

## Author Guidelines

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**Aims and Scope:** The “**Health, Spirituality and Medical Ethics (HSME)** ” is a scientific research-based journal published quarterly which deals with Islamic medicine, Ethics, Medical Ethics, Traditional, Religious, Medical Jurisprudence and Law, spirituality, the objective of which is to boost and disseminate the findings of the researches done on medical sciences and the corresponding fields, and its target groups are those active in the field of the medicine and allied health sciences. This journal is published quarterly by “Qom University of Medical Sciences”, Qom, Iran. Members of editorial board are specialists in different areas of medicine. The articles of the journal are available at: <http://jhsme.muq.ac.ir>.

**Articles:** This Journal accepts **Original Articles, Review Articles and Case Reports** in the fields of Islamic medicine, Ethics, Medical Ethics, Traditional, Religious, Medical Jurisprudence and Law, spirituality.

**Submission:** Manuscript must be accompanied by a covering letter to Editor-in-Chief, including title and author(s) name(s) provided that it has not been published or submitted elsewhere. In case the manuscript had been submitted earlier to some other Journal and been rejected, the authors must provide full information for proper analysis. Manuscript should be typed in single space with clear margins on both sides. Tables as well as illustrations should be typed and drawn on a separate paper. Do not submit tables as photographs. the authors must declare that it is being exclusively contributed to Health, Spirituality and Medical Ethics. The text should be submitted in Microsoft Word format as an attachment. The figures should be sent in a format of JPEG or GIF which will produce high quality images in the online edition of the journal.

The manuscript should include: **Title page; the Abstract; Introduction; Methods; Results; Discussion; Conclusion; Acknowledgement and References.**

**Short Communications** are suitable for the presentation of research that extends previously published research, including the reporting of additional controls and confirmatory results in other settings, as well as negative results, small-scale clinical studies, clinical audits and case series. Authors must clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished. and should include: **Title page; the Abstract; Introduction; Methods; Results; Discussion; Conclusion; Acknowledgement and References.**

<b>Section</b>	<b>Word Limit</b>	<b>Miscellaneous Considerations</b>	<b>Main Body Section</b>	<b>Abstract</b>	<b>Peer Review</b>
<b>Original Articles</b>	3,500	No more than six figures and tables; CONSORT diagram for studies in which two or more groups are compared; protocol information needed for randomized phase II and III reports; no exceptions from word limitation.	Introduction Methods Results Discussion Conclusion	Structured	Yes
<b>Review Articles</b>	4,000	Devote half of text to describing studies detailing human impact, marker effect on prognosis, or clinical trials; suggested 150 reference limit; no more than six figures and tables	Introduction Methods Results Discussion Conclusion	Structured	Yes
<b>Case reports</b>	1,500	-	Introduction Case presentation(s) Discussion Conclusion	Unstructured	Yes
<b>Short Communications</b>	2,500	Are suitable for the presentation of research that extends previously published research, including the reporting of additional controls and confirmatory results in other settings, as well as negative results, small-scale clinical studies, clinical audits and case series. Authors must clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished	Introduction Methods Results Discussion Conclusion	Structured	Yes
<b>Commentary</b>	1,000	A commentary is a comment on a newly published article on an article published in the JHSME and must be submitted within 3 months of the online publication date of the subject article. A commentary may be invited by the chief editor or spontaneously submitted.	-	Unstructured	No
	2,500	Commentary may also draw attention to current advances and speculate on future directions of a certain topic, and may include original data as well as state a personal opinion.			

1. **Title page:** The complete title of the manuscript, the name of all the authors with their highest qualifications, the department or institution to which they are attached, address for correspondence with telephone numbers, e-mail, and Fax number.
2. **Abstract:** All original articles must accompany a structured abstract up to 250 words. It should be structured as **Background and Objectives, Methods, Results and Conclusion** followed by **3 to 5 Keywords**. Keywords will assist indexers in cross indexing the article as they are published with abstract. Use terms from the Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) list of index medicus (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/MBrowser.html> ). Authors need to be careful that the abstract reflects the content of the article accurately.
3. **Introduction:** This should summarize the purpose and the rationale for the study. It should neither review the subject extensively nor should it have data or conclusions of the study.
4. **Methods:** This should include exact method or observation or experiment. If an apparatus is used, its manufacturer's name and address should be given in parenthesis. If the method is established, give reference but if the method is new, give enough information so that another author is able to perform it. If a drug is used, its generic name, dose and route of administration must be given. For patients, age, sex with mean age  $\pm$  standard deviation must be given. Statistical method must be mentioned and specify any general computer program used. The Info system used should be clearly mentioned.
5. **Results:** It must be presented in the form of text, tables and illustrations. The contents of the tables should not be all repeated in the text. Instead, a reference to the table number may be given. Long articles may need sub-headings within some sections (especially the Results and Discussion parts) to clarify their contents.
6. **Discussion:** should emphasize the new and important aspects of the study and the conclusions that follow them. Possible mechanisms or explanations for these findings should be explored. The limitations of the study and the implications of the findings for future research or clinical practice should be explored.
7. **Conclusion:** This should emphasize the present findings and the variations or similarities with other work done in the field by other workers. The detailed data should not be repeated in the discussion again. Emphasize the new and important aspects of the study and the conclusions that follow from them. It must be mentioned whether the hypothesis mentioned in the article is true, false or no conclusions can be derived.
8. **Acknowledgement:** All contributors who do not meet the criteria for authorship should be covered in the acknowledgement section. It should include persons who provided technical help, writing assistance and departmental head that only provided general support. Financial and material support should also be acknowledged.
9. **Tables:** In limited numbers should be submitted with the **captions placed above**. Do not submit tables as photograph. Place explanatory matters in footnotes, not in the heading.
10. **Figures:** Should be in limited numbers, with high quality art work and mounted on separate pages. The captions **should be placed below**. The same data should not be presented in tables, figures and text, simultaneously.
11. **References:** All manuscripts should be accompanied by relevant references. The author should ensure reference to locally published studies by doing proper literature search. It may not be possible for the editor and reviewers to check the accuracy of all reference citations. To minimize such errors author should verify references against the original documents. The Reference should provide the following information as stated in the

presented models as follows: (Vancouver Style). Example formats are listed below. Additional examples are in the [ICMJE sample references](#).

### **1. Standard journal article**

List the first six authors followed by et al. (Note: NLM now lists all authors.)

Halpern SD, Ubel PA, Caplan AL. Solid-organ transplantation in HIV-infected patients. *N Engl J Med*. 2002 Jul 25;347(4):284-7.

More than six authors:

Rose ME, Huerbin MB, Melick J, Marion DW, Palmer AM, Schiding JK, et al. Regulation of interstitial excitatory amino acid concentrations after cortical contusion injury. *Brain Res*. 2002;935(1-2):40-6..

### **2. Book**

Personal author(s)

Murray PR, Rosenthal KS, Kobayashi GS, Pfaller MA. *Medical microbiology*. 4th ed. St. Louis: Mosby; 2002.

*Editor(s), compiler(s) as author*

Gilstrap LC 3rd, Cunningham FG, VanDorsten JP, editors. *Operative obstetrics*. 2nd ed. New York: McGraw-Hill; 2002.

*Author(s) and editor(s)*

Breedlove GK, Schorfheide AM. *Adolescent pregnancy*. 2nd ed. Wiecezorek RR, editor. White Plains (NY): March of Dimes Education Services; 2001..

### **3. Theses**

Gethin, A. *Poor suburbs and poor health: exploring the potential of a locational approach to reducing health disadvantage in Australian cities*. PhD [dissertation]. Sydney: University of Western Sydney; 2007..

### **4. Conference Papers**

Cloherly SL, Dokos S, Lovell NH. Qualitative support for the gradient model of cardiac pacemaker heterogeneity. In: *Proceedings of the 2005 IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology 27 Annual Conference*; 2005 Sep 1-4; Shanghai, China. New York: IEEE; 2005 [cited 2010 Sep 2]. p. 133-6. Available from: IEEE Xplore..

## 5. Internet Documents

Lavelle P. Mental state of the nation. Health matters [document on the Internet]. ABC online; 2005 May 19 [cited 2005 Jul 1]. Available from: <http://abc.net.au/health/features/mentalstate/>..

## 6. Newspaper Articles

Devlin, H. Neuron breakthrough offers hope on Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. The Times [newspaper on the Internet]. 2010 Jan 28 [cited 2010 Jan 31]. Available from: <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/science/medicine/article7005401.ece>.

**Proof Reading:** A computer print-out is sent to the corresponding author for proof reading before publication in order to avoid any mistakes. Corrections should be marked clearly and sent immediately to the Journal office.

**Abbreviations and symbols:** Use only standard abbreviations. **Avoid using them in the title and abstract.** The full term for which an abbreviation stands should precede its first use in the text unless it is a standard unit of measurement.

The **corresponding author:** Will be supplied with 5 free issues.

**Ethical guidelines:** Ethical considerations must be addressed in the Materials and Methods section. 1) Please state that **informed consent** was obtained from all human adult participants and from the parents or legal guardians of minors. Include the name of the appropriate institutional review board that approved the project. 2) Indicate in the text that the maintenance and care of experimental animals complies with National Institutes of Health guidelines for the humane use of laboratory animals, or those of your Institute or agency.

**Conflicts of interest:** Authors must acknowledge and declare any sources of funding and potential conflicting interest, such as receiving funds or fees by, or holding stocks and shares in, an organization that may profit or lose through publication of your paper. Declaring a competing interest will not lead to automatic rejection of the paper, but we would like to be made aware of it.

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the manuscript is completely acceptable according to the criteria set forth in these instructions, it is scheduled for the next available issue.

**Disposal of material:** Once published, all copies of the manuscript, correspondence and artwork will be held for 6 months before disposal.

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### **The Final Checklist**

The authors must ensure that before submitting the manuscript for publication, they have taken care of the following:

1. Title page should contain title, name of the author/co-authors, their qualifications, designation & institutions they are affiliated with and mailing address for future correspondence, E-mail address, Phone & Fax number.
2. Abstract in Structured format up to 250 words.
3. References mentioned as stated in the Instruction to Authors section.
4. Tables should be typed on separate pages.
6. Make sure for Headings of Tables, their numbers and Captions of illustrations. Don't repeat the information in tables if it is covered in the text.
7. Photographs / illustrations along with their captions.
8. Manuscript in Triplicate
9. Letter of Undertaking signed by all the authors.
10. Disclosure regarding source of funding and conflict of interest if any besides approval of the study from respective Ethics Committee/Institution Review Board.
11. Covering Letter
12. Compact disk (latest version of windows) for on-line edition

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1. The submission has not been previously published, nor is it before another journal for consideration (or an explanation has been provided in Comments to the Editor).
2. The submission file is in OpenOffice, Microsoft Word, RTF, or WordPerfect document file format.
3. Where available, URLs for the references have been provided.
4. The text is single-spaced; uses a 12-point font; employs italics, rather than underlining (except with URL addresses); and all illustrations, figures, and tables are placed within the text at the appropriate points, rather than at the end.
5. The text adheres to the stylistic and bibliographic requirements outlined in the [Author Guidelines](#), which is found in About the Journal.
6. If submitting to a peer-reviewed section of the journal, the instructions in [Ensuring a Blind Review](#) have been followed.

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