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Core tip: <u>Systematic Reviews</u> articles are submitted by any author and summarize the recent and comprehensive published material on a particular subject, without bias. The degree of comprehensiveness may vary (from broad to narrow) according to the time range of material scrutinized; but, the Systematic Reviews that are most often desired for publication, focus on the current literature. The textual material examined for Systematic Reviews may be equally broad or narrow and can encompass, for medicine-related topics specifically, clinical material as well as experimental research or case reports. State-of-the-art reviews tend to address more current matters. The Systematic Reviews must be distinguishable from a HISTORICAL ARTICLE on the same subject, but a review of the historical literature is also within the scope of this publication type.

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All contributions should be written in English; the authors may use either UK or US English language, but the chosen English language usage must be consistent throughout the document. All articles should be prepared with Word-processing software, using 12 pt Book Antiqua font and 1.5 line spacing with ample margins. Required information for each of the manuscript sections is as follows:

**1.1 Title.** The title should be no more than 18 words. It should summarize the core content of the manuscript, so that the reader may readily understand the key concepts and important findings presented within. This type of succinct and impactful statement will serve to catch readers' attention and stimulate their interest in reading the abstract and/or downloading the full paper. It is also strongly recommended that the title include one or two of the key words associated with the manuscript's topical content, to facilitate the paper being readily found by electronic searches of public databases, such as by Google or in PubMed. Finally, words such as 'exploration', 'research', 'analysis', 'observation', and 'investigation' are to be avoided. The title should not start with 'A', 'An', or 'The' and will not include any Arabic numbers or abbreviations.

**1.2 Authorship.** Authorship credit should be given in accordance with the standard proposed by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) (<a href="http://www.icmje.org/">http://www.icmje.org/</a>). Specifically, authorship is merited by (1) substantial contributions to conception and design of the study, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data; (2) drafting the article or making critical revisions related to important intellectual content of the manuscript; and (3) provision of final approval of the version of the article to be published. Authors should meet conditions 1, 2 and 3.

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Author names (unabbreviated) should be given as first name, middle name initial (with no period) and family (sur) name, and typed in bold with the first letter capitalized; a hyphen should be included between the syllables of Chinese names. For example, Jason Lamontagne, Laura F Steel, Paul V Harper Jr, Bo Yuan, and Wei-Hong Tang.

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**Xu-Chen Zhang, Li-Xin Mei,** Department of Pathology, Chengde Medical College, Chengde 067000, Hebei Province, China

In the case that multiple authors represent a single institution, the authors will be listed together for that institution. For example:

Giuseppe Losurdo, Domenico Piscitelli, Antonio Giangaspero, Mariabeatrice Principi, Francesca Buffelli, Floriana Giorgio, Lucia Montenegro, Claudia Sorrentino, Annacinzia Amoruso, Enzo Ierardi, Alfredo Di Leo, Gastroenterology Section, Department of Emergency and Organ Transplantation, University of Bari, Bari 70124, Italy

In the case that one author represents multiple institutions, the institutions will be listed separately. For example:

**Jun Wen,** Department of Liver Surgery and Liver Transplantation Center, West China Hospital, Sichuan University, Chengdu 610041, Sichuan Province, China



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**Jun Wen**, Department of General Surgery, The Third People's Hospital of Chengdu, Chengdu 610031, Sichuan Province, China

**1.4 ORCID number.** ORCID provides a persistent digital identifier that distinguishes each researcher from every other researcher globally and, through integration in key research workflows such as manuscript and grant submissions, supports automated linkages between an individual researcher and their own professional activities, thereby ensuring that their work is recognized accurately in a distinctive manner. Please visit the ORCID website at <a href="https://orcid.org/">https://orcid.org/</a> for more information. The corresponding author must provide his/her personal ORCID registration number.

**1.5 Supportive foundations.** The approved grant application form(s) will be released online, together with the manuscript in order for readers to obtain more information about the study and to increase the likelihood of subsequent citation. Our purpose of publishing the approved grant application form(s) is to promote transparent academic communication, accelerate scientific progress in the related field, and improve effective and productive sharing of research ideas.

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**1.7 Corresponding author.** The corresponding author's contact information will be provided in the following format: written out first name, middle name initial (with no period) and family (sur)name (with a hyphen included between the syllables of Chinese names), and followed by the relevant honorifics (such as PhD, MD, Chief of Surgery, Assistant Professor, *etc*), all typed in bold and ending with a comma. This will be followed immediately by the corresponding author's professional affiliation (non-bold text), written out as complete name of institution, present address, city, province/state and postcode, and country and ending with a period. Immediately following the ending period and a single space will be the corresponding author's E-mail address; this E-mail address must be issued by his/her institution. All the letters in the E-mail address should be typed in lowercase. For example:

Andrzej S Tarnawski, MD, PhD, DSc (Med), Professor, Chief, Department of Gastroenterology, VA Long Beach Health Care System, University of California, Irvine, 5901 E Seventh St, Long Beach, CA 90822, United States. <a href="mailto:astarnaw@uci.edu">astarnaw@uci.edu</a>

**1.8 Abstract.** An informative, structured abstract of no more than 350 words should accompany each manuscript. Abbreviations should be avoided, but if used should be spelled out at first mention. The 5 sections of the structured abstract are: Background,



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Aim, Methods, Results, and Conclusion. Each section should adhere to the word count thresholds (indicated in parentheses) and the content guidelines below:

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This section should clearly describe the rationale for the study. It should end with a statement of the specific study hypothesis.

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The purpose of the study should be stated clearly, with no or minimal background information, following the format of: "To investigate/study/determine..."

#### METHODS (no more than 80 words)

This section should describe the materials and methods used for all of the data presented in the proceeding Results section of the abstract. This information should include the following details, as applicable: basic study design (e.g., randomized controlled trial, cross sectional study, cohort study, case series, etc); setting, please specify study location (e.g., primary or tertiary care setting, hospital, general community, etc); number of participants and how they were selected; intervention, the method of administration and the duration; and major statistical methods used.

#### RESULTS (no more than 120 words)

This section should describe the key findings of the study, including absolute values and risk differences. P values should be presented where appropriate, and not for data that did not reach the threshold of statistical significance. You must provide relevant data to illustrate how the statistical values were obtained (e.g.,  $6.92 \pm 3.86$  vs  $3.61 \pm 1.67$ , P <



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0.001).

CONCLUSION (no more than 30 words)

This section should succinctly and cogently present the findings and implications that are within the scope of the data you have presented in the preceding Results section of the abstract. You should state only conclusions that are directly supported by the evidence presented and the implications of the findings presented. This section should be written in the present tense.

**1.9 Key words.** The 'Key words' list will provide 5-10 keywords that reflect the main content of the study. Please do not use abbreviations for the keywords (*e.g.* Ulcerative colitis, not UC). The first letter of each keyword will be capitalized, and each keyword will be separated by a semicolon. For example:

**Key words:** Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease; Alcoholic liver disease; Non-alcoholic steatohepatitis; Animal models; Insulin resistance; Oxidative stress

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**2.3 Units.** Use SI units. For example: body mass, m (B) = 78 kg; blood pressure, p (B) = 16.2/12.3 kPa; incubation time, t (incubation) = 96 h; blood glucose concentration, c (glucose) =  $6.4 \pm 2.1$  mmol/L; blood CEA mass concentration, p (CEA) = 8.6-24.5 g/L; CO<sub>2</sub> volume fraction, 50 mL/L CO<sub>2</sub>, not 5% CO<sub>2</sub>; likewise, for 40 g/L formaldehyde, not 10% formalin; and mass fraction, 8 ng/g, *etc.* Arabic numerals such as 23,243,641 (*i.e.* 23 million, 243 thousand, and 641) should be written as 23243641, with no commas or spaces. The format for how to accurately write common units and quantities can be found at: <a href="https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/gerinfo/189">https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/gerinfo/189</a>.

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2.9 Acknowledgements. Brief acknowledgements of persons who have made genuine



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The author should number the references in Arabic numerals according to the citation order in the text. The reference numbers will be superscripted in square brackets at the end of the sentence with the citation content or after the cited author's name, with no spaces. For example, "Crohn's disease (CD) is associated with increased intestinal



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For authors' names, the name of the first author should be typed in bold letters; the family (sur)name of all authors should be typed with the first letter capitalized, followed by their abbreviated first and middle initials. For example, an article by Lian-Sheng Ma and Bo-Rong Pan will be written as Ma LS and Pan BR. The title of the cited article will be written in sentence case. The journal title will be written in its abbreviated form (as shown in PubMed) in italics and followed by the article publication information (not italicized), including the publication date, volume number (in bold numbers), and start page through end page (separated by a hyphen, with no space). The PMID and DOI will follow this information and be written as "[PMID: 11819634 DOI: 10.3748/wjg.13.5396]".

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#### PRINT JOURNALS

English-language journal articles (list all authors and include the PMID and DOI, where applicable):

**1 Ma** L, Chua MS, Andrisani O, So S. Epigenetics in hepatocellular carcinoma: An update and future therapy perspectives. *World J Gastroenterol* 2014; 20: 333-345 [PMID: 24574704 PMCID: PMC3923010 DOI: 10.3748/wjg.v20.i2.333]

Chinese-language journal articles (list all authors and include the PMID and DOI, where applicable):

**2 Zhang ZM**, Deng H, Zhang C, Yu HW, Liu Z, Liu LM, Wan BJ, Zhu MW. Strategies for diagnosis and treatment of benign and malignant colorectal obstruction. *Shijie Huaren Xiaohua Zazhi* 2017; 25: 2597-2604 [DOI: 10.11569/wcjd.v25.i29.2597]

# In press articles:

**3 Sipos** F, Constantinovits M, Valcz G, Tulassay Z, Műzes G. Association of hepatocyte-derived growth factor receptor/caudal type homeobox 2 co-expression with mucosal regeneration in active ulcerative colitis. *World J Gastroenterol* 2015; In press



#### Organization as author:

4 **Diabetes Prevention Program Research Group**. Hypertension, insulin, and proinsulin in participants with impaired glucose tolerance. *Hypertension* 2002; **40**: 679-686 [PMID: 12411462]

# Both individual authors and an organization as author:

**5 Vallancien G**, Emberton M, Harving N, van Moorselaar RJ, Alf-One Study Group. Sexual dysfunction in 1,274 European men suffering from lower urinary tract symptoms. *J Urol* 2003; **169**: 2257-2261 [PMID: 12771764]

# No author given:

6 21st century heart solution may have a sting in the tail. *BMJ* 2002; **325**: 184 [PMID: 12142303]

# Volume with supplement:

**7 Geraud G**, Spierings EL, Keywood C. Tolerability and safety of frovatriptan with short- and long-term use for treatment of migraine and in comparison with sumatriptan. *Headache* 2002; **42** Suppl 2: S93-99 [PMID: 12028325]

#### Issue with no volume:

**8 Banit DM**, Kaufer H, Hartford JM. Intraoperative frozen section analysis in revision total joint arthroplasty. *Clin Orthop Relat Res* 2002; **(401)**: 230-238 [PMID: 12151900]

#### No volume or issue:

9 Outreach: Bringing HIV-positive individuals into care. *HRSA Careaction* 2002; 1-6 [PMID: 12154804]



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#### **BOOKS**

# Individual author(s):

**10 Sherlock S**, Dooley J. Diseases of the liver and biliary system. 9th ed. Oxford: Blackwell Sci Pub, 1993: 258-296

### Chapter in a book (list all authors):

**11 Lam SK**. Academic investigator's perspectives of medical treatment for peptic ulcer. In: Swabb EA, Azabo S. Ulcer disease: investigation and basis for therapy. New York: Marcel Dekker, 1991: 431-450

# Author(s) and editor(s):

**12 Breedlove GK**, Schorfheide AM. Adolescent pregnancy. 2nd ed. Wieczorek RR, editor. White Plains (NY): March of Dimes Education Services, 2001: 20-34

#### CONFERENCE-RELATED ARTICLES

#### **Conference proceedings:**

**13 Harnden P**, Joffe JK, Jones WG, editors. Germ cell tumours V. Proceedings of the 5th Germ cell tumours Conference; 2001 Sep 13-15; Leeds, UK. New York: Springer, 2002: 30-56

#### Conference papers:

**14 Christensen S**, Oppacher F. An analysis of Koza's computational effort statistic for genetic programming. In: Foster JA, Lutton E, Miller J, Ryan C, Tettamanzi AG, editors. Genetic programming. EuroGP 2002: Proceedings of the 5th European Conference on Genetic Programming; 2002 Apr 3-5; Kinsdale, Ireland. Berlin: Springer, 2002: 182-191

# **ELECTRONIC JOURNALS**



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# Electronic journals (list all authors):

**15 Huynen MMTE**, Martens P, Hilderlink HBM. The health impacts of globalisation: a conceptual framework. *Global Health*. 2005; 1: 14. Available from: https://globalizationandhealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/1744-8603-1-14 doi.org/10.1186/1744-8603-1-14 [PMID: 21501219 DOI: 10.1186/1744-8603-1-14]

#### **PATENTS**

#### Patents (list all authors):

**16 Pagedas AC**, inventor; Ancel Surgical R&D Inc., assignee. Flexible endoscopic grasping and cutting device and positioning tool assembly. United States patent US 20020103498. 2002 Aug 1

#### **CLINICAL TRIAL**

17 Cannon R. Rilonacept to improve artery function in patients with atherosclerosis. [accessed 2015 Apr 25]. In: ClinicalTrials.gov [Internet]. Bethesda (MD): U.S. National Library of Medicine. Available from: http://clinicaltrials.gov/show/NCT00417417 ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT00417417

# **DEPOSITED ARTICLES** (preprints, e-prints, or arXiv)

**18 Krick T**, Shub DA, Verstraete N, Ferreiro DU, Alonso LG, Shub M, et al. Amino acid metabolism conflicts with protein diversity; 1991. Preprint. Available from: arXiv:1403.3301v1. Cited 17 March 2014.

### **PUBLISHED MEDIA** (print or online newspapers and magazine articles)

**19 Fountain H**. For Already Vulnerable Penguins, Study Finds Climate Change Is Another Danger. The New York Times. 29 Jan 2014. Available from:



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http://www.nytimes.com/2014/01/30/science/earth/climate-change-taking-toll-on-penguins-study-finds.html Cited 17 March 2014.

**NEW MEDIA** (blogs, web sites, or other written works)

**20 Allen L**. Announcing PLOS Blogs. 2010 Sep 1 [cited 17 March 2014]. In: PLOS Blogs [Internet]. San Francisco: PLOS 2006 - . [about 2 screens]. Available from: http://blogs.plos.org/plos/2010/09/announcing-plos-blogs/.

#### MASTERS' THESES OR DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS

**21 Wells A**. Exploring the development of the independent, electronic, scholarly journal. M.Sc. Thesis, The University of Sheffield. 1999. Available from: http://cumincad.scix.net/cgi-bin/works/Show?2e09

#### **DATABASES AND REPOSITORIES** (Figshare or arXiv)

22 Roberts SB. QPX Genome Browser Feature Tracks; 2013 [cited 2013 Oct 5]. Database: figshare [Internet]. Available from: http://figshare.com/articles/QPX\_Genome\_Browser\_Feature\_Tracks/701214

**MULTIMEDIA** (videos, movies, or TV shows)

**23 Hitchcock A**, producer and director. Rear Window [Film]; 1954. Los Angeles: MGM.

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