



Guidelines for Authors (updated April 2010)

About the Journal

Nursing for Women's Health, an official publication of the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN), is a peer-reviewed scholarly journal that reaches more than 25,000 nurses primarily involved in the care of women and newborns. Our mission is to educate, guide and report on health care trends and current everyday practice issues in women's health, obstetric and neonatal nursing. The journal's format is timely, practical, easy-to-read and concise.

Submission Criteria

Manuscripts can be submitted in a variety of lengths and styles, including feature articles on particular health and nursing issues, case studies, literature reviews, clinical innovations and opinion pieces (commentaries). We also publish first-person essays in our regular back-page feature "Reflections on Women's Health." Practical articles are important, because the majority of our readers are nurses in clinical practice and our goal is to provide them with timely, useful, relevant and interesting information that they can apply to their daily lives. **Please note that *Nursing for Women's Health* does not publish original research studies.**

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Please adhere to the following instructions when submitting an article to *Nursing for Women's Health*:

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- Author names or affiliations should NOT appear anywhere on the manuscript pages, because our peer-review process is blinded.
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Nursing for Women's Health welcomes manuscripts on a variety of topics including innovations and trends within clinical and nursing practice; the management of individual patients and patient populations; impact of health care systems; the ethical and legal trends on patient care issues and professional practice; impact of legislative/regulatory actions on health care practice; or any other relevant, newsworthy topic suitable to the mission of the journal. We suggest that writers who want to submit articles for consideration to *Nursing for Women's Health* familiarize themselves with the journal, which can be found online at <http://nwh.awhonn.org>.

The following word lengths are offered as guidelines:

- Feature Articles: Up to approximately 3,000 to 5,000 words, including references
- Departments: Up to approximately 1,500 words, including references
- Letters to the Editor: Up to approximately 500 words, including references

Authors should also include helpful "sidebar" materials whenever appropriate, such as Web sites and sources for additional reading.

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The writing style used in *Nursing for Women's Health* is direct, informative and conversational—the journal reads the way you would speak to your professional colleagues. When writing for *Nursing for Women's Health*, include clinical experiences with techniques precisely discussed.

Within your article cite primary references only. Seek out and use the most current and up-to-date references (evidence) in your text; lack of current referencing is the most common reason articles are rejected for publication. By most current and up-to-date, we mean references published within the past five (5) years, unless there are foundational or critical older references that are vital to your article.

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- all pages numbered continuously
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- an unbiased, evidence-based discussion of the topic
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