, materials and methods, results and conclusions.

Main body of the text

The main body of the text must include number of sections (and possible under-sections), e.g.:

- *Introduction*: In this section the aim of the study and a review of literature about the treated matter (with a considerable number of citations) must be defined.
- *Materials and Methods*: In this section all information about available data and methodology used must be reported in order to allow the experience reproducibility.
- *Results*: In this section results of the study must be described. Data should be presented in a synthetic way also using figures and tables.
- *Discussion*: In this section, results are normally interpreted and compared with other cases of literature cited in the introduction.
- *Conclusions*: In this section, aim and results of the study are briefly resumed.

References

Only cited works (published or accepted for publication) within the text should be listed in the references list, and all references must be cited within the text.

Personal communications and unpublished reports must be inserted just in the text (add *unpublished* within brackets). Do not use footnotes for references.

– In-text citations

Citations must be reported using superscript arabic numerals following punctuation; see the following cases as example:

- Text text text.¹ Text text text,^{2,3} text text text. Text text text (Tabella 1). Text text text.⁸ (*where Table 1 includes citations from 4 to 7*).

– List of citations at the end of the text

For all types of citations at the end of the text it is allowed to cite max. 3 authors (surname + names initials). If there are more than 3 authors add et al.; in case there are 4 authors, all of them must be cited. Number of pages must be abbreviated.

Articles published in journals

Titles of journals must be abbreviated (without dots) following recommendations indicated here:

a. <http://library.caltech.edu/reference/abbreviations/>

b. <http://home.ncifcrf.gov/research/bja/>

c. ftp://ftp.ncbi.nih.gov/pubmed/J_Medline.txt

Year of publication must follow the name of the Journal. Only the volume must be cited (not the issue).

Halpern SD, Ubel PA, Caplan AL. Solid-organ transplantation in HIV-infected patients. *N Engl J Med* 2002;347:284-7.

Book

Murray PR, Rosenthal KS, Kobayashi GS, et al. *Medical microbiology*. 4th ed. St. Louis, MO: Mosby; 2002.

Chapter of a book

Meltzer PS, Kallioniemi A, Trent JM. Chromosome alterations in human solid tumors. In: Vogelstein B, Kinzler KW, eds. *The genetic basis of human cancer*. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill; 2002. pp 93-113.

Online document

Neri M (2008) Groundwater in ancient time. In: *The dictionary of substances and their effects*. Royal Society of Chemistry. Available from: <http://www.rsc.org/dose/groundwater>

Tables

Tables must be added at the end of the text in .doc format (not as a picture).

Tables must be listed as Table n° XXX.

All tables must be numbered using arabic numerals.

Tables must be listed in the text consecutively.

E.g.: *Table 3. Fautrel's criteria for the diagnosis of adult-onset Still's disease.*

Figures

Figures must be submitted as separated files (supplementary file) as high resolution, and included in the manuscript as low resolution.

Figures must be listed as Figure n° XXX.

All figures must be numbered using arabic numerals.

Figures must be listed in the text consecutively.

As a rule, authors must ascertain that each figure is at least 300 dpi (if color) or 600 (if black and white). Figures should be 8.5 cm if one column wide, 17.5 cm wide if two columns wide.

For graphs the axis units are needed.

Es.: *Figure 1. Non-itchy patch of about 5 cm in diameter, salmon-pink in color localized in the right leg.*

IMPORTANT: If some parts of your Figures have been taken from figures included in the references above, written confirmation of permission is requested. Indeed, as per copyright laws, when Figures/Tables are taken from other works, not only the Author must quote the work including the Figures/Tables at stake, but they must also ask for a written permission of reproducing those Figures/Tables.

Types of manuscripts

Original articles (3500 words max, abstract 350 words max, 50 references max, 3/5 tables and/or figures): Reports of original and scientifically valid basic and applied research in the field of wound care. In general, this kind of publication should be divided into: Abstract, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions and References.

Review article (5000 words max, abstract 250 words max, 40 to 100 references, tables and/or figures): They are usually commissioned by the Editor in Chief or the Editorial Board. They should be introduced by a general summary of content in the form of an Abstract. Following a short introduction, putting the study into context and defining the aim, reviews will concentrate on the most recent clinical updates in the field and summarize the state-of-the-art literature. A review should clearly describe the search strategy followed (key words, inclusion, exclusion criteria, search engines, ...). No particular format is required; headings should be used to designate the major divisions of the paper.

Case Reports (ca. 2000 words, abstract 150 words max, 20 references max, tables and/or figures): Reports describing observations on clinical cases that can be educational, including adverse effects of drugs or outcomes of a specific treatment. They should be divided into: Abstract, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions and References.

Editorials (ca. 1000 words, abstract not requested): These contributions are usually invited or addressed by editors about emerging or important issues in the field of wound care

Letters to the Editor (ca. 800 words): These are written on invitation, short essays that express the authors' viewpoint, may respond to published manuscripts in our journals, or deliver information or news regarding an issue related to the Journal scope. If the letter relates to a published manuscript, the authors of the original manuscript will be given the opportunity to provide a respond. Authors of Letters to the Editor should provide a short title.

Submission Preparation Checklist

As part of the submission process, authors are required to check off their submission's compliance with all of the following items, and submissions may be returned to authors that do not adhere to these guidelines.

1. The submission has not been previously published, nor is it before another journal for consideration (or an explanation has been provided in Comments to the Editor). While the manuscript is undergoing the peer review phase, the authors will not submit the manuscript to another journal without notifying the editor
2. The submission file is in OpenOffice, Microsoft Word, RTF, or PDF document file format.
3. The text adheres to the stylistic and bibliographic requirements outlined in the [Author Guidelines](#), which is found in About the Journal.
4. We fight plagiarism: please understand that your article will be checked with available tools for discovering plagiarism.

Peer review policy

All manuscripts submitted to our journal are critically assessed by external and/or in-house experts in accordance with the principles of peer review (<http://www.icmje.org/-peer>), which is fundamental to the scientific publication process and the dissemination of sound science. Each paper is first assigned by the Editors to an appropriate Associate Editor who has knowledge of the field discussed in the manuscript. The first step of manuscript selection takes place entirely in-house and has two major objectives: i) to establish the article's appropriateness for our journals' readership; ii) to define the manuscript's priority ranking relative to other manuscripts under consideration, since the number of papers that the journal receives is much greater than it can publish. If a manuscript does not receive a sufficiently high priority score to warrant publication, the editors will proceed to a quick rejection. The remaining articles are reviewed by at least two different external referees (second step or classical peer review). Manuscripts should be prepared according to the Uniform Requirements established by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) (<http://www.icmje.org/-prepare>).

Authorship: all persons designated as authors should qualify for authorship according to the ICMJE criteria (http://www.icmje.org/ethical_1author.html). Each author should have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for the content. Authorship credit should only be based on substantial contributions to i) conception and design, or analysis and interpretation of data; and to ii) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and on iii) final approval of the version to be published. These three conditions must all be met. Participation solely in the acquisition of funding or the collection of data does not justify authorship. General supervision of the research group is not sufficient for authorship. Any part of an article critical to its main conclusions must be the responsibility of at least one author. Authors should provide a brief description of their individual contributions.

Obligation to Register Clinical Trials (http://www.icmje.org/#clin_trials): the ICMJE believes that it is important to foster a comprehensive, publicly available database of clinical trials. The ICMJE defines a clinical trial as any research project that prospectively assigns human subjects to intervention or concurrent comparison or control groups to study the cause-and-effect relationship between a medical intervention and a health outcome. Medical interventions include drugs, surgical procedures, devices, behavioral treatments, process-of-care changes, etc. Our journals require, as a condition of consideration for publication, registration in a public trials registry. The journal considers a trial for publication only if it has been registered before the enrollment of the first patient. The journal does not advocate one particular registry, but requires authors to register their trial in a registry that meets several criteria. The registry must be accessible to the public at no charge. It must be open to all prospective registrants and managed by a non-profit organization. There must be a mechanism to ensure the validity of the registration data, and the registry should be electronically searchable. An acceptable registry must include a minimum of data elements (http://www.icmje.org/#clin_trials). For example, ClinicalTrials.gov (<http://www.clinicaltrials.gov>), sponsored by the United States National Library of Medicine, meets these requirements.

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