

Journal of Gerontology: MEDICAL SCIENCES

General Information and Instructions to Authors Online Manuscript Submission Required (Note Updated Instructions)

THE JOURNAL OF GERONTOLOGY: MEDICAL SCIENCES is a monthly journal of The Gerontological Society of America. It publishes articles representing the full range of medical sciences pertaining to aging. Appropriate areas include, but are not limited to, basic medical science, clinical epidemiology, clinical research, and health services research for professions such as medicine, allied health sciences, and nursing. Priority will be given to manuscripts that focus on translational research; biology to physiology; bench to bedside; biomarkers; frailty; physiological mechanisms important to maintenance of biological homeostasis; pathogenesis, diagnosis and treatment of age-associated chronic conditions; normal and exceptional aging; age-related susceptibility to disease; factors related to longevity, quality of life in old age, nursing and institutional care. Additionally, short reports describing emerging technology, alternative medicine and general issues related to environmental health will be considered for publication. Authors are encouraged to contact the Editor prior to submission to inquire about the potential interest of their work to the Journal. Manuscripts should be submitted to the following sections: 1) Original articles, 2) Review articles, 3) Editorials, 4) Short Reports, 5) Letters to the Editor, and 6) News in the World of Geriatrics and Gerontology. It is editorial policy not to accept manuscripts of studies conducted in vitro or in animals. We also discourage submission of manuscripts covering social and psychological gerontology. These policies are designed to minimize overlap among the different sections of the Journal of Gerontology. Case reports will be considered sparingly, and only if they deal specifically with geriatric issues. All submissions are peer-reviewed and subject to final decision of the Editor. *Correspondence should be addressed to Luigi Ferrucci, MD, PhD, Editor, National Institute on Aging, Clinical Research Branch, Harbor Hospital, 5th Fl., 3001 S. Hanover St., Baltimore, MD 21225-1233, phone: (410) 350-7330, fax: (410) 350-7304. E-mail: ferruccil@mail.nih.gov.* Manuscripts must be submitted according to the instructions outlined below to <http://jgms.alltrack.net>.

Manuscript Preparation—Format and Style

1. General—Manuscripts should be prepared according to the American Medical Association (AMA) *Manual of Style*. 9th Ed. (1998). This manual is available at many academic and technical bookstores: some aspects are summarized below. Manuscripts reporting results of a randomized controlled trial (RCT) must follow the guidelines established in the CONSORT statement (<http://www.consent-statement.org/>). All manuscripts should be typed, double spaced, including references and tables, on 8½" × 11" white paper using 1" margins. Pages should be numbered consecutively beginning with the abstract and including all pages of the submission. A word count (total and text only) should appear on the title page. The order of presentation should be: title page, abstract, text, acknowledgments, references, tables, figure legends, and figures.

At the time of submission to the journal website (<http://jgms.alltrack.net/>), the corresponding author must read and initial certification information on behalf of all co-authors. Submission of a manuscript to the Journal implies that it has not been published and is not under consideration for publication elsewhere. All authors must have participated sufficiently in the conception and design of the work, the analysis of the data, as well as the writing of the manuscript to take public responsibility for it. They must have also approved the manuscript for submission. Any affiliation with or involvement in an organization or entity with a financial interest in the subject matter or materials presented in the manuscript must be declared. All authors must agree to produce the data on which the manuscript is based for examination by the Editor or his assignees should they request it to document procedures, clarify controversies, or verify results. If the paper is accepted for publication, a copyright transfer agreement will be sent to the first author. As a further condition of publication, the corresponding author will be responsible, where appropriate, for certifying that permission has been received to use copyrighted instruments or software employed in the research and that human or animal subjects approval has been obtained.

2. Original Articles (total length inclusive of all sections described below should not exceed 4,200 words)

a. *Text*. The text section should be no longer than 2,500 words. The text should be divided into sections with the following headings: Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion. Conciseness of expression is critical. The discussion may include conclusions derived from the study and supported by the data and should avoid excessive reviews of the literature. Number references in the text in the order in which they are first cited. Use Arabic numbers in parentheses, not superscripts.

b. *Title page*. The title page should include the title of the manuscript, the author's full name and degrees, and the name and location of the institution(s) where the work was performed. A short running head-line not to exceed 40 letters and spaces should be placed at the foot of the title page.

c. *Abstract*. Provide on a separate page an abstract of not more than 250 words. This abstract should consist of four paragraphs, labeled Background, Methods, Results, and Conclusions. They should briefly describe, respectively, the problem being addressed in the study, how the study was performed, the salient results, and what the authors conclude from the results.

d. *Conflict of Interest*. The Journal asks authors of research articles to disclose at the time of submission any financial arrangements they may have with a company whose product figures prominently in the submitted manuscript or with a company making a competing product. Such information will be held in confidence while the paper is under review and will not influence the editorial decision, but if the article is accepted for publication, the editors will formally arrange with the authors the manner in which such information is to be communicated to the reader.

e. *Acknowledgments*. Sources of research support, acknowledgments, preliminary reports or abstract presentation, and current location of authors, if different from

title page, may be indicated. Give name and mailing/E-mail addresses of author to whom correspondence should be addressed.

f. *References*. References should be limited to 40 or fewer. List references by number in the order in which they were first cited in the text. The reference style should conform to that given in the *AMA Manual of Style*. For periodicals, utilize the title abbreviation as given in *Index Medicus* and list all authors when six or fewer; when seven or more, list only first three and add et al. Examples are shown below.

Journal article

1. Milunsky A. Prenatal detection of neural tube defects, VI: experience with 20,000 pregnancies. *JAMA*. 1980; 244:2731–2735.

Books and other monographs

2. Stryer L. *Biochemistry*. 2nd Ed. San Francisco, Calif: WH Freeman Co; 1981:559–596.

Part of a book

3. Kavet J. Trends in the utilization of influenza vaccine: an examination of the implementation of public policy in the United States. In: Selby P, ed. *Influenza: Virus, Vaccines, and Strategy*. Orlando, Fla: Academic Press; 1976:297–308.

Notations of "unpublished work" or "personal communications" will not be accepted without documentation.

g. *Tables*. Each table should be typed, double spaced, on a separate sheet. Number the tables consecutively using Arabic numbers and supply a brief title at the top for each. Legends and footnotes for the table are typed immediately below the table and should follow the sequence cited in the *AMA Manual of Style*: *, †, ‡, §, ||, ¶, #, **, ††, etc.

h. *Figure Legend*. Starting on a separate page, type double spaced, legends for each figure, numbered consecutively to conform with the number on the back of each figure. Explain all symbols used in the figure and identify all abbreviations. Explain internal scale and provide magnification and staining method for all photomicrographs.

i. *Figures*. For graphs or drawings one laser or glossy print and three copies must be included. For photomicrographs submit four sharp black and white prints. Color photos are published at the expense of the author. Each figure should have a label affixed to the back indicating the number of the figure, the name of the first author, and the top of the figure. Figures should be no larger than 8" × 10".

Letters and symbols should be professionally lettered or from laser printer and of sufficient size that, when reduced, type will be legible.

j. *Statistics*. Exact *p* values must be given together with confidence intervals. The method of handling outliers must be stated.

3. Review Articles

Preparation of a review article should be discussed with the Editor prior to submission.

4. Editorials

Editorials are by invitation only.

5. Short Reports

These should be no more than 2,000 words total, including title page, an abstract up to 150 words, up to 25 references, and no more than 2 figures or tables.

6. Letters to the Editor

These should be up to 600 words in length, with one table or figure and up to 5 references that discuss manuscripts published in the Journal within the previous 3 months.

7. News in the World of Geriatrics and Gerontology

This is a new section of short essays describing important news in geriatrics, which should be no more than 250 words and 1 Figure.