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AUTHOR INFORMATION - All authors: full name, degrees, department, affiliation, e-mail address - Corresponding author: mailing address, telephone number
MANUSCRIPT FILE - Must be digital - hard copy submissions are not accepted
ABSTRACT AND KEYWORDS - See the section Article Types for word limit
CONFLICT OF INTEREST - Every named author must disclose their conflicts or lack thereof
REFERENCES - Cited sequentially in AMA style
FIGURES AND TABLES - Cited sequentially and included in the main document
ART FILES - Must be saved separately from the main document
PERMISSIONS - Required if you plan to reproduce content from a published source or include a photograph of a patient - Patient permission forms available at <u>www.thieme.com/journal-authors</u>

CONTENTS		
MANUSCRIPT FORMAT	3-7	
Article Types	3	
General Guidelines		
Title Page	5	
Abstract and Keywords	5	
Main Document	5	
Acknowledgments	5	
Conflict of Interest	5	
Informed Consent	5	
References	6	
Figure Captions	7	
Tables	7	
DIGITAL ARTWORK PREPARATION	8	
General Guidelines	8	
Black and White Art	8	
Color Art	8	
Art Labels	8	
SUBMISSIONPROCEDURE	9	
Submission Procedure	9	
Revision Procedure	9	
PRODUCTION PROCEDURE	10	
Page Proofs	10	
POLICY STATEMENTS	11-12	
Statement on Liability	11	
Definition of Authorship	11	
Copyright Statement	11	
Statement of Ethics		
Patient Permission Policy	12	
EDITORIAL CONTACTS	13	

MANUSCRIPT FORMAT

Article Types

The following graph shows what types of articles are accepted for publication, and what requirement they may have.

Article Type	Abstract Limit	Keywords Limit	Title Limit	Tables/Figures Limit	References Limit
Review Article (up to 4,000 words)	Up to 250 words	Up to 5 keywords		Approximately 5 tables/figures	Up to 50 references
Original Article (up to 3,000 words)	Up to 250 words	Up to 5 keywords	Up to 25 words	Approximately 5 tables/figures	Up to 30 references
Case Report (up to 1,500 words)	Up to 250 words	Up to 3 keywords	Up to 25 words	Up to 2 tables/figures	Up to 15 references
Editorial	n/a	n/a	No limit	n/a	n/a
Letter to the Editor (up to 500 words)	n/a	n/a	No limit	n/a	Up to 4 references
Brief Reports (up to 1000 words)	Up to 250 words	Up to 3 keywords	Up to 25 words	Up to 2 tables/figures	Up to 10 references
Annual Meeting Abstract	n/a	No limit	No limit	n/a	n/a
Clinical Images (250 words)	n/a	Up to 3 key words	Up to 25 words	n/a	Up to 4 references
Videos (Manuscript up to 1000 words)	Up to 200 words	Up to 3 key words	Up to 25 words	n/a	Up to 10 references
Commentary (up to 1,200 words)	Up to 250 words	Up to 3 keywords	Up to 25 words	Up to 2 tables/figur es	Up to 10 references

• **Original Article** may include randomized controlled trials, intervention studies, studies of screening and diagnostic test, outcome studies, cost effectiveness analyses, case-control series, and surveys with high response rate.

- **Case Report** contains either a series of cases or more condensed information on clinical or experimental studies. Reports on single cases can usually not be considered unless they contain exceptional observations of general relevance.
- Letter to the Editor will usually address articles published in the journal or comment upon recent scientific advances or short decisive communication on specific topic.
- Clinical Images include Interesting and unique clinical, pathological, radiological, or surgical images.
- Videos section should include step by step presentation of neurosurgery cases operated, landmark and unique techniques in neurosciences of surgical relevance. Videos with subtitles or with audio to be provided separately not more than 3 minutes. File format should be, mp4 with size below 500 MB. Arrows or markers to be used for important steps.

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General Guidelines

- You must submit a digital copy of your manuscript. Hard copy submissions are not accepted.
- Keep the format of your manuscript simple and clear. We will set your manuscript according to our style—do not try to "design" the document.
- The manuscript, including the title page, abstract and keywords, text, references, figure captions, and tables should be typewritten, double-spaced in 12-point font with 1-inch margins all around and saved as one file.
- Each figure should be saved as its own separate file. Do not embed figures within the manuscript file. This requires special handling by Thieme's Production Department.
- Keep abbreviations to a minimum and be sure to explain all of them the first time they are used in the text.
- The manuscripts should be written in American English.
- The authors should use Système International (SI) measurements. For clarity, nonmetric equivalents may be included in parentheses following the SI measurements.
- Use generic names for drugs. You may cite proprietary names in parentheses along with the name and location of the manufacturer.
- Credit suppliers and manufacturers of equipment, drugs, and other brand-name material mentioned in the manuscript within parentheses, giving the company name and primary location.
- Additional material, which is not pivotal, but supporting in nature to the theme of the manuscript, can be submitted as "Supplementary Material" and will be published only online (not in print).

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Title Page

- This journal adheres to a double-blinded peer-review policy. The title page should NOT be included in the main document.
- The title page should list the article title and the corresponding author's full name, degree, title, department, affiliation, mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone and fax numbers. It should also list the full name, degree, title, department, and affiliation of every co-author.

Abstract and Keywords

See the section Article Types for word limits.

The abstract should briefly outline the content of the article and any conclusions it may reach. The keywords should be words a reader would be likely to use in searching for the content of the article.

Main Document

- Please clearly distinguish the hierarchy of headings within the manuscript by using capital letters, underline, italic, and bold styles as necessary.
- As needed, use italic, superscripts, subscripts, and boldface, but otherwise do not use multiple fonts and font sizes.
- Do not insert page or section breaks except where noted in the Author Instructions.
 - Use hard returns (the Enter key) only at the end of a paragraph, not at the end of a line. Allow lines of text to break automatically in your word-processing software. Do not justify your text.
- Use only one space, not two, after periods.
- Create tables using the Table function in Microsoft Word.

Acknowledgments

The source of any financial support received and recognition of personal assistance for the work being published should be indicated at the end of the article, just before the Reference section, under the heading Acknowledgments.

Conflict of Interest

All authors (including corresponding and co-authors associated with the manuscript) must make a formal statement at the time of submission indicating any potential conflict of interest that might constitute an embarrassment to any of the authors if it were not to be declared and were to emerge after publication. Such conflicts might include, but are not limited to, shareholding in or receipt of a grant or consultancy fee from a company whose product features in the submitted manuscript or which manufactures a competing product. Should the article be accepted for publication, this information will be published with the paper.

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This journal follows the guidelines of the <u>International Committee of Medical Journal Editors</u> and an <u>ICMJE</u> <u>disclosure of potential conflicts of interest (COI) form</u> must be submitted for each author at the time of manuscript submission. Forms must be submitted even if there is no conflict of interest. It is the responsibility of the corresponding author to ensure that all authors adhere to this policy prior to submission.

A conflict of interest statement must also be included in the manuscript after any "Acknowledgements" and "Funding" sections and should summarize all aspects of any conflicts of interest included on the ICMJE form. If there is no conflict of interest, authors must include 'Conflict of Interest: none declared'.

Please click <u>http://www.icmje.org/conflicts-of-interest</u> to download a Conflict of Interest form. The disclosure information is important in article processing. If the provided forms are incomplete or missing, it can cause delays in publishing of article.

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The journal adheres to the principles set forth in the <u>Helsinki Declaration</u> and holds that all reported research conducted with human participants should be conducted in accordance with such principles. Reports describing data obtained from research conducted in human participants must contain a statement in the Methods section indicating approval by the Institutional Review Board (IRB). The authors should also indicate whether or not individual consent for the study was obtained, or whether it was waived.

References

References should be the most recent and pertinent literature available. It is essential that they are complete and thoroughly checked. If the reference information is incomplete, good online sites to search for full details are the National Library of Medicine: <u>www.nlm.nih.gov</u>; Books in Print: <u>www.booksinprint.com</u>; PubMed: <u>www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/PubMed/</u>; or individual publisher Web sites.

- References must be listed in AMA style, using Index Medicus journal title abbreviations.
 - References follow the article text. Insert a page break between the end of text and the start of references.
- References must be cited sequentially (NOT alphabetically) in the text using superscript numbers.
 - By way of exception to AMA style, do not italicize book titles or journal title abbreviations and do not put a period at the end of a reference.
 - List all author names, up to and including six names. For more than six authors, list the first three followed by et al.
- References should be styled per the following examples:
- 1. Citing a journal article:

Newburger JW, Takahashi M, Burns JC, et al. The treatment of Kawasaki syndrome with intravenous gamma-globulin. N Engl J Med 1986;315:341–347

2. Citing a chapter in a book:

Toma H. Takayasu's arteritis. In: Novick A, Scoble J, Hamilton G, eds. Renal Vascular Disease. Philadelphia: WB Saunders; 1995:47–62

3. Citing a book:

Stryer L. Biochemistry. 2nd ed. San Francisco: WH Freeman; 1981:559-596

4. Citing a thesis:

Stern I. Hemorrhagic Complications of Anticoagulant Therapy [Ph.D. dissertation]. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University; 1994

5. Citing a government publication:

Food and Drug Administration. Jin Bu Huan Herbal Tablets. Rockville, MD: National Press Office; April 15, 1994. Talk Paper T94-22

6. Citing an online article:

Rosenthal S, Chen R, Hadler S. The safety of acelluler pertussis vaccine vs whole-cell pertussis vaccine [abstract]. Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med [serial online]. 1996;150:457–460. Available at: http://www.ama-assn.org/sci-pubs/journals/archive/ajdc/vol_150/no_5/abstract/htm. Accessed November 10, 1996

7. Citing a symposium article:

Eisenberg J. Market forces and physician workforce reform: why they may not work. Paper presented at: Annual Meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges; October 28, 1995; Washington, DC

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Figure Captions

- Figures include photographs or radiographs, drawings, graphs, bar charts, flow charts, and pathways, but NOT lists or tables.
- Figures must be cited sequentially in the text. Number all figures (and corresponding figure captions) sequentially in the order they are cited in the text.
- Figure captions should be written after the reference list. Insert a page break between the end of references and the start of figure captions.
- Figure captions should include a description of the figure and/or each lettered part (A, B, etc.) and of any portions of the figure highlighted by arrows, arrowheads, asterisks, etc.
- For a figure borrowed or adapted from another publication (used with permission), add a credit line in parentheses at the end of each figure legend. This credit line should be a complete bibliographic listing of the source publication (as a reference), or other credit line as supplied by the copyright holder. For example (Reprinted with permission from Calfee DR, Wispelwey B. Brain abscess. Semin Neurol 2000;20:357.)

Tables

- Data given in tables should be commented on but not repeated in the text. Be sure that lists or columns of related data are composed in a word-processing program like the rest of the text.
- Do not intersperse tables in the text. Tables should appear after the figure captions. Insert a page break between the end of the figure captions and the start of the tables.
- Tables must be double-spaced and numbered in the same sequence they are cited in the text. A short descriptive title should be provided for each table.
- If a table contains artwork, supply the artwork separately as a digital file.
- For tables borrowed or adapted from another publication (used with permission), add a credit line as the first footnote beneath each table. This credit line should be a complete bibliographical listing of the source publication (as a reference), or other credit line as supplied by the copyright holder. For example, "Reprinted with permission from Calfee DR, Wispelwey B. Brain abscess. Semin Neurol 2000;20:357." ("Data from . . ." or "Adapted from . . ." may also be used, as appropriate.)
- Other footnotes for tables should be indicated in the table using superscript letters in alphabetical order.
- Any abbreviations used in the table should be explained at the end of the table in a footnote.

DIGITAL ARTWORK PREPARATION

General Guidelines

- It is best to use Adobe Photoshop to create and save images, and Adobe Illustrator for line art and labels.
- Do not submit art created in Microsoft Excel, Word, or PowerPoint. These files cannot be used by the typesetter.
- Save each figure in a separate file.
- Do not compress files.
- All black-and-white and color artwork should be at a resolution of 300 dpi (dots per inch) in TIFF format. Line art should be 1,200 dpi in EPS or TIFF format. Contact the Production Editor at Thieme if you are unsure of the final size.
- It is preferable for figures to be cropped to their final size (approximately 3¹/₂ inches for a single column and up to 7 inches for a double column), or larger, and in the correct orientation. If art is submitted smaller and then has to be enlarged, its resolution (dpi) and clarity will decrease.

Note: Lower resolutions (less than 300 dpi) and JPEG format (.jpg extension) for grayscale and color artwork are strongly discouraged due to the poor quality they yield in printing, which requires 300 dpi resolution for sharp, clear, detailed images. JPEG format, by definition, is a lower resolution (compressed) format designed for quick upload on computer screens.

Black-and-White Art

- Black-and-white artwork can be halftone (or grayscale) photographs, radiographs, drawings, line art, graphs, and flowcharts. Thieme will only accept digital artwork.
- If possible, do not send color art for conversion to black-and-white. Do the conversion yourself so that you can check the results and confirm in advance that no critical details are lost or obscured by the change to black-and-white.
- For best results, line art should be black on a white background. Lines and type should be clean and evenly dark. Avoid screens or cross-hatching, as they can darken or be uneven in printing and lead to unacceptable printing quality.

Color Art

• All color artwork should be saved in CMYK, not RGB.

Art Labels

- Arrows, asterisks, and arrowheads (or other markers) should be white in dark or black areas and black in light or white areas, and large in size. If not, these highlighting marks may become difficult to see when figures are reduced in size during the typesetting process.
- Use 1-point (or thicker) rules and leader lines.
- Capitalize the first word of each label and all proper nouns. Consider using all capitals if you need a higher level of labels.
- Where there are alternate terms or spellings for a named structure, use the most common one and make sure it is consistent with what is used in the text.
- Avoid using multiple fonts and font sizes for the labels; use only one or two sizes of a serif font.

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- Please note: There are no submission charges to submit your manuscript to this journal.
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- Always review your manuscript before submitting it. You may stop a submission at any phase and save it to submit later. After submission, you will receive a confirmation email. You can also check the status of your manuscript by logging in to the submission system. The Editor in Chief will inform you via email once a decision has been made.

Revision Procedure

- Should the editors decide that your article requires a revision, you will need to make the changes via a word processing program and resubmit it electronically.
- Log In to the submission system and find your article, which will be marked for revision.
- The best way to make revisions to your manuscript is by enabling the Track Changes mode in Microsoft Word, which will automatically highlight and mark up revised text. Please submit both a marked up copy and a clean copy of your revised manuscript to the submission system.
- Your original files will still be available after you upload your revised manuscript, so you should delete any redundant files before completing the submission.
- You will also be provided space in which to respond to the reviewers' and editors' comments. Please be as specific as possible in your response.

Peer Reviewing Process

The journal follows **double blind** peer-review process where neither the author nor the reviewer gets to know the identity of each other. This is ensured by masking the separate front-page file to the reviewers having author details.

At least three random reviewers based on their technical and clinical expertise are assigned by the Chief Editor on each manuscript and the decision is taken based on the comparative reviews which the manuscript receives during the review process.

Appointment of Reviewer Team for the journal

The reviewer team is being appointed based on the individual expertise and experience in publishing in the subject category. Individual publishing history as first and last authors is being taken into consideration before sending the invite to the individual. A mix of experienced and young researchers are being chosen to construct the reviewer panel.

SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

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Authorship credit should be based on criteria established by the <u>International Committee of Medical Journal</u> <u>Editors</u>. Each author should have made the following contributions towards the completion of the manuscript:

- 1. Substantial contributions to conception and design, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data
- 2. Drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content
- 3. Final approval of the version to be published

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The journal evaluates any submissions from the members of the editorial board purely on merit of the clinical content presented as it does for any other article coming from authors globally. All the articles including articles from Editorial Board members are evaluated via double-blind peer review process, which will ensure that the information of author(s) is not revealed to the reviewers. In doing so, the journal ensures there are no conflict of interests or preferences and selection of articles is purely on its clinical content merit, thus ensuring best ethical standards and practices of peer-review are maintained.

Conflict of Interest Resolution

Conflict of any form which arises related to the content published is being resolved with an unbiased approach by letting both the whistleblower and the author to present due facts in support of their side of the argument and a decision to retain the content or reject/retract is being taken.

POLICY STATEMENTS continued

Statement of Ethics

This journal adheres to the ethical standards described by the <u>Committee on Publication Ethics</u> and the <u>International Committee of Medical Journal Editors</u>. Authors are expected to adhere to these standards.

For all manuscripts reporting data from studies involving human or animal participants, formal review and approval, or formal review and waiver (exemption), by an appropriate institutional review board (IRB) or ethics committee is required, as well as any necessary HIPAA consent, and should be described in the Methods section with the full name of the reviewing entity. All clinical trials must be registered in a public trials registry. Denote the registry and registry number.

Please follow the standard Levels of Evidence for Primary Research and the reporting guidelines specified by this table:

Type of Study	Guidelines
Randomized controlled trials	<u>CONSORT</u>
Studies of diagnostic accuracy	<u>STARD</u>
Systematic reviews and meta-analyses	<u>QUOROM/PRISMA</u>
Observational studies in epidemiology	STROBE
Meta-analyses of observational studies in epidemiology	MOOSE

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EDITORIAL CONTACTS

Please contact the Editors with any questions.

Dr. Anita Jagetia

Email - <u>anitajagetia@gmail.com</u>

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