

Information for Authors

Authors are invited to submit original research articles within the broad scope of the journal. Please use the following guidelines:

Submission

1. Submit an electronic copy of your paper to the Editor-in Chief in WORD.
2. Manuscripts, written in English, should be double-spaced with a one-inch margin on all four sides; formatted for double-blind refereeing.
3. A brief abstract (maximum of 100 words) should be included at the beginning of the manuscript, followed by keywords. Keywords will be used for indexing and identifying suitable reviewers.
4. Footnotes should not be used unless absolutely necessary.
5. It will be assumed that the manuscript is original and has been neither published nor simultaneously being considered by another journal. The authors are required to seek written approvals from original authors if any copyrighted materials are used.
6. **There is no article submission/processing/publication fee.**
7. The editors will strive to provide a prompt turnaround time between submission and publication. To expedite the reviewing process, authors are encouraged to suggest (up to five) names of potential reviewers. Please enclose their names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses. The editors are, however, under no obligation to seek opinions from suggested referees.
8. Submission of a manuscript automatically implies that no copyrights have been violated. Upon acceptance of the manuscript, all rights will be transferred to AIMS International.
9. References should be as per Elsevier SCOPUS style. Please refer to the sample paper posted on the journal's website.
10. Articles should ideally be limited to 20 pages in length. Articles longer than 40 pages will not be considered.

Refereeing Process

1. The Editor-in-Chief will make an initial determination of the suitability of the manuscript. Papers which lack clarity in presentation, do not demonstrate contribution to knowledge, or are clearly outside the scope of the journal will not be sent for review.
2. The Editor-in-Chief will send the manuscript to at least two competent reviewers.
3. Based on the review reports, the Editor-in-Chief will determine whether the manuscript should be accepted, rejected, or revised.
4. The Editor-in-Chief reserves the right to make changes in the above procedure and retains the final decision on all submissions.

Revision Process

1. For manuscripts requiring revisions, authors will be requested to revise their manuscript and resubmit the revised version within two months. Revisions submitted after two months will be treated as new submissions.
2. Authors should clearly demonstrate their responses to the reviewers' comments in a separate document.
3. An electronic copy in WORD must be submitted.

After Acceptance

1. Names and affiliations of all authors should be listed immediately after the title of the article. An abstract (maximum of 100 words) and a list of keywords (maximum of six) should be included.
2. All tables and figures should be consecutively numbered, titled in the journal style.
3. Authors are required to provide an electronic copy of the final paper in WORD.
4. Brief biographies of authors (100 words maximum per author) should be enclosed.
5. Galley-proofs will be sent to the submitting author. Corrections should be made within two days. Major modifications will not be made at this stage; authors will be charged for extensive corrections.

Publication Fee

1. **There is no publication fee.** Authors, however, have an option to make their article as "Open Access" for a nominal fee. The Open Access articles can be accessed and downloaded by anyone from the journal website

without any fee. *Many studies demonstrate that OA literature receives more citations than subscription publications.*

2. The applicable fee to make an article “Open Access” is Rs. 12,000 with all authors in India and US \$800 for articles with at least one co-author from outside India. Each author of an Open Access article will also receive one hard copy of the journal issue in which the article is published.
3. Authors will be e-mailed a PDF version of the article within ten days of publication. Hard copies may be purchased at a nominal cost. (Rs. 500 if mailed in India, otherwise US \$30)

The publisher reserves the right to make changes to the above procedure and retains the final decision on all submissions.

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