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DEPARTMENT OF
ORTHOPAEDICS & REHABILITATION

Western Journal of Orthopaedics
Formerly The University of New Mexico Orthopaedics Research Journal

Instructions for Authors

The *Western Journal of Orthopaedics (WJO)* is a peer-reviewed publication of UNM Department of Orthopaedics & Rehabilitation. *WJO* highlights original research relevant to orthopaedic-focused surgery and engineering. Manuscripts will be warmly received from faculty, fellows, residents, students, staff, alumni, and external colleagues.

General Policies

Articles are accepted for exclusive publication in *WJO*. Previously published articles are not accepted; however, a summary of ongoing research is eligible for submission. Additional requirements include the following:

1. Authors warrant that their submission to the journal is an original work.
2. All reports of prospective clinical trials submitted for consideration for publication must have been registered in a public trial registry (eg, clinicaltrials.org).
3. All manuscripts describing a study with human subjects must state that the subjects provided informed consent for their participation and that the study was approved by an institutional review board (if applicable).
4. All manuscripts describing a study in animals must state that the study was approved by an institutional animal use committee.
5. All submissions adhere to the [criteria for authorship](#) of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE).
6. Copyright is retained by the authors.

Manuscripts for consideration in *WJO* must be submitted to UNMORJ@salud.unm.edu by **October 5**. Please email UNMORJ@salud.unm.edu with questions.



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Double-Blind Review and Submission Documents

WJO uses a double-blind review—the reviewer and author are anonymous to each other. The Blinded Manuscript cannot contain identifying information such as author names. To submit, email UNMORJ@salud.unm.edu. In the email, state the article type (review, case report, technical note, etc). The following submission parts must be attached as separate documents:

1. Title Page, including full author details.
2. Blinded Manuscript, including the paper title, abstract, body, references, and figure legends.
3. Tables, each uploaded as a separate Microsoft Word document.
4. Figures, each uploaded as a separately saved file.

General Formatting

The Title Page and Blinded Manuscript must be submitted as Microsoft Word documents. Use Times New Roman, 12-point typeface and double spacing, including in the references list and tables. Use 1-inch margins on the top, bottom, and sides of each page. Do not justify the right-hand margin; use “ragged right.” Number all pages continuously in the upper right-hand corner, beginning with the abstract. Use continuous line numbering. *WJO* follows the style, format, and usage guidelines described in the *AMA Manual of Style* (10th edition).

Title Page

Titles should be concise, specific, and informative; do not use abbreviations. The Title Page is saved as a separate file from the Blinded Manuscript. Include the following information:

1. Authors’ full names; highest academic degree; and affiliations at the time of research and, if since changed, at the time of submission.
2. Name, address, telephone, and email of the corresponding author.
3. Sources of funding for the study. If none, state none.
4. Conflicts of interest of each author. If none, state none.
5. Approval number from an institutional review board (if applicable).
6. Written informed consent from patients or IRB approval (if Case Report).
7. Preferred subspecialty of reviewers (eg, trauma, joints, hand, wrist, foot, pediatrics, etc)
8. The names and email addresses of one to three potential reviewers for your submission (external to your current affiliation)
9. Acknowledgements. May include statisticians, laboratory technicians, physicians who contributed patient data, administrators who secured funding, and individuals who provided writing or editorial assistance.



Blinded Manuscript

WJO considers the following types of original articles: reviews, clinical and basic science studies (called scientific articles), education articles, new technology, pilot studies, technical notes, case reports, and reflections. Define abbreviations at first mention. Use generic names for drugs and SI units for measurements. Use up to 2 significant digits for values (eg, $P < 0.05$). The maximum word count varies per submission type and does not include the Abstract, References, Tables, and Figure Legends. Subheadings can vary but are generally not included in the Introduction or Discussion/Conclusion sections.

Abstract

The abstract is placed on the first page. State the title of your submission here (in addition to the Title Page). Abstracts of scientific articles and reviews are limited to 250 words. Abstracts of education articles, new technology, pilot studies, technical notes, and case reports are limited to 150 words. Scientific articles require a structured abstract of Background, Methods, Results, and Conclusions; all other types are unstructured. List 3-5 keywords using updated MeSH terms.

Headings and Word Count

To ensure a cohesive and consistent structure, all submissions must adhere to word limitations and section headings. Manuscripts that do not meet these basic requirements will be returned to authors for revision.

Reviews

The maximum length of a review is 3200 words, with a maximum of 40 references. Authors may choose section headings as suits the topic.

Scientific Articles

Scientific articles are limited to 2500 words. Organize the text by Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion. Include a paragraph on limitations in the Discussion section. No more than 25 references should be cited.

Education Articles

Education articles describe a quality improvement related to orthopaedic learning and instruction. These are limited to 2500 words. Organize the text by Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion. References should not exceed 25.

New Technology

Papers that describe the completion or ongoing development of a new technology are limited to 2500 words, with the text organized by Introduction, Design, Experiment, and Conclusion. No more than 25 references should be cited.



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Pilot Studies

Pilot studies detail the progress of an ongoing investigation. These are limited to 2500 words. Organize the text by Introduction, Progress, Future Goals, and Discussion. No more than 25 references should be cited.

Technical Notes

Technical notes describe a modification of, or a helpful “tip” for, a procedure. These are limited to 1200 words. Organize the text by Introduction, Technique, and Discussion. Technical notes should not contain an extensive review of the literature; the maximum number of references is 15.

Case Reports

Case reports should be 1200 words or less and are organized by Introduction, Case Report(s), and Discussion. Case reports should not contain an extensive review of the literature; the maximum number of references is 15.

Reflections

Limited to 1000 words, reflections can include opinion essays and thoughts on orthopaedic-related topics. Abstracts, acknowledgments, structured headings, tables, figures, and references are not enforced but are accepted.

References

References must be cited in the text of the manuscript, in the order of their mention in the text (not alphabetized), by using a superscript number. “Personal communications” cannot be included. **Submissions that do not cite all references in the text or reference cited material will be returned to authors.**

This list begins on a new page after the main text. Use the *AMA Manual of Style* (10th ed) to format all references. If there are more than six authors, the names of only the first three are given, followed by “et al.” Examples are listed below.

Journal article

Nakamura K, Hirachi K, Uchiyama S, et al. Long-term clinical and radiographic outcomes after open reduction for missed Monteggia fracture-dislocations in children. *J Bone Joint Surg Am.* 2009;91(6):1394-1404.

Book chapter

Schon LC, Mann RA. Diseases of the nerves. In: Coughlin MJ, Mann RA, Saltzman CL, eds. *Surgery of the Foot and Ankle.* Vol 1. 8th ed. Philadelphia, PA: Mosby Elsevier; 2007:613-685.

Entire book



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DEPARTMENT OF
ORTHOPAEDICS & REHABILITATION

Tile M. Fractures of the Pelvis and Acetabulum. 2nd ed. Baltimore, MD: Williams & Wilkins; 1995.

Graphic Elements (Tables and Figures)

Tables and figures should complement, not duplicate, the text of a paper. Do not embed tables and figures within the text of the manuscript. Tables are saved separately on different Word files, and figures are submitted separately as graphic files.

Tables

Each table is placed in a separate Word document labeled as Table 1, Table 2, Table 3, etc. Use the Word table function, not PowerPoint or a spreadsheet, to compose tables. Each table must have a title at the top, with brief footnotes as necessary to clarify abbreviations or unusual data.

Figure Legends

Figure legends must be placed together, in the order of their citation in the text, on the last page of the manuscript file. Do not write the figure legends on the figures themselves. All figures must be numbered (Arabic numerals). Figures can have more than one part (eg, Figure 1A, Figure 1B, etc).

Figures

Figures must be submitted in EPS, TIFF, PPT, or JPEG format, with a minimum of 300 dpi. Attach each figure as an individual file. For example, a figure containing parts 1A, 1B, and 1C should be saved separately under file names of "Figure 1A"; "Figure 1B"; and "Figure 1C." In the figures, add markers (eg, asterisk) as needed to pinpoint specific parts of the image noted in the legend. Maximum of 12 separate images.

Magnification, internal scale markers, and stains must be included on the figures when appropriate. Make sure that any information that could be used to identify a patient has been removed from photographs or other images.