

Notes for Authors

Aims and Scope

The International MS Journal is the journal of the *MS Forum*. It publishes topical reviews, conference reports, news and views on all aspects of multiple sclerosis (MS). Feedback on the topics covered or that reflects personal experience is encouraged and may be considered as topics for future publication. *The International MS Journal* is a forum for international communication and interaction in which awareness of current opinion, new ideas and developments in MS will be presented. Ultimately, it is hoped that *The International MS Journal* will serve to improve the quality of treatment and care available to patients. *The International MS Journal* is published three times a year by Cambridge Medical Publications (CMP). Copyright of published material belongs to CMP. It is indexed/abstracted in MEDLINE/Index Medicus, EMBASE and SIMID.

The journal is aimed primarily at clinical neurologists, researchers and academics, while it is also read by immunologists, rehabilitation specialists, MS nurses, psychologists, MS society workers and policy makers.

Manuscript Submission

Articles should be written in English and supplied in electronic format, via e-mail, to CMP. Please ensure that the primary author's contact details, including telephone, fax and e-mail address, are clearly indicated on the title page. Also, please ensure that you retain a hard copy of the text in addition to the electronic version. Manuscripts should be sent to:

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Peer Review

Articles may be provocative and challenging, but this should not be at the expense of scientific accuracy. All articles will be subject to two peer reviewers who are identified by the Editors-in-Chief of the journal. The manuscript and review comments will be returned to the authors for revision prior to manuscript acceptance.

Publishing Agreement and Copyright

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Types of Article

Review Articles should comprise a maximum of 2500 words, up to 10 illustrations and 40 references. If your article is likely to be considerably longer or shorter than this please make special arrangements with the publisher. Please ensure that the primary author's contact details (including fax and e-mail address, if possible) are clearly indicated on the title page.

Commentaries should comprise a maximum of 1200 words. They are more a personal piece, supported with references, in which an expert discusses the relative merits or problems of a specific approach to treatment, diagnosis or another problem facing clinicians involved in MS.

Conflicts of Interest

All potential conflicts of interest must be declared in your manuscript.

Manuscript Preparation

Online Publication: Please remember that the journal is published online as well as in print.

Article Style: Articles will be edited to journal style by CMP, with spelling according to the Oxford English Dictionary. A final version of the edited manuscript will be sent to the author for approval. Any amendments to text should be made at this stage, as only essential changes will be accepted when the page proofs have been produced.

Title Page: The title should be concise and informative. Provide the initials and surnames of each author, together with the full name and address of the institution with which they are affiliated.

Key Words: Please provide up to eight MESH compatible key words that will help bibliographic databases cross-reference your article effectively.

Headings: For clarity, it is suggested that articles include no more than three levels of sub-heading.

Drug Names: The World Health Organization International Non-Proprietary names for drugs should be used. This may be followed by the proprietary name in parentheses at the first mention.

Abbreviations: Abbreviate scientific units according to SI criteria. Ensure that all other abbreviations are given in full at their first mention and abbreviated consistently thereafter.

Illustrations: The journal is a full-colour publication. Illustrations (figures and photographs) are especially welcome, particularly colour ones. Images should be supplied preferably as TIF, JPG or EPS files via e-mail separately from the main text at a resolution of at least 300 dpi and at the size they will be reproduced. If you are unsure, please forward your images for checking by CMP's Graphics Department. In addition, please submit, ideally by e-mail, relevant documentation giving permission to reproduce figures from third-party sources. Each figure should be clearly labelled using Arabic numerals to correspond to consecutive placement in the text and should include a legend and keys as appropriate. Any micrographs should include scale bars. Please consider whether information contained in a table could be presented more effectively graphically.

References should be cited numerically in the text according to their first appearance using superscript numbers immediately following the relevant text and after any punctuation. They should be listed in the same order in the References section and styled per examples, including up to six authors' names and using journal abbreviations as listed in Index Medicus, e.g.

Journal:

1. Jones P, Smith A, Brown J, Davis P, Williams R, Roberts S *et al.* The epidemiology of MS. *Int J Epidemiol* 1994; **13**: 381 – 390.

Book chapter:

2. Smith P. Dietary impact of MS. In: *Multiple Sclerosis*. Brown J (ed). Worthington: Cambridge Medical Publications, 1994; pp9 – 11.

Webpage:

3. AMB Community. Serono Identifies 80 Genes Involved in Multiple Sclerosis Using 100,000 SNPs. Available at: <http://microarraybulletin.com/community/?=17>. Last accessed 20 May 2007.

Abstracts:

4. Schacker T, Ryncarz A, Goddard J *et al.* Frequent recovery of HIV from genital herpes simplex virus lesions in HIV-infected persons (abstract). *36th Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy (ICAAC)*, New Orleans, USA, 1996.

Only references accepted by a journal should be included in the reference list. Data on file, personal communications or content submitted but not yet accepted should be shown *in text* as follows: (Biron K, personal communication, 2002).

If you have used bibliographic software for producing your reference list (e.g. EndNote or Reference Manager), it is essential that you unlink your reference list before submitting your completed manuscript to the journal.