INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

Title Page: Concise and descriptive (not declarative) title, authors’ first and family names with academic degree, institutional affiliation (departments and hospitals) and corresponding author’s name, address, telephone and fax numbers, and email address. We also require the corresponding author’s cellular phone number (this number is for our purposes only and will not be printed).

Original articles should not exceed 10 pages of text, 25 references and 4 tables and/or figures, in the following format: Title page, Abstract, Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, References, Tables and Figures.

Abstract (Original Articles only): Structured abstract of up to 250 words with the following headings: Background, Objectives, Methods, Results, Conclusions.

At least five key words should appear below the abstract.

Reviews should not exceed 12 pages of text, 40 references and 4 tables and/or figures. Three short “take home messages” are preferred; if trade names are used, give the company name and country in parentheses.

Letters to the Editor should not exceed 2 pages and 4 references.

References should be within square brackets and numbered consecutively in the text. References that are cited first in a table or figure should be numbered according to their sequence in the text (i.e., the reference number in the table should follow the numbering in the text). References should be updated based on year of submission and must contain current references. Articles in which references are not up to date will not be considered. Personal communications or unpublished data should appear with appropriate acknowledgment in parentheses in the text only. The style for the Reference list is that of Index Medicus. If the number of authors is 6 or less all should be given; if there are 7 or more give the first 3, et al. If the citation is a Review, Editorial, Letter, or Abstract, indicate such in square brackets after the title. For a book or a chapter in a book, list the authors of the chapter, chapter title, book editors, book title (first letter of each word capitalized), city and publisher, in that order. See below.


Acknowledgments may appear at the end of the text.

Illustrations: graphs and photographs included in the manuscript file, with clear annotations. Figure legends should appear on a separate page in the text.

Abbreviations: Use only standard abbreviations if the term appears frequently; all terms should be defined.

Drug Names: Generic names are preferred; if trade names are used, give the company name and country in parentheses.

Conflict of interest: Authors should indicate in the accompanying covering letter all potential conflicts of interest, including any commercial association with the company whose product is the subject of research or with a company that manufactures comparable products. After the article has been accepted for publication the information will appear as an acknowledgment.

All authors should sign the Disclosure form. For each article you submit, please complete and enclose the checklist form.