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Abstract

Aim: The abstract is limited to 200 words in length and should be organised with headings appropriate for the study.

Materials and Methods: Original research articles abstract should be organized with aim, materials and methods, results and conclusions. Other articles should use subheadings appropriate for their paper.

Results: Please do not include any abbreviations or references in the abstract.

Conclusions: Please be as precise as possible.

For clinical trials, it is encouraged that the abstract finish with the clinical trial registration number on a free public database such as clinicaltrials.gov.

Clinical Relevance

Scientific rationale for study: All papers should contain a section on Clinical Relevance of no more than a 100 words which is aimed at giving clinicians a reading light to put the present research in perspective. It should be organized with the headings: scientific rationale for study, principal findings, and practical implications.

Principal findings: The section on clinical relevance should not be a repetition of the abstract. It should provide a clear and concise explanation of the rationale for the study, of what was known before and of how the present results advance knowledge of this field. If appropriate, it may also contain suggestions for clinical practice.

Practical implications: Authors should pay particular attention to this text as it will be published in a highlighted box within their manuscript; ideally, reading this section should leave clinicians wishing to learn more about the topic and encourage them to read the full article.
Introduction
Outline in short the historical or logical origins or your study and present the specific aims of your investigation. References in the text should quote the last name(s) of the author(s) and the year of publication (Lang & Tonetti, 1996). Three or more authors should always be referred to as for example: (Needleman et al. 2007). Please ensure that you focus your literature on recent developments (last 12-18 months) and place your own objectives in the context of currently active research by yourself and others.

Materials and Methods
This section must contain sufficient detail such that, in combination with the references cited, all clinical trials and experiments reported can be fully reproduced.

Clinical trials
Please use subheadings if necessary. Papers reporting clinical trials should use the consort guidelines available at www.consort-statement.org. A consort checklist MUST be included in the submission material. Journal of Clinical Periodontology encourages authors submitting manuscripts reporting from a clinical trial to register the trials in any of the following free, public clinical trials registries: www.clinicaltrials.gov, http://clinicaltrials-dev.ifpma.org/, http://isrctn.org/. The clinical trial registration number and name of the trial register will then be published with the paper.

Statistical analysis
As papers frequently provide insufficient detail as to the performed statistical analyses, please describe with adequate detail. For clinical trials intention to treat analyses are encouraged (the reasons for choosing other types of analysis should be highlighted in the submission letter and clarified in the manuscript).

DNA Sequences
Papers reporting protein or DNA sequences and crystallographic structure determinations will not be accepted without a Genbank or Brookhaven accession number, respectively. Other supporting data sets must be made available on the publication date from the authors directly.

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All studies using human or animal subjects should include an explicit statement identifying the review and ethics committee approval for each study, if applicable. Editors reserve the right to reject papers if there is doubt as to whether appropriate procedures have been used.
Results
Results should present the observations with minimal reference to earlier literature or possible interpretations.

Discussion
The discussion may usefully start with a brief summary of the major findings, but repetition of parts of the abstract or of the results section should be avoided. The discussion section should end with a brief conclusion and a comment on the potential clinical relevance of the findings. Statements and interpretation of the data should be appropriately supported by original references. The discussion may usefully be structured with the following points in mind (modified from the proposal by Richard Horton (2002), The Hidden Research Paper, The Journal of the American Medical Association, 287, 2775-2778). Not all points will apply to all studies and its use is optional, but we believe it will improve the discussion section to keep these points in mind.

Summary of key finding
* Primary outcome measure(s)
* Secondary outcome measure(s)
* Results as they relate to a prior hypothesis

Strengths and Limitations of the Study
* Study Question
* Study Design
* Data Collection
* Analysis
* Interpretation
* Possible effects of bias on outcomes

Interpretation and Implications in the Context of the Totality of Evidence
* Is there a systematic review to refer to?
* If not, could one be reasonably done here and now?
* What this study adds to the available evidence
* Effects on patient care and health policy
* Possible mechanisms

Controversies Raised by This Study

Future Research Directions
* For this particular research collaboration
* Underlying mechanisms
* Clinical research
Acknowledgements: Under acknowledgements please specify contributors to the article other than the authors accredited. Disclosure of sources of funding and any potential conflicts of interest should be included under separate headings in the top of the manuscript document.

References

References should be ordered alphabetically by first author’s surname and in the style indicated in the examples below for journal articles, books, chapters in books and reports.

Please note that unpublished papers (submitted or in press) included in the reference list must be supplied in a digital format at submission.


Tables
Tables should be double-spaced with no vertical rulings, with a single bold ruling beneath the column titles. Units of measurements must be included in the column title.

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Figures
Please supply figures in separate files as .eps or .tiff files. Please do not supply figures embedded in the Word document. Detailed information on our digital illustration standards is available at www.blackwellpublishing.com/bauthor/illustration.asp.

Figure legends:

1) If figures are included in the paper, always include figure legends. Figure legends should be numbered.

2) Brief title for the whole figure: Continue with a short description of each panel and the symbols used. Figure legends should not contain any details of methods.