

Japanese Journal of Public Health: Instructions to Authors

Since November 2004, the Japanese Journal of Public Health has published English as well as Japanese articles. Those who intend to publish an English article should follow the instructions below.

Aims and Scope

The Japanese Journal of Public Health is intended to be a vehicle for the exploration and discussion of broad public health issues and is aimed in particular at enhancing communication between researchers, legislators, decision-makers, practitioners, and other professionals in various areas of public health in Japan and other countries. In order to achieve the journal's objectives, authors are encouraged to write in a non-technical style which is understandable to public health practitioners and specialists from other disciplines.

The Japanese Journal of Public Health is affiliated with the Japanese Society of Public Health (hereafter, the society); the first author or the corresponding author must be a current member of the society.

General

Every manuscript will be examined by members of the editorial board and external reviewers to determine whether it should be published in the journal. Based on the reviews, some revisions may be required. Final decisions will be made by the editorial board. Rejected manuscripts and illustrations will not be returned, unless otherwise requested.

Types of contributions

1. Sounding Board: This covers suggestions, proposals, or opinions regarding public health policy, legislation, practice, and research. Articles may be submitted or invited, and the text is limited to 2,500 words.
2. Review Article: Reviews of and comments on articles on progress in any field of public health.

Submitted or invited, the text is limited to 4,000 words, excluding tables, figures, and references. The total number of tables and figures should be no more than six.

3. Original Article: Submitted paper to document results of original research. The material should not have been previously published elsewhere, except in a preliminary form. The text is limited to 3,500 words, excluding tables, figures, and references. The total number of tables and figures should be no more than six.
4. Public Health Report: Reports on processes and important findings within public health practice. The material should not have been previously published elsewhere, except in a preliminary form. The text is limited to 3,500 words, excluding tables, figures, and references. The total number of tables and figures should be no more than six.
5. Information should be reports that include findings of public health significance and meaningful findings that will be useful for future research and activities, and do not require quantitative analysis or novelty if they have this significance. The text is limited to 3,500 words, excluding tables, figures, and references. The total number of tables and figures should be no more than six.
6. Letter: Opinions on various topics from members of the society are welcome. However, to be considered for publication, a manuscript should be pertinent, factual, and concise. The text is limited to 600 words, excluding tables, figures, and references.

Authorship

Contributors who have made substantive intellectual contributions to a paper are given credit as authors. Our journal recommends that authorship be based on the following 4 criteria (ONLY Original Article, at least No.2 and 3 are required in other types of contribution):

1. Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis,

- or interpretation of data for the work; AND
2. Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content; AND
 3. Final approval of the version to be published; AND
 4. Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

Preparation of manuscripts

Manuscripts written in English must be complete in all respects, including figures and tables. The manuscript should be typed with double spaced, consecutively numbered pages with wide margins. Pages should be single sided and of uniform size. Consecutive line numbers are added on text pages. Manuscripts must be checked by a native English speaker, and the author should submit proof of this check.

On the title page of the article, the numbers of words in the text, tables, and figures should be mentioned. Author's full names and academic or professional affiliations should be included. The name and address of the author to whom correspondence may be sent should be indicated, including a telephone number, fax number, and email address for immediate inquiries from the society.

A structured summary (objectives, methods, results, and conclusion) up to 400 words should be included with the manuscript, except for a Sounding Board or Letter, together with up to six key words which will be used for indexing.

Illustrations must be submitted to the editors in black and white, in a form and condition suitable for reproduction. The illustrations must bear a title, and be numbered with Arabic numerals according to the sequence of their appearance in the text, where they are to be referred to as Figure 1, Figures 2-4, etc. Line drawings should be in black ink on drawing or tracing paper. Lettering should be clear and of

adequate size to be legible after reduction.

Tables should be double spaced and typed in black and white, each on a separate page, numbered in sequence with Arabic numerals (Table 1, Table 2, etc.). Each table should have a brief descriptive title, and should be referred to in the text as Table 1, etc.

Literature citations should be made at appropriate points in the text as numbers in brackets. All references cited in the text should be listed at the end of the paper on a separate page (also double spaced), arranged in numerical order of their appearance in the text, rather than in alphabetical order. Literature references must be complete, including names and initials of all authors (if there are more than three, list the first three plus et al.), title of the paper referred to, title of journal, year, volume, and first and last page numbers. Journal titles may be abbreviated in a formal manner (see Example 1). The form of literature references to books should be: author(s), initials, title of book, publisher and city, year and page numbers (see Example 2). References to authors contributing to multi-author books or to proceedings printed in book form should be in line with those for books (see Example 3). Websites as a source of information are allowed only if other sources are not available (see Example 4). Otherwise, please refer to Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals: Writing and Editing for Biomedical Publication, issued by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (<http://www.icmje.org/>).

Examples:

- 1) Torres RA, Barr M. Impact of combination therapy for HIV infection on inpatient census. *N Engl J Med* 1997; 336: 1531-1532.
- 2) Drummond MF, O'Brien B, Stoddart GL, et al. *Method for the Economic Evaluation of Health Care Programmes*. 2nd ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press. 1997; 52-95.
- 3) Gurman AS, Kniskern DP. *Family therapy*

outcome research: knowns and unknowns. In: Gurman AS, Kniskern DP, editors. Handbook of Family Therapy. New York: Brunner/Maazel. 1981; 742-775.

- 4) World Health Organization. Infant and Young Child Nutrition: Global Strategy on Infant and Young Child Feeding. Report by the Secretariat. 2002. http://apps.who.int/gb/archive/pdf_files/WHA55/ea5515.pdf (accessed February 22, 2013).

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Ethical consideration and conflicts of interest

Human studies should be conducted in accordance with the recommendations outlined in the Declaration of Helsinki and those guidelines for human studies issued by the authorized body in the country where research is performed. Animal experiments should be conducted in accordance with guidelines for animal experiments established by their institution. The authors should mention, if necessary, ethical considerations in the text (preferably in the section on method). Additionally, the authors should mention if they have any conflicts of interest; if there are no conflicts of interest, please state "none". Moreover, all authors should submit a self-certified form of conflict of interest that can be

obtained from the journal.

Submission of manuscripts

Submission of a manuscript to the journal implies that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere and furthermore that, with the exception of review papers, it contains original work not previously published elsewhere. On submission, all the authors should sign a copyright transfer form attached to the journal, which contains a statement that a manuscript is not published elsewhere. Once a manuscript is submitted, replacement of the manuscript is not allowed. Submission of a manuscript implies the transfer of copyright from the authors to the society, in accordance for publication.

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