

Indian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology

GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

(Revised July 1998)

Indian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology (IJPP) welcomes original articles and short communications from any part of the world. All efforts are made to complete the peer review and editorial processing speedily. Letters to the Editor should generally refer to articles recently published in IJPP. Reviews are generally solicited from established scientists, but proposals for reviews are welcome. The proposals should include a synopsis/outline of the review, and a list of publications of the author on the subject of the review.

Submit three copies of the manuscript, typed in double space on one side of the paper only, to the Editor for Physiology/Pharmacology, depending on the subject of the article, or to the Executive Editor, IJPP, Department of Physiology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi - 110 029

It will facilitate the quality and speed of publication if the manuscript is also submitted on a floppy diskette in MS WORD in addition to the printed copies. However, the diskette may be submitted only after the article has been accepted for publication so that revisions suggested by referees, if any, can also be incorporated in the floppy by the authors.

TITLE PAGE

The title page should carry (1) the title of the article, which should be concise but informative, (2) a short running head or footline of not more than 40 characters (count letters and spaces) placed at the foot of the title page and identified, (3) first name, middle initial, and last name of each author, (4) name of department(s) and institution (s) to which

the work should be attributed, (5) name and address of author responsible for correspondence about the manuscript, (6) name and address of author to whom requests for reprints should be addressed, (7) the source(s) of support in the form of grants, equipment, drugs or all of these, and (8) a statement signed by all authors that the paper has neither been published in whole or part earlier (except as an abstract) nor is under consideration elsewhere.

ABSTRACT AND KEY WORDS

The second page should carry an abstract of not more than 150 words. The abstract should state the purpose of the study or investigation, basic procedures, (study subjects or experimental animals, observational and analytic methods), main findings (give specific data and their statistical significance, if possible), and the principal conclusions. Emphasize new and important aspects of the study or observations. Use only approved abbreviations.

At the bottom of the abstract, supply a few key words, preferably using terms included in Medical Subject Headings of *Index Medicus* and MEDLINE.

The text of articles should be in the following sequence: Introduction, Methods, Results and Discussion. Only standard terms which have been generally accepted should be used. Proprietary or trade names should begin in capitals and the spellings carefully checked. The chemical and official name must precede the proprietary name of a drug.

INTRODUCTION

Clearly state the purpose of the article. Summarize the rationale for the study or observations. Give only strictly pertinent references, and do not review the subject extensively.

METHODS

Describe your selection of the observational or experimental subjects (patients or experimental animals, including controls) clearly. Identify the methods, apparatus (manufacturer's name and address in parentheses), and procedures in sufficient detail to allow other workers to repeat the experiments. If the procedures involve an assay, include data on its accuracy, e.g. specificity, sensitivity and recovery. Give references to established methods, including statistical methods. Provide references and brief descriptions for methods that have been published but are not well known. Describe new or substantially modified methods, give reasons for using them and evaluate their limitations.

When reporting experiments on human subjects, indicate whether the procedures followed were in accordance with the ethical standards of the committee on human experimentation of the institution in which the experiments were done or in accordance with the Helsinki Declaration of 1975. When reporting experiments on animals, indicate whether the institution's or Indian National Science Academy's guidelines for the care and use of laboratory animals were followed. Identify precisely all drugs and chemicals used, including generic name(s), dosage(s) and route (s) of administration. Do not use patients' name, initials, or hospital numbers.

Include number of observations and the statistical significance of the finding when appropriate. Detailed statistical analyses, mathematical derivations, and the like may sometimes be suitably presented in the form of one or more appendices.

RESULTS

Present your results in logical sequence in the text, tables, and illustrations. Do not repeat in the text all the data in the tables, illustrations, or both. Emphasize or summarize

only important observations.

DISCUSSION

Emphasize the new and important aspects of the study and conclusions that follow from them. Do not repeat in detail data given in the results section. Include in the discussion the implications of the findings and their limitations and relate the observations to other relevant studies. Link the conclusion with the goals of the study but avoid unqualified statements and conclusions not completely supported by your data. Avoid claiming priority and alluding to work that has not been completed. State new hypotheses when warranted, but clearly label them as such. Recommendations, when appropriate, may be included.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Acknowledge only persons who have made substantive contributions to the study. Authors are responsible for obtaining written permission from persons acknowledged by name because readers may infer their endorsement of the data and conclusions.

REFERENCES

Number the references consecutively in the order in which they are first mentioned in the text. Identify references in text, and legends, by arabic numerals (in parentheses). References cited only in tables or in legends should be numbered in accordance with a sequence established by the first identification in the text of the particular table or illustration.

Use the style of the examples below, which are based on the formats used by the U.S. National Library of Medicine in *Index Medicus*.

The title of journals should be abbreviated according to the style used in *Index Medicus*.

Try to avoid using abstracts as references.

"Unpublished observations" and verbal personal communications may not be used as references, although references to written communications may be inserted. In manuscripts accepted but not yet published, designate the journal followed by "in press" (in parentheses). Information from manuscripts submitted but not yet accepted should be cited in the text as "unpublished observations" (in parentheses).

The references must be verified by the author(s) against the original documents.

Examples of correct forms of reference are given below:

Journals

1. Standard journal article (list all authors when six or less; when seven or more, list only first three and add et al.) Muralidhara DV, Shetty PS. Nutritional status and spontaneous locomotor activity in the rat. *Indian J Physiol Pharmacol* 1990; 34: 120-124.

Books & Monographs

2. Weatherall M. Drugs and excitable cell membranes. In: Robson JM, Stacey RS, eds. Recent advances in pharmacology. London, Churchill 1986: 22-28.

TABLES

Type each table on a separate sheet : remember to use double space. Do not submit tables as photographs. Number tables consecutively and supply a brief title for each. Give each column a short or abbreviated heading. Explain in footnotes all nonstandard abbreviations that are used in each table.

Identify statistical measures of variation such as standard deviation and standard error of the mean.

Do not use internal horizontal and vertical rules.

Cite each table in the text in consecutive order.

ILLUSTRATIONS

Illustrative materials should be used with economy. Each copy of the manuscript should be accompanied by one set of figures. Figures should be professionally drawn and photographed: freehand or type-written lettering is unacceptable. Instead of original drawings, roentgenograms, and other material, send at least one set of laser printouts or sharp, glossy black-and-white photographic prints, about 127 by 173 mm (5 by 7 inch) but no larger than 210 by 300 mm (8.4 by 11.8 inch). If you supply only one set of laser printouts or glossy prints, all the remaining copies of the manuscript should be accompanied by a set of photocopies of the figures. Letters, numbers and symbols should be clear and even throughout, and of sufficiently large size so that when reduced for publication, each item will still be legible. Titles and detailed explanations should be given in legends, not on the illustrations themselves.

Each figure should have a label pasted on its back indicating the number of the figure, the names of the authors, and the top of the figure. Do not write on the back of the figures, mount them on cardboard, or scratch or mar them using paper clips. Do not bend figures.

Photomicrographs must have internal scale markers. Symbols, arrows, or letters used in the photomicrographs should contrast with the background.

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The approximate position of the figures and tables should be indicated in the margin of the manuscript.

The cost of printing of more than three Figures/Illustrations and Table(s) in one article will be charged to the author(s).

UNITS OF MEASUREMENT

Measurement of length, height, weight, and volume should be reported in metric units (metre, kilogram, litre) or their decimal multiples or fractions.

Temperatures should be given in degrees Celsius. Blood pressures should be given in millimetres of mercury. Other measurements should be reported in the units in which they were made.

The following abbreviations should be used:

Unit	U
Kilogram, gram	kg, g
Milligram	mg
Picogram	pg
hour(s)	h
minute(s)	min
second, millisecond	s, ms
mole, millimole, micromole	mol, mmol, μ mol
nanomole, picomole	nmol, pmol
metre, centimetre,	m, cm, mm
millimetre	
micrometre	μ m

litre, millitre	L, mL
microlitre	μ L
microgram	μ g
millimetre of mecury	mmHg
milliequivalent	mEq
curi	ci
angstrom	A
calorie	cal
degree centigrade	C
molarity	mol
routes	ip, po, im, iv

STATISTICAL TERMS

correlation coefficient	r
degrees of freedom	df
mean	\bar{x}
not significant	NS
number of observations	n
probability	p
standard deviation	SD
standard error of the mean	SEM
Student's test	t test
variance ratio	F

GENERAL REMARKS

A recent issue of the Journal is a good guide to the style.

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