



How to write articles for indexed scholarly journals

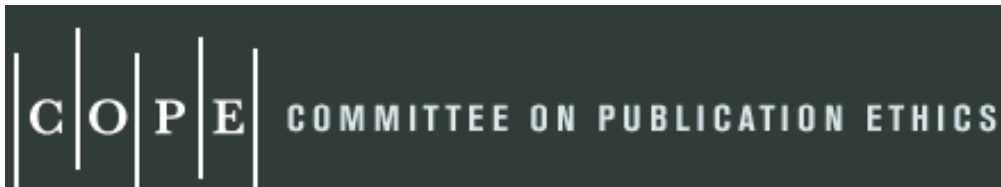
Armen Yuri Gasparyan, MD, PhD, FESC

Associate Professor of Medicine

Member, World Association of Medical Editors

Member, European Association of Science Editors

Associations concerned with scholarly writing



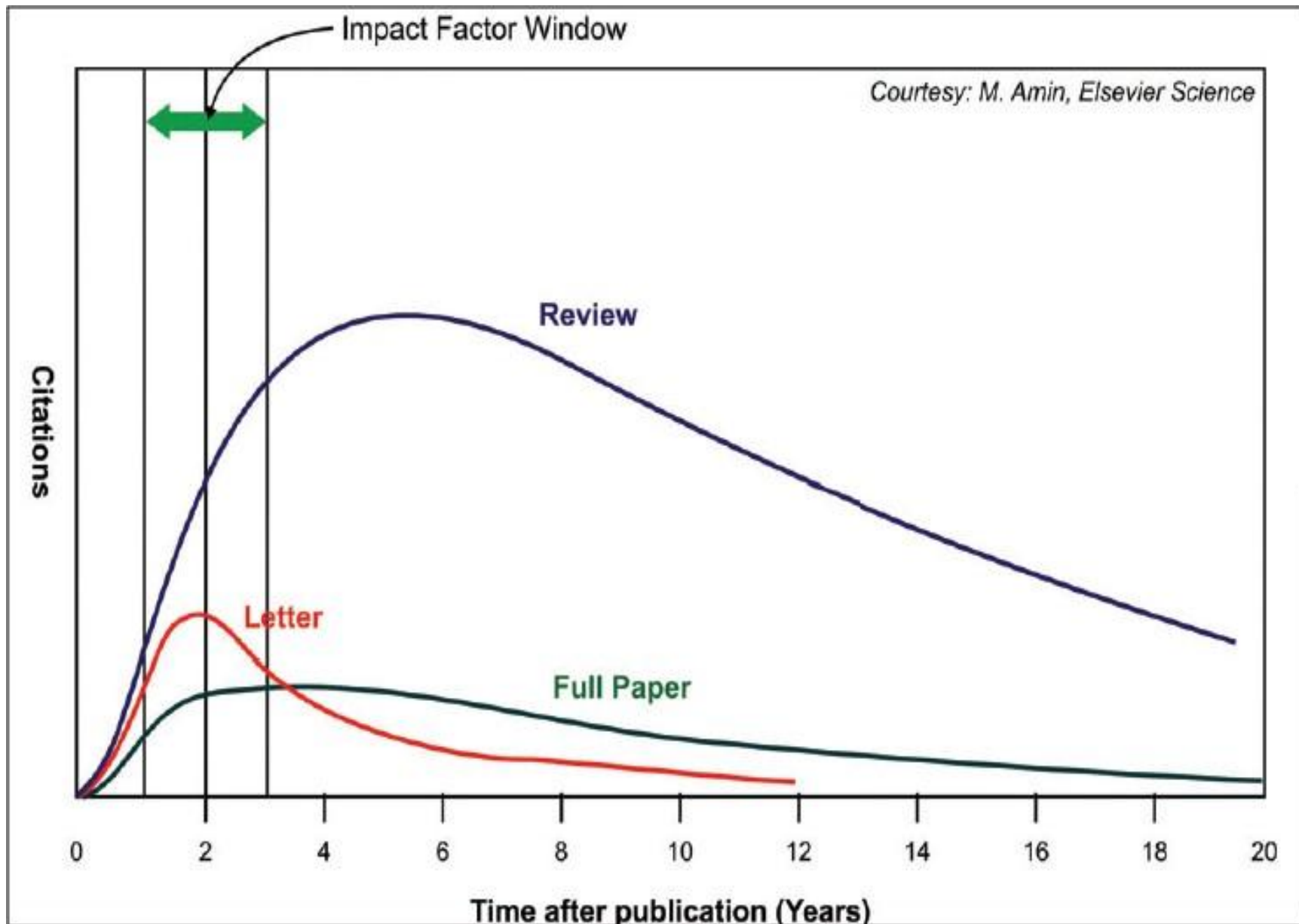


“The amount of writings of a profession is a measure of its vitality and activity, whilst their quality is a rough indication of its intellectual state”

Sir Robert Hutchison (1871-1960)

Lancet 1939;2:1059

Impact of Reviews



Narrative reviews

- ✓ **Often favoured by Publishers**
- ✓ **Highly cited in papers, textbooks and theses**
- ✓ **Contain updated information for practitioners**
- ✓ **Each thesis starts and ends with a comprehensive review**

Review articles

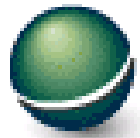
 **Editorials**

 **Authoritative reviews**

 **Narrative reviews (with systematic approach)**

 **Qualitative systematic reviews**

 **Quantitative systematic reviews**



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Welcome to the EQUATOR Network website – the resource centre for good reporting of health research studies



Too often, good research evidence is undermined by poor quality reporting.

The EQUATOR Network is an international initiative that seeks to improve reliability and value of medical research literature by promoting transparent and accurate reporting of research studies.

PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses)



PRISMA

TRANSPARENT REPORTING of SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS and META-ANALYSES



PRISMA 2009 Checklist

Section/topic	#	Checklist item	Reported on page #
TITLE			
Title	1	Identify the report as a systematic review, meta-analysis, or both.	

Section/topic	#	Checklist item	Reported on page #
ABSTRACT			
Structured summary			
INTRODUCTION			
Rationale	15	Specify any assessment of risk of bias that may affect the cumulative evidence (e.g., publication bias, selective reporting within studies).	
Objectives	16	Describe methods of additional analyses (e.g., sensitivity or subgroup analyses, meta-regression), if done, indicating which were pre-specified.	
METHODS			
RESULTS			
Protocol and registration	17	Give numbers of studies screened, assessed for eligibility, and included in the review, with reasons for exclusions at each stage, ideally with a flow diagram.	
Eligibility criteria	18	For each study, present characteristics for which data were extracted (e.g., study size, PICOS, follow-up period) and provide the citations.	
Information sources	19	Present data on risk of bias of each study and, if available, any outcome level assessment (see item 12).	
Search	20	For all outcomes considered (benefits or harms), present, for each study: (a) simple summary data for each intervention group (b) effect estimates and confidence intervals, ideally with a forest plot.	
Study selection	21	Present results of each meta-analysis done, including confidence intervals and measures of consistency.	
Data collection process	22	Present results of any assessment of risk of bias across studies (see Item 15).	
	23	Give results of additional analyses, if done (e.g., sensitivity or subgroup analyses, meta-regression [see Item 16]).	
DISCUSSION			
Data items	24	Summarize the main findings including the strength of evidence for each main outcome; consider their relevance to key groups (e.g., healthcare providers, users, and policy makers).	
Risk of bias in individual studies	25	Discuss limitations at study and outcome level (e.g., risk of bias), and at review-level (e.g., incomplete retrieval of identified research, reporting bias).	
Summary measures	26	Provide a general interpretation of the results in the context of other evidence, and implications for future research.	
FUNDING			
Synthesis of results	27	Describe sources of funding for the systematic review and other support (e.g., supply of data); role of funders for the systematic review.	



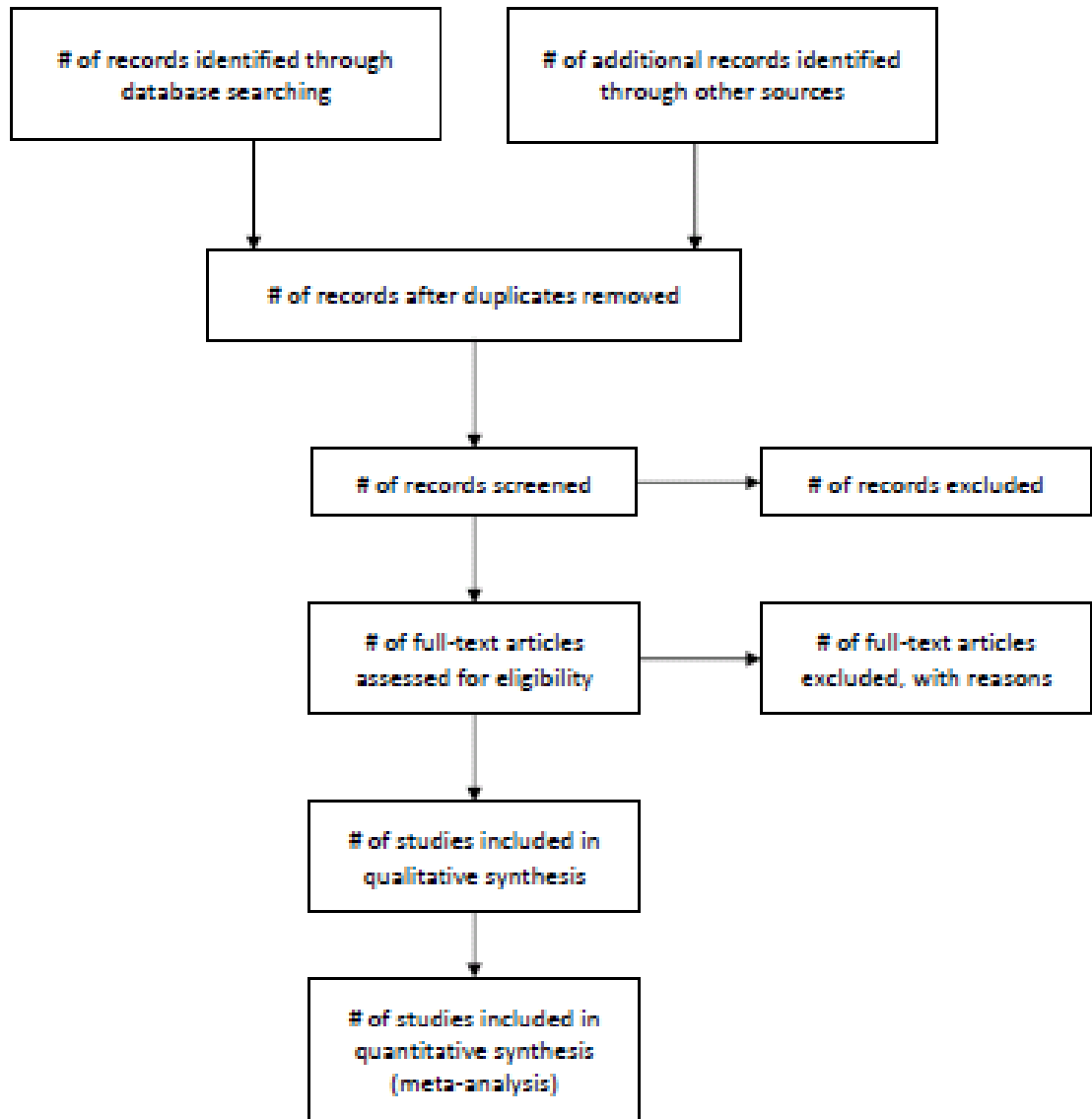
PRISMA 2009 Flow Diagram

Identification

Screening

Eligibility

Included



Narrative Reviews

Authors

- **Number of Authors. Optimal Number of Authors – 3-4; for authoritative reviews – 1-2**
- **Substantive contributor – 1st co-author**

Authorship criteria (2013)

- 1. Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work...**
- 2. Drafting the work or revising it critically...**
- 3. Final approval of the version to be published...**
- 4. Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part...**

Authorship statements in the instructions

Rheumatology

TABLE 2. Statements on authorship criteria in the online instructions of rheumatology journals listed in the SCImago database*

Rank	Abbreviated journal titles	H index	2-y JIF	Authorship criteria listed	Updated ICMJE criteria (2013) mentioned
1	<i>Arthritis Rheum</i>	211	7.477	+	NA
2	<i>Ann Rheum Dis</i>	132	9.111	+	+
3	<i>J Rheumatol</i>	124	3.258	+	NA
4	<i>Rheumatology</i>	106	4.212	+	+
5	<i>Arthritis Res Ther</i>	84	4.302	+	+
6	<i>Arthritis Care Res</i>	82	3.731	+	NA
7	<i>Semin Arthritis Rheum</i>	73	3.806	NA	NA
8	<i>Clin Exp Rheumatol</i>	62	2.655	NA	NA
9	<i>Rheum Dis Clin North Am</i>	61	2.096	NA	NA
10	<i>Nat Rev Rheumatol</i>	52	9.745	NA	NA
11	<i>Joint Bone Spine</i>	43	2.748	NA	NA
12	<i>Rheumatol Int</i>	43	2.214	NA	NA
13	<i>BMC Musculoskelet Dis</i>	41	1.875	+	+
14	<i>Curr Rheumatol Rep</i>	37	-	NA	NA

CMJ

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

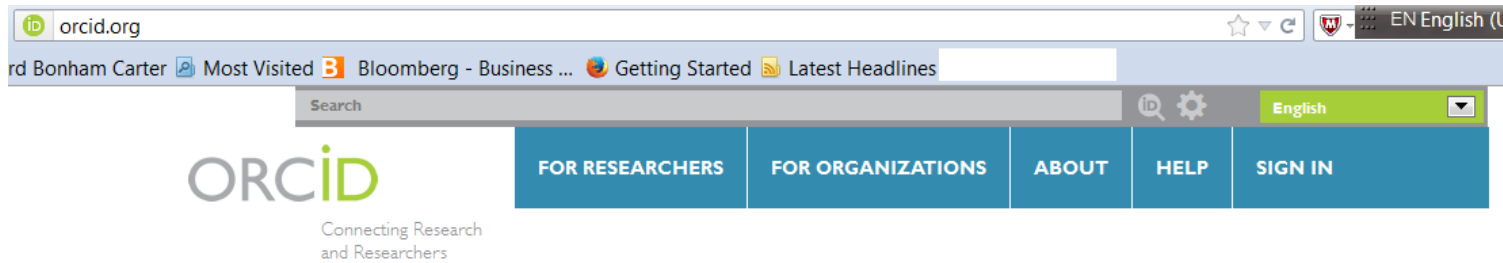
Croat Med J. 2014;55:271-80
doi: 10.3325/cmj.2014.55.271

- 44 journals examined
- Statements on authorship - in only 13 (29.5%)
- A specific reference to the renewed four criteria in only 8 (18.2%)

Upgrading instructions for authors of scholarly journals

Armen Yuri Gasparyan¹, Lilit Ayvazyan², Sergey V. Gorin³, George D. Kitas^{1,4}

ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID) is a code to identify authors. Similar to DOIs for articles



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WILEY

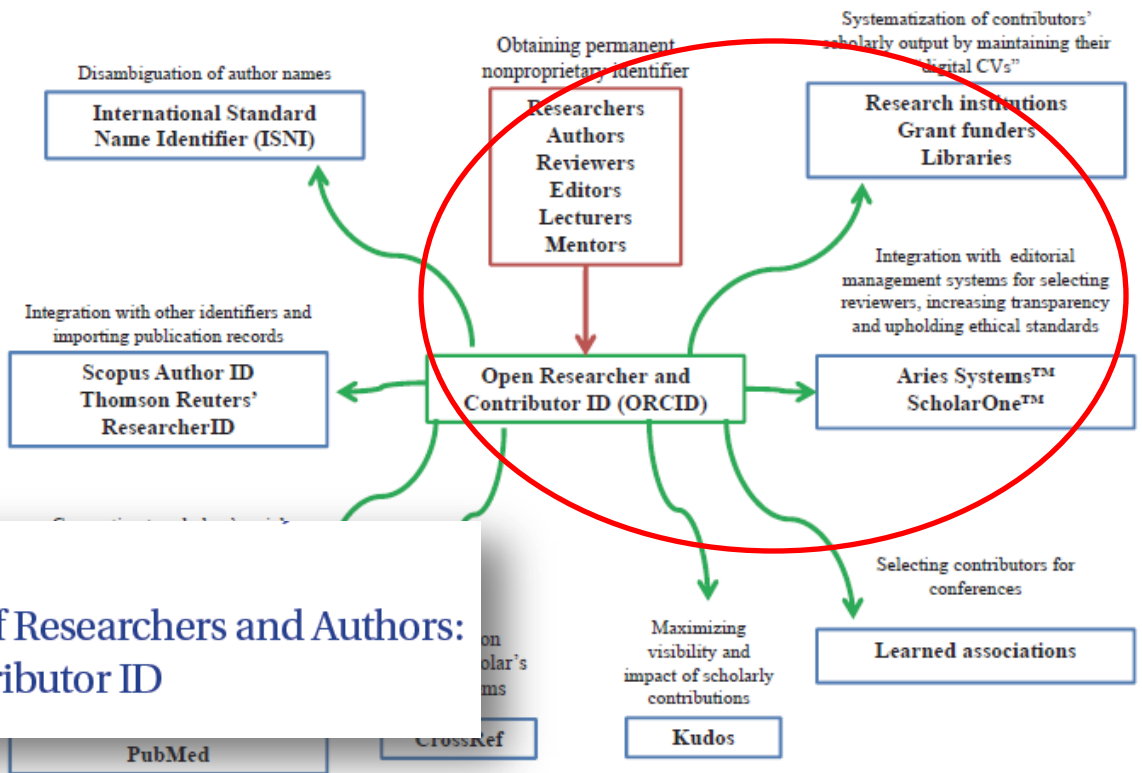


THOMSON REUTERS

wellcome trust

ORCID IDs for reviewers

- Editors may select relevant reviewers
- Reviewers get credits by listing their reviewer contributions on ORCID
- No chance for ‘fake’ reviews



<http://dx.doi.org/10.3346/jkms.2014.29.11.1453> • J Korean Med Sci 2014; 29: 1453-1456

Systematic and Open Identification of Researchers and Authors:
Focus on Open Researcher and Contributor ID

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Author Last Name... *e.g. Smith*

Author Initials or First Name... *e.g. J.L.*



Affiliation... *e.g. University of Toronto...*

Show exact matches only

 ORCID ID... *e.g. 0000-0002-1108-3360*



Narrative reviews

Titles

- **The title should reflect the content, be concise and short. Put question when the review yield an answer(s)**
- **Some editors and reviews provide alternative titles**

STATE-OF-THE-ART PAPER

Inflammation in Atherosclerosis

From Pathophysiology to Practice

Peter Libby, MD,* Paul M Ridker, MD, MPH,*† Göran K. Hansson, M.D.
for the Leducq Transatlantic Network on Atherothrombosis

Boston, Massachusetts; and Stockholm, Sweden

Seminar

Rheumatoid arthritis

David L Scott, Frederick Wolfe, Tom WJ Huizinga

Lancet 2010; 376: 1094-1108

Rheumatoid arthritis is characterised by

Rheumatol Int (2011) 31:289–300
DOI 10.1007/s00296-010-1586-z

REVIEW

Current, new and future treatments of osteoporosis

Pooneh Salari Sharif · Mohammad Abdollahi ·
Bagher Larijani

Cardiovascular involvement in Behçet's disease

Yusuf Sezen • Hakan Buyukatipoglu •
Zekeriya Kucukdurmaz • Ramazan Geyik

Current Pharmaceutical Design, 2010, 16, 3417-3434

Vitamin D and Metabolic Syndrome: Is There a Link?

Matilda Florentin^{1,2*}, Moses S. Elisaf², Dimitri P. Mikhailidis¹ and Evangelos N. Liberopoulos²



[Full Text \(PDF\)](#)

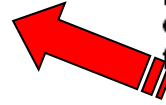
Review: Antiplatelet Drugs: What Comes Next?

CLIN APPL THROMB HEMOST February
2011 17: 9-26, first published on November 15,
2010

Titles

- Indicate the subject
- Short
- Informative
- Attractive

✓ **Declarative**
(highly recommended)



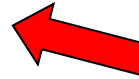
Research Letter

Journal of Human Hypertension, (28 April 2011) | doi:10.1038/jhh.2011.36

Anti-TNF α therapy may lead to blood pressure reductions through improved endothelium-dependent microvascular function in patients with rheumatoid arthritis

A Sandoo, V F Panoulas, T E Toms, J P Smith, A Stavropoulos-Kalinoglou, G S Metsios, A Y Gasparyan, D Carroll, J J C S Veldhuijzen van Zanten and G D Kitas

✓ **Descriptive or neutral**



Journal of the American College of Cardiology
© 2008 by the American College of Cardiology Foundation
Published by Elsevier Inc.

Vol. 51, No. 19, 2008
ISSN 0735-1097/08/\$34.00
doi:10.1016/j.jacc.2007.11.080

STATE-OF-THE-ART PAPER

The Role of Aspirin in Cardiovascular Prevention

Implications of Aspirin Resistance

Armen Yuri Gasparyan, MD, PhD, Timothy Watson, MRCP, Gregory Y. H. Lip, MD, FRCP
Birmingham, United Kingdom

✓ **Interrogative**
(question)



Current Pharmaceutical Design, 2011, 17, 47-58

Mean Platelet Volume: A Link Between Thrombosis and Inflammation?

Armen Yuri Gasparyan^{1*}, Lilit Ayyvazyan², Dimitri P. Mikhailidis³ and George D. Kitas^{1,4}

Recommended for reviews

Table 1 Number of downloads and citations for articles with different types of title

Title type	No	Download		Citation	
		Mean	Median	Mean	Median
Descriptive	1,442	3,906	2,754	16.92	14.23
Declarative	660	3,588	2,565	16.93	12
Question	45	5,817	3,723	10.47	6

 **Articles with question titles downloaded more but cited less than the others**

 **Longer titles are downloaded slightly less**

Jamali HR, Nikzad M. Article title type and its relation with the number of downloads and citations. *Scientometrics* DOI 10.1007/s11192-011-0412-z

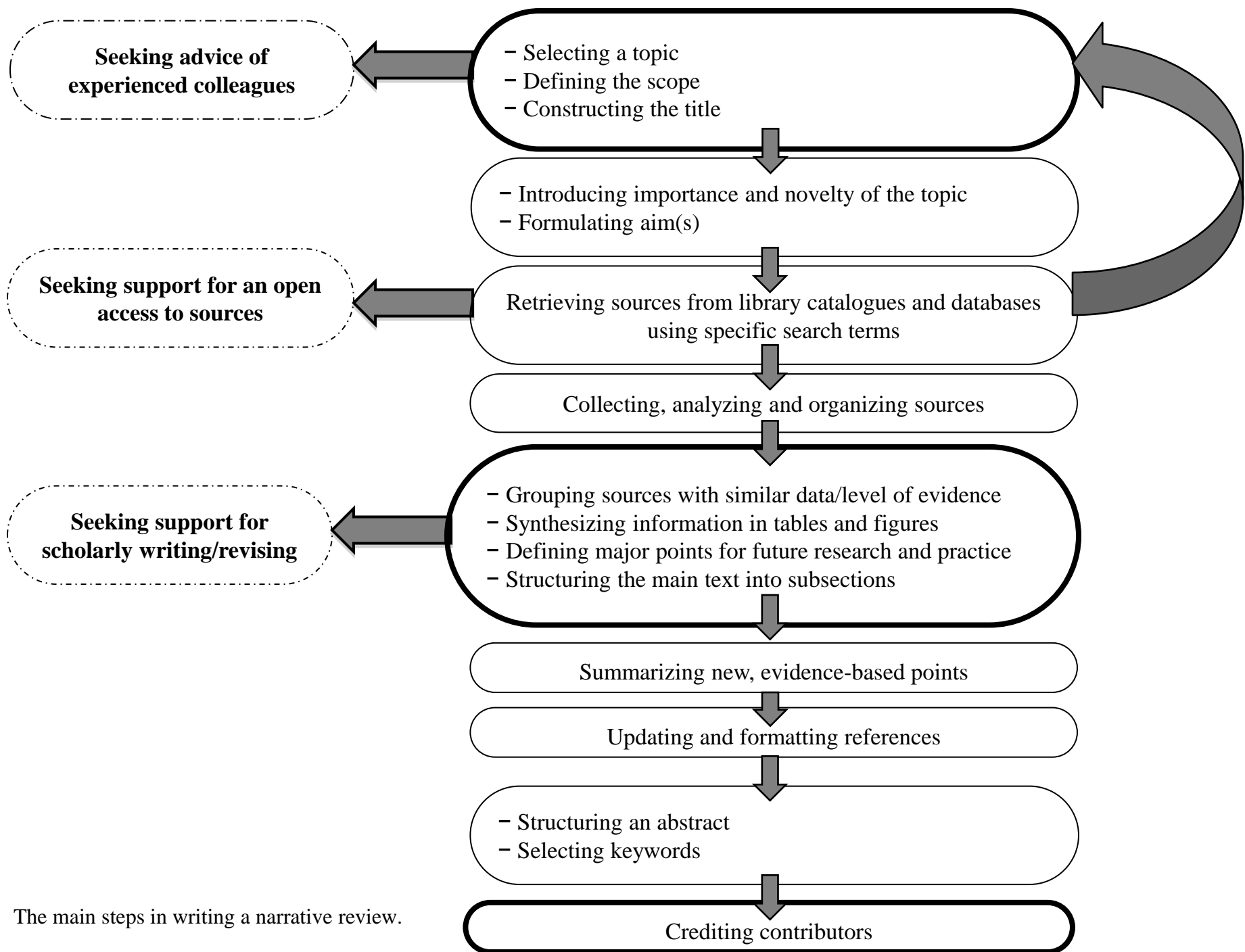
Analysis was based on PLoS articles

- Analysis of 25 most cited and the 25 least cited in 2005 in top rank journals (*TLN, BMJ, J Clin Pathol*)

Poor predictors of citations

- **Reference to a specific country in the title**

Jacques TS, Sebire NJ. The impact of article titles on citation hits: an analysis of general and specialist medical journals. *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine Short Reports* 2009, 1(2), 1–5.



The main steps in writing a narrative review.

Structuring review (1)

- **Structured abstract (preferable)**
- **Keywords (from MeSH)**
- **Introduction. Justify novelty and aim**
- **Structuring by the topic major subheadings**

Online databases

- **MedLine/PubMed**

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/>

- **PubMed Central**

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/>

- **Scopus**

<http://www.scopus.com/home.url>

- **Web of Science**

<http://wokinfo.com/>

- **EMBASE/Excerpta Medica**

<http://www.embase.com/>

Online databases (2)

- **Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature**
<http://www.ebscohost.com/cinahl/>
- **The Cochrane Library**
<http://www.thecochranelibrary.com>



Navigation

- ▼ Overview of The Cochrane Library and related content
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Review
More ...

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Abstract
Free full text
Full text

PubMed Commons
Reader comments

Publication dates
5 years

Results: 1 to 20 of 10480 << First < Prev Page 1 of 524 Next > Last >>

[Restricting or banning alcohol advertising to reduce alcohol consumption in adults and adolescents.](#)

1. Siegfried N, Pienaar DC, Ataguba JE, Volmink J, Kredt T, Jere M, Parry CD.
Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2014 Nov 4;11:CD010704. [Epub ahead of print]
PMID: 25369459 [PubMed - as supplied by publisher]
[Related citations](#)

[Oral calorie supplements for cystic fibrosis.](#)

2. Smyth RL, Rayner O.
Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2014 Nov 3;11:CD000406. [Epub ahead of print]
PMID: 25363148 [PubMed - as supplied by publisher]
[Related citations](#)

New feature
Try the new Display Settings option - [Sort by Relevance](#)

Results by year

[Download CSV](#)

Search strategy and selection criteria

We searched the Cochrane Library (2000–09), Medline (2000–09), and Embase (2000–09). We used the search term “rheumatoid arthritis” in combination with terms relevant for every section of the article, including: “cytokines”, “auto-antibodies”, “genetic risk factors”, “prevalence”, “incidence”, “assessments”, “outcome measures”, “co-morbidities”, and every specific treatment approach. We mainly selected publications from the past 5 years, although we did not exclude commonly referenced and highly regarded older publications. We also searched the reference lists of articles identified by this search strategy and selected those we judged relevant. We selected high-quality systematic reviews in preference to individual studies. Other review articles and books were cited to provide readers with more details and references than this Seminar can accommodate.

Structuring review (2)

- **Unbiased search. Retrieve sources with strong evidence from PubMed/WoS**
- **Consider highly-cited sources**
- **Look at the reference lists in Scopus, SpringerLink**
- **Dates**
- **Do not cite unpublished sources, textbooks, congress abstracts, dissertations, not peer-reviewed magazines and newspaper articles**

Structuring review (3)

- **Main body. Analyze critically, consider strengths and limitations, “+” & “-” studies**
- **Distinguish main problem**
- **Provide solutions and future perspectives**
- **Do not add unusual sections**
- **Limit citations to own papers**

Structuring review (4)

- **Tables. Analyze pertinent sources, level of evidence, add comments. Do not repeat details in the text.**
- **Number of figures (no more than 3-4)**
- **High quality and original figures**

Where to submit reviews

- Journals publishing reviews: Seminars in..., Current Reviews..., Special issues...

TheLancet.com

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Browse the entire collection of peer-reviewed Seminars commissioned by Lancet editors and published in *The Lancet*. Each Seminar provides a state-of-the-art overview of a disease, covering epidemiology, pathogenesis, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention, while highlighting relevant clinical controversies. The Seminars are relevant to doctors anywhere in the world, ideal for exam preparation, and invaluable as teaching tools for clinical tutors worldwide.

See also [The Lancet Core Clinical Collection](#), covering the top 100 diseases of global importance, clinical significance, and research interest.

Entire Collection

[All \(482\)](#) [2010 \(31\)](#) [2009 \(34\)](#) [2008 \(38\)](#) [2007 \(37\)](#) [2006 \(38\)](#)

MARK ALL

UPDATE MARKED LIST

Ranking is based on your journal and sort selections.

Mark	Rank	Abbreviated Journal Title <i>(linked to journal information)</i>	ISSN	JCR Data ⁱ						Eigenfactor [®] Metrics ⁱ	
				Total Cites	Impact Factor	5-Year Impact Factor	Immediacy Index	Articles	Cited Half-life	Eigenfactor [®] Score	Article Influence [®] Score
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	NAT REV RHEUMATOL	1759-4790	1921	9.745	9.318	1.446	65	2.4	0.01196	3.513
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	ANN RHEUM DIS	0003-4967	27020	9.111	8.351	2.308	325	5.5	0.07203	2.510
<input type="checkbox"/>	3	ARTHRITIS RHEUM-US	0004-3591	45200	7.477	7.630	1.659	411	8.0	0.08833	2.507
<input type="checkbox"/>	4	CURR OPIN RHEUMATOL	1040-8711	3701	5.191	4.256	1.045	89	5.4	0.01145	1.460
<input type="checkbox"/>	5	ARTHRITIS RES THER	1478-6354	8883	4.302	4.769	0.521	309	4.6	0.03138	1.575
<input type="checkbox"/>	6	OSTEOARTH R CARTILAGE	1063-4584	8166	4.262	4.248	0.576	198	5.7	0.02227	1.285
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	RHEUMATOLOGY	1462-0324	13184	4.212	4.558	1.107	298	5.5	0.03780	1.420
<input type="checkbox"/>	8	SEMIN ARTHRITIS RHEU	0049-0172	3185	3.806	4.054	0.622	74	8.0	0.00599	1.234
<input type="checkbox"/>	9	ARTHRIT CARE RES	2151-464X	8784	3.731	4.777	0.874	238	4.8	0.03122	1.549
<input type="checkbox"/>	10	BEST PRACT RES CL RH	1521-6942	2138	3.550	3.693	0.373	59	5.5	0.00631	1.143
<input type="checkbox"/>	11	J RHEUMATOL	0315-162X	21050	3.258	3.544	0.921	330	9.5	0.03286	1.070

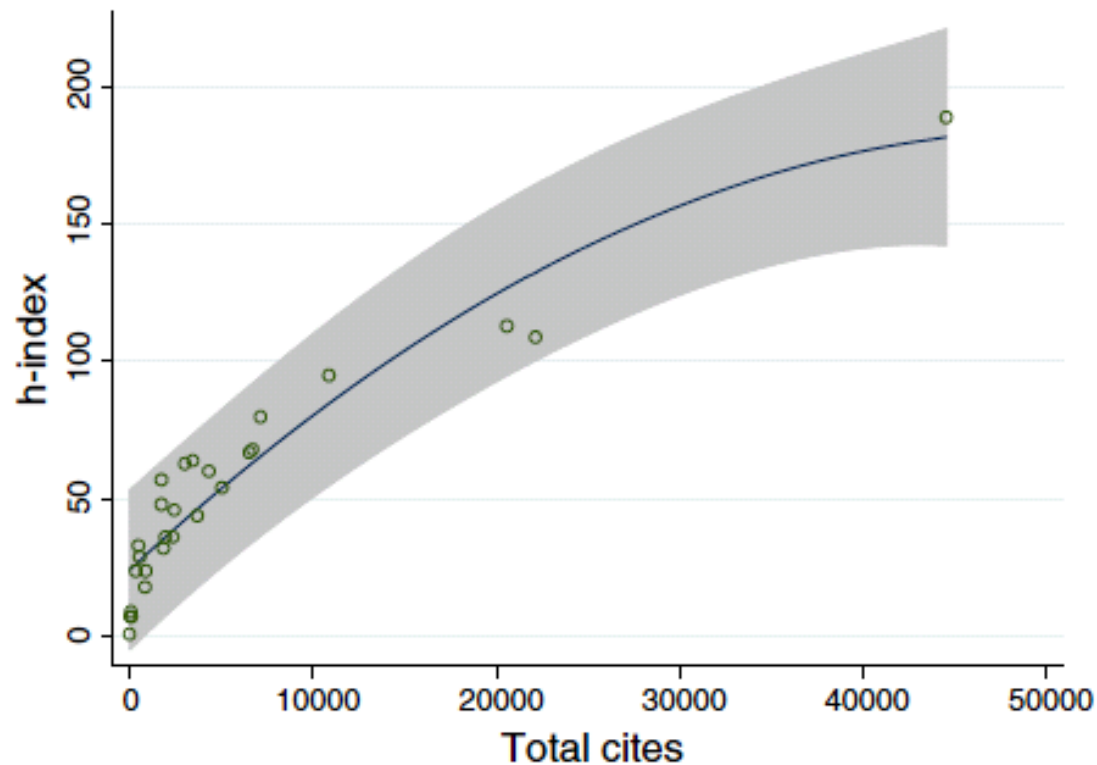


Fig. 1 Correlation between the *h*-index and total cites of the indexed rheumatology journals (Spearman rank correlation coefficient $r = 0.93$; $P < 0.05$)

Rheumatol Int (2012) 32:1861–1867
DOI 10.1007/s00296-011-2276-1

REVIEW ARTICLE

Diversity, value and limitations of the journal impact factor and alternative metrics

Lutz Bornmann · Werner Marx · Armen Yuri Gasparyan · George D. Kitas

Rejection of reviews

- **Similar review was published recently**
- **Poor language**
- **Lack of structuring/dividing by sections/illustrations**
- **Authoritative/unbalanced/unjustified critics**
- **Many auto-citations, papers from the same source (lack of diversity), references with low level of evidence, not peer-reviewed sources**

Clinical Reviews Impacting Science

Klareskog, L., Catrina, A.I., Paget, S.

Rheumatoid arthritis

(2009) *The Lancet*, 373 (9664), pp. 659-672. Cited 54 times.

doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(09)60008-8

Sakane, T., Takeno, M., Suzuki, N., Inaba, G.

Behcet's disease

(1999) *New England Journal of Medicine*, 341 (17), pp. 1284-1291. Cited 636 times.

doi: 10.1056/NEJM199910213411707

Editorials

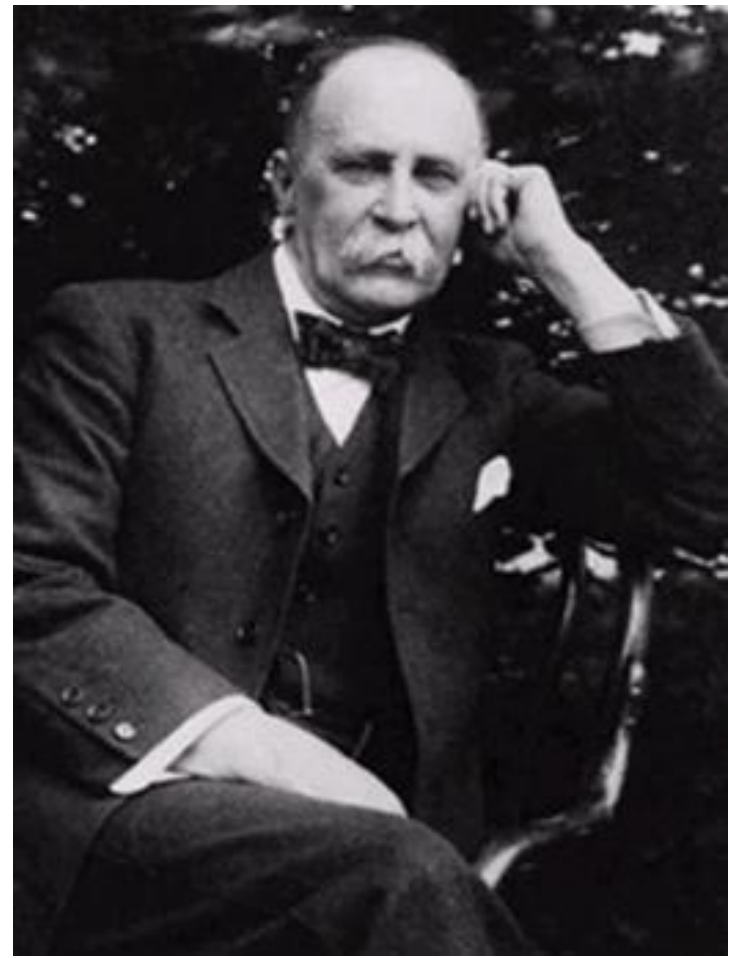
- **500-1000 words, 20-30 references, 1-2 graphics**
- **Title is attractive**
- **Topics linked to the content of the issue, may reflect editorial opinion**
- **Some editorials are mini-reviews**
- **Helpful for improving the quality of a journal**
- **Abstracts and subheadings are not recommended**
- **Usually 1-2 points/messages are supported**

Definition of medical case reports

- **Medical case reports, or case notes, case histories, case studies - as uncontrolled scientific observations of a single clinical observation that must be carefully documented to serve as valuable education and research tools**

Coccia CT, Ausman JI. Is a case report an anecdote? In defense of personal observations in medicine. Surgical Neurology 1987;28(2):111-113.

**“Always note and
record the unusual...
and publish it”**



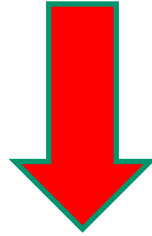
**Sir William Osler
1849-1919**

Clinical case reports

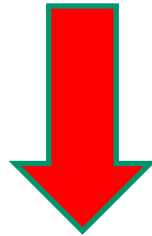
- ✓ **Level of evidence is the lowest (basic observation, description)**
- ✓ **Authors are usually young doctors**
- ✓ **Of interest to the practitioners who may encounter rare conditions and to students (learning points)**

Importance of case reports (1)

Case report describing side effects of a new drug



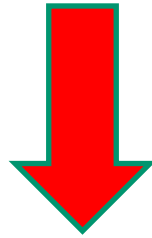
Prospective studies aimed at providing higher level of evidence



Corrections in available guidelines or withdrawal of drug from market

Importance of case reports (2)

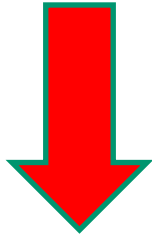
Anti-TNF alpha agents in the treatment of
Behcet Disease



Prospective studies aimed at providing a higher
level of evidence

Importance of case reports (2)

Statins in the treatment
of rheumatoid arthritis



Prospective studies

Cases of successful treatment
with Colchicine in Familial
Mediterranean fever
(1972)








US FDA approval for
Familial
Mediterranean fever
(2009)

CAse REport guidelines (CARE) have now been published

Shane Canning on October 9, 2013 at 10:49 am - 0 Comments

www.care-statement.org

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Welcome to the Website for Case Reports



Topic	Item	Checklist Item description	Reported on Page
Title	1	The words "case report" should be in the title along with what is of greatest interest in this case	_____
Key Words	2	The key elements of this case in 2 to 5 key words	_____
Abstract	3a	Introduction—What is unique about this case? What does it add to the medical literature?	_____
	3b	The main symptoms of the patient and the important clinical findings	_____
	3c	The main diagnoses, therapeutics interventions, and outcomes	_____
	3d	Conclusion—What are the main "take-away" lessons from this case?	_____
Introduction	4	Brief background summary of this case referencing the relevant medical literature	_____
Patient Information	5a	Demographic information (such as age, gender, ethnicity, occupation)	_____
	5b	Main symptoms of the patient (his or her chief complaints)	_____
	5c	Medical, family, and psychosocial history including co-morbidities, and relevant genetic information ..	_____
	5d	Relevant past interventions and their outcomes	_____
Clinical Findings	6	Describe the relevant physical examination (PE) findings	_____
Timeline	7	Depict important milestones related to your diagnoses and interventions (table or figure)	_____
Diagnostic Assessment	8a	Diagnostic methods (such as PE, laboratory testing, imaging, questionnaires)	_____
	8b	Diagnostic challenges (such as financial, language, or cultural)	_____
	8c	Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered	_____
	8d	Prognostic characteristics (such as staging in oncology) where applicable	_____
Therapeutic Intervention	9a	Types of intervention (such as pharmacologic, surgical, preventive, self-care)	_____
	9b	Administration of intervention (such as dosage, strength, duration)	_____
	9c	Changes in intervention (with rationale)	_____
Follow-up and Outcomes	10a	Clinician-assessed outcomes and when appropriate patient-assessed outcomes	_____
	10b	Important follow-up test results	_____
	10c	Intervention adherence and tolerability (How was this assessed?)	_____
	10d	Adverse and unanticipated events	_____
Discussion	11a	Discussion of the strengths and limitations in the management of this case	_____
	11b	Discussion of the relevant medical literature	_____
	11c	The rationale for conclusions (including assessment of possible causes)	_____
	11d	The main "take-away" lessons of this case report	_____
Patient Perspective	12	Did the patient share his or her perspective or experience? (Include when appropriate)	_____
Informed Consent	13	Did the patient give informed consent? Please provide if requested	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Reasons for rejection of case reports

- **Not so rare case (not a criterion for some journals; TLN)**
- **Report adds nothing new (only minor difference) and does not lead to a new research study**
- **Irrational diagnosis/treatment**
- **Poorly documented case (e.g. without biopsy, ECGs, Echo)**

Where to submit case reports



JOURNAL OF MEDICAL
CASE REPORTS



The NEW ENGLAND
JOURNAL of MEDICINE

THE LANCET

BMJ Case Reports

International Medical Case Reports Journal



(201,458) Views

1179-142X

ISSN 1179-142X

Editor in Chief:
Professor Ronald Prineas

An international, peer-reviewed, open access, online journal publishing original case reports from all medical specialties. Previously unpublished medical posters are also accepted relating to any area of clinical or preclinical science. Submissions should not normally exceed 2,000 words or 4 published pages including figures, diagrams and references.

Indexed online:

- Accepted but not yet indexed on PubMed



Case Reports Impacting Science

Goldfinger, S.E.

Colchicine for familial Mediterranean fever.

(1972) *New England Journal of Medicine*, 287 (25), p. 1302. Cited 124 times.

Original papers

- **IMRAD** - Introduction, Methods, Results and Discussion

Structure of original papers

- **Title. Simple and concise but with some details useful for electronic searches**
- **Affiliation of each co-author (department, university, city, country)**
- **Full correspondence address with email**

Introduction of original papers

- ✓ **Summarize in a few sentences the existent data from the literature**
- ✓ **Avoid long epidemiological or historical overviews**
- ✓ **Why your study is important and novel**
- ✓ **Keywords of the title/paper should be explained**
- ✓ **Do not copy and paste (write in your words)**

Methods in original papers

- ✓ **Where (department) and when (timeframe) the study conducted**
- ✓ **Describe how subjects were selected (criteria)**
- ✓ **Describe study design (cohort, prospective, randomized)**
- ✓ **Detailed description of a new test/drug, surgery**
 - **Details for replication of your tests (SOPs)**
- ✓ **Cite only papers on tests/methods**
- ✓ **Results and Discussion should be avoided**
 - **Write in the past tense**

Statistical analyses in original papers

- **Sample size calculation based on statistical power**
- **A test for checking distribution (e.g. Kolmogorov-Smirnov) – normal non-normal**
- **Details of linear and logistic regression models**
- **Statistical package and version used**

Statistical analysis

This was carried out using SPSS 15.0 (SPSS Inc, Chicago, IL, USA). The distribution of each variable was examined using Kolmogorov-Smirnov function. Results are expressed as mean \pm standard deviation, median (25th to 75th percentile), or percentages, as appropriate. For the univariate analysis, chi-squared, t-test and Mann-Whitney U tests were used to test categorical, normally and not normally distributed data, respectively. The independence of the predictors of the MetS was tested in the multivariate models using binary logistic regression.

Results of original papers

- **Order similar to the flow of information in Methods**
- **Present important findings with P values and 95% CIs**
- **Present both absolute numbers and percentages**
- **Do not report results of tests not mentioned in Methods**
- **Use standalone tables and figures**
- **Write in the past tense**

Discussion and conclusion

- **Summarize results, but do not repeat**
- **How do your results compare to others’**
- **What is new in the study?**
- **What are the implications for future?**
- **Limitations of methods and results**
- **Conclude in 2-3 sentences. Avoid statements not based on your results**

References

- **Limit to most relevant**
- **Up to 20-30**
- **Choose from PubMed, Scopus, Web of Science**
- **Provide DOIs, URLs**
- **Format in accordance with IFA of a target journal**

Footnotes of original paper

- **Funding**
- **Competing interests**
- **Authors' contributions**
- **ORCID IDs**
- **Acknowledgements**

Reasons for rejection of original papers

- **Poor statistical analyses**
- **Inappropriate data presentation**
- **Recapitulation of previously published data**
- **Misplaced information between Methods and Results sections**
- **Discussion does not distinguish important results**
- **Conclusion is vague**
- **No adherence to reporting guidelines (CONSORT, STROBE etc.)**

Registration of Clinical Trials (Accepted by ICMJE)

- Australian New Zealand Clinical Trial Registry

<http://www.anzctr.org.au/Survey/UserQuestion.aspx>

- ClinicalTrials.gov

<http://www.clinicaltrials.gov/>

- International Standard Randomised Controlled Trial Number (ISRCTN) Register <http://isrctn.org/>

- University hospital Medical Information Network Clinical Trials Registry (UMIN-CTR) <http://www.umin.ac.jp/ctr/index.htm>

- Netherlands Trial Register

<http://www.trialregister.nl/trialreg/index.asp>

- Primary registries in the WHO International Clinical Trials Registry Platform (ICTRP)

<http://www.who.int/ictrp/about/details/en/index.html>

CSE's White Paper on Promoting Integrity in Scientific Journal Publications

<http://www.councilscienceeditors.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3355#2.2.4>