



# Asian Journal of Allied Health Sciences Faculty of Allied Health Sciences University of Lahore, Lahore Pakistan

Email: ajahs@ahs.uol.edu.pk

# GUIDELINES FOR REVIEW OF CASE REPORT SCORE GUIDE (To be used by the Referee/Reviewer)

Not Given/Not Relevant	0
Below Standard	1
Average	2
Satisfactory	3
Good	4
Excellent	5
Not Applicable	NA

Manuscript Reg. No...... Reviewer's Name......

Part	Description of the Part of Manuscript	Score
No.		
1.	TITLE	
	1. Accurate	
	2. Effective	
	3. Represents	
2.	ABSTRACT	
	1. Size of abstract (200)	
	2. Summary of Introduction /Back ground	
	3. Material and Methods	
	4. Results	
	5. Conclusion.	
	6. Keyword(2-5)	
3.	A) CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE	
	B) FUNDING SOURCES ACKNOWLEDGED	

4.	INTRO	DUCTION	
	1.	If start relevant	
	2.	Subject of paper made clear	
	3.	Importance of case report made clear	
	4.	Rationale for this case report	
	5.	Presenting concerns of the patient	
	6.	Interventions	
	7.	Outcomes	
	8.	Main lessons	
5.	AIMS A	AND OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY	
	Are clea	arly stated	
	Are add	lressed in the study	
6	Materia	al and Methods	
	1.	Patient characteristics/relevant demographics	
	2.	Presenting complaints/concerns	
	3.	Relevant details of related past interventions	
	4.	Clinical findings	
		a) Medical, family and psychosocial history	
		b) Pertinent co morbidities and interventions	
		c) Physical examination	
	5.	Timeline	
	6.	Diagnostic focus and assessment	
		a) Diagnostic methods	
		b) Diagnostic challenges	
		c) Diagnostic reasoning	
		d) Prognostic characteristics	
	7.	Therapeutic focus and assessment	
		a) Types of interventions	
		b) Administration and intensity of intervention	
	8.	Follow up and outcomes	
		a) intervention modification, interruption,	
		or discontinuation and reasons	
		b) adherence to intervention and how it was assessed	
		c) adverse effects or unanticipated events	
		d) patient reported outcomes	
		e) clinician assessed and reported outcomes	
		f) important positive and negative results	
	9.	Ethical permissions mentioned	
		a) Informed consent form	
		b) Institutional/departmental review board	

Part No.	Description of the Part of Manuscript	Score
7.	Discussion 1. Important findings and results discussed. 2. New emerging findings discussed 3. Results of the study discussed with others in literature. 4. Questions raised in the study 5. Strengths mentioned. 6. Weakness mentioned. 7. Take away message.	
8.	Conclusions 1. Conclusions justified by the results/findings	
9.	Written English 1. Spellings	<u> </u>
	2. Grammar	
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# **Authorship Letter:**

The corresponding author has to submit an authorship letter at the time of submission of the manuscript, duly signed by all co-authors, along with a description of their contributions, affiliations, and email addresses. It will also declare any potential conflict of interest, transfer of copyrights, and funding.

## **Open access**

This is an open-access journal: all articles will be free for everyone to read and download.

# Informed consent and patient details

Studies on patients or volunteers require ethics committee approval and informed consent, which should be documented in the paper. Appropriate consents, permissions, and releases must be obtained where an author wishes to include case details, other personal information, or images of patients and others in AJAHS publication. The author must retain written consent, but copies should not be provided to the journal. If specifically requested by the journal in exceptional circumstances, the author must provide copies of the consents or evidence that such consent have been obtained.

#### **Submission**

Manuscripts should be submitted online through the OJS portal of AJAHS. Register as an author and follow the manuscript submission steps after creating your account.

## **Article length**

Manuscript length (not including title page, abstract, references, tables, or figure legends) depends on the type of study:

Systematic reviews: up to 5000 words

Clinical trials, experimental and qualitative studies: up to 3500 words

Observational studies: up to 2500 words

#### Peer review

This journal operates a double-blind review process. The editor will initially assess all contributions for suitability for the journal. Papers deemed suitable are then typically sent to at least two independent expert reviewers to assess the paper's scientific quality. The Editor is responsible for the final decision regarding the acceptance or rejection of articles. The Editor's decision is final.

#### **Guest Editorials**

Asian Journal of Allied Health Sciences (AJAHS) publishes editorial and guest editorials on scientific or professional issues of allied health sciences and other health-related matters and innovations in each issue. Editorials are usually commissioned; however, anyone wishing to write an editorial should contact the Journal Editor to discuss the topic. Editorials should be no more than one page with a maximum of one author and 2-3 references. Commissioned editorials are not formally peer- reviewed but may be subject to informal review. Non-commissioned editorials will

be formally peer-reviewed.

# **Manuscript preparation**

# **Essential title page information**

**Title:** Concise and informative. Titles are often used in information-retrieval systems. Avoid abbreviations and formulae where possible. Running title: Write a short running title on the title page

**Author names and affiliations:** Please clearly indicate each author's given name(s) and family name(s) and check that all names are accurately spelled. Below the names, present the authors' affiliation addresses (where the actual work was done). Indicate all affiliations with a lower-case superscript letter immediately after the author's name and in front of the appropriate address. Provide the full postal address of each affiliation, including the country name and, if available, the e-mail address of each author.

**Corresponding author:** Indicate who will handle correspondence at all stages of refereeing and publication, also post-publication. This responsibility includes answering any future queries about Methodology. Ensure that the e-mail address and contact number are given and that contact details are kept up to date by the corresponding author. The corresponding author details should be included on the title page. The email address should be institutional and include the corresponding author's name.

**Present/permanent address:** If an author has moved since the work described in the article was done or was visiting a 'Present address' may be indicated as a footnote to that author's name. The address where the author did the work must be retained as the main affiliation address. Superscript Arabic numerals are used for such footnotes

**Word count:** Mention the manuscript's word count (without references) on the title page.

**Highlights:** Highlights consist of a short collection of bullet points that convey the core findings of the article. Please include 3 to 5 bullet points to explain the essential findings.

The title page should not be added to the manuscript file. It should be uploaded separately along with the manuscript.

#### **Abstract**

The abstract should comprise the following: Objective, Material and Methods, Results, and Conclusion.

A concise and factual abstract (not more than 250 words) is required. The abstract should briefly state the purpose of the research, the principal results, and the major conclusions. An abstract is often presented separately from the article, so it must be able to stand alone. For this reason, References should be avoided, but if essential, cite the author(s) and year(s). Also, non-standard or uncommon abbreviations should be avoided, but if essential, they must be defined at their first mention in the abstract itself.

**Keywords:** Immediately after the abstract, provide a maximum of 6 keywords, using Australian / British spelling and avoiding general and plural terms and multiple concepts (avoid, for example, 'and', 'of'). Use MeSH terms only while presenting the keywords. Be sparing with abbreviations: only abbreviations firmly established in the field may be eligible. These keywords will be used for indexing purposes.

#### **Units and Abbreviations**

This journal does not favor abbreviations in the text. However, 95% CI, SD, OR, RR, MD, and such commonly used terms do not require spelling out in full at first mention (they would usually appear within parentheses), but even when presented outside of parentheses, these do not require defining. The journal uses an approved list of units and abbreviations.

**Introduction:** State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results. Close the Introduction chapter by specifying the rationale and significance of your study at the end of the introduction without a heading. Follow the uniformity in formatting, writing style, font size, and font style throughout the manuscript.

**Material and Methods:** Provide sufficient details to allow the work to be reproduced by an independent researcher. Methods that are already published should be summarized and indicated by a reference. If quoting directly from a previously published method, use quotation marks and cite the source. Any modifications to existing methods should also be described.

- ✓ Mention the study design, sampling technique, study duration, and where data were collected.
- ✓ Mention sample size calculation with reference.
- ✓ Mention the study selection criteria.
- ✓ Add trial registration number if there's a clinical or controlled trial study.
- ✓ Mention the manuscript's research ethics committee registration number and provide the REC letter during submission to the journal.
- ✓ Specify the study tool/ outcome measure and its authenticity with reference.
- ✓ Add your statistical analysis procedure at the end of materials and methods with enough information that a reader can understand and relate to the results.

**Results:** Present your results logically in the text, tables, and illustrations, first giving the main or most important findings. Do not repeat in the text all the data in the tables or illustrations; emphasize or summarize only important observations.

When data are summarized in the Results section, give numeric results not only as derivatives (for example, percentages) but also as the absolute numbers from which the derivatives were calculated, and specify the statistical methods used to analyze them. Restrict tables and figures to those needed to explain the argument of the paper and to assess its support. Use graphs as an alternative to tables with many entries; do not duplicate data in graphs and tables.

**Figures:** Ensure each illustration has a caption—supply captions below the figure. A caption should comprise a brief title and a description of the illustration. Keep text in the illustrations themselves to a minimum but explain all symbols and abbreviations used. Include the number of figures on the title page. The maximum number of figures or images is 4. Figures should be

professionally drawn, photographed, or submitted as high-quality digital prints. In addition to requiring a version of the figures suitable for printing, AJAHS asks authors for electronic files of figures in a format (e.g., JPEG or GIF) that will produce high-quality images in the web version of the journal; authors should review the images. For x-ray films, scans, and other diagnostic images, as well as pictures of pathology specimens or photomicrographs, send sharp, glossy, blackand-white, or color photographic prints, usually 127 x 173 mm (5 x 7 inches). Letters, numbers, and symbols on Figures should therefore be clear and even throughout and of sufficient size that each item will still be legible when reduced for publication. Figures should be self-explanatory since many will be used directly in Guidelines for Reviewers of AJAHS slide presentations. Titles and detailed explanations belong in the legends but not the illustrations themselves. Photomicrographs should have internal scale markers. Symbols, arrows, or letters used in photomicrographs should contrast with the background. If photographs of people are used, the subjects must not be identifiable, or their pictures must be accompanied by written permission to use the photograph. Whenever possible, permission for publication should be obtained. Figures should be numbered consecutively according to the order in which they have been first cited in the text.

**Tables:** Please submit tables as editable text and not as images. Tables can be placed either next to the relevant text in the article. Number tables consecutively following their appearance in the text and place any table notes below the table body. Be sparing in using tables and ensure that the data presented in them do not duplicate results described elsewhere in the article. Please avoid using vertical rules and shading in table cells. Write captions below the table. Include the number of tables on the title page. The maximum number of tables to be included is 4.

#### **Discussion**

This should explore the significance of the results of the work, not repeat them. Avoid extensive citations and discussion of published literature. Compare the results of your study with the literature, some in support of your results and some in contrast. References should be cited, and the first author's name with the year of publication should be mentioned with every study to be compared with your results. Enclose the discussion section with the limitations of your study and future perspectives of research in that particular area. You should provide recommendations regarding the problem you dealt with or the treatment technique you described.

#### Conclusion

The study's main conclusions should be presented in a short paragraph, keeping in mind the study's objective. Avoid irrelevant information and duplication of results here. Link the conclusions with the study's goals but avoid unqualified statements and conclusions not adequately supported by the data. Avoid claiming priority and alluding to work that has not been completed—state new hypotheses when warranted.

#### **Declarations**

**Consent to Participate:** Mention the consent to participate statement; e.g. Written consent was taken from participants. All methods were performed following the relevant guidelines and regulations.

**Availability of data and materials:** A data availability statement must be entered; e.g. Data will be available on request. The corresponding author will submit all dataset files.

**Competing interests:** If any conflicts of interest exist, mention the statement in the manuscript. If not, mention that there is no conflict or competing interests.

**Funding:** Mention the funding statement if there were any funding supports. If not, mention that there was no funding source involved.

**Authors' contributions:** Follow the ICMJE criteria and mention the author's contribution statement in the manuscript.

**CONSORT Guidelines:** Add CONSORT guidelines statement; e.g., all methods followed the relevant guidelines and regulations. Furthermore, a CONSORT flowchart must be added in the case of experimental studies. (in case of experimental studies)

#### References

#### (a) General Considerations Related to References

Although references to review articles can efficiently guide readers to a body of literature, review articles do not always reflect original work accurately. Small numbers of references to key original papers will often serve.

Avoid using abstracts as references. References to papers accepted but not yet published should be designated as "in the press" Authors should obtain written permission to cite such papers and verify that they have been accepted for publication. Information from manuscripts submitted but not accepted should be cited in the text as "unpublished observations" with written permission from the source.

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# **Citation in text**

Please ensure that every reference in the text should be mentioned as Arabic numerals in superscript. Reference cited in the text is also in the reference list (and vice versa). Any references cited in the abstract must be given in full. Unpublished results and personal communications are not recommended in the reference list but may be mentioned in the text. If these references are included in the reference list, they should follow the standard reference style of the journal. They should include substituting the publication date with either 'Unpublished results' or 'Personal communication'. The citation of a reference as 'in press' implies that the item has been accepted for publication.

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# Reference style

**Text:** Indicate references by (consecutive) superscript numerals in the order in which they appear in the text. A full stop will be added before the reference, and references will be without parenthesis. The numerals will be used outside periods and commas, inside colons, and semicolons. The referencing style used by the journal is the Vancouver style, which can be found as a standard referencing style in EndNote, RefWorks, Mendeley, and Zotero.

#### **Submission checklist**

The following list will be helpful during the final checking of an article before sending it to the journal for review. Please consult this Guide for Authors for further details on any item. Ensure that the following items are present:

One author has been designated as the corresponding author with contact details: E-mail address
Full postal address
All necessary files have been uploaded and contain:
Keywords All figure captions
All tables (including title, description, and footnotes)

#### **Further considerations:**

- The manuscript has been 'spell-checked' and 'grammar-checked'
- References are in the correct format for this journal (Vancouver style)
- All references mentioned in the Reference list are cited in the text, and vice versa
- The minimum number of references is 20
- Every section of the manuscript is written according to the guidelines
- The title page is separately written
- The authors' names are not mentioned anywhere in the manuscript
- The Similarity Index is below 19%, and any single source has a similarity index of not more than 5%
- All the authors are eligible according to the Author contribution criteria by ICMJE (Please visit here <a href="https://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/roles-and-responsibilities/defining-the-role-of-authors-and-contributors.html">https://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/roles-and-responsibilities/defining-the-role-of-authors-and-contributors.html</a>)
- All authors duly sign the author contribution form/Letter authorship form and should be attached separately at the time of manuscript submission (please see the Letter of Authorship in the "Downloads Section" on the website)

