

## **Authors Guidelines | Yobe Medical Journal**

*Kindly read through before submitting manuscripts for publication.*

We publish open access, peer-reviewed original articles, short research notes, short communications, review articles, systematic review articles, case reports, commentaries, perspectives, viewpoints, letters to the editor, book reviews, medical educational materials and articles on socioeconomic, political or legal matters related to medical practice.

### **Articles**

#### *1. Original research articles*

These include original data that have not been published anywhere else (except as an abstract). Research articles should follow the structure of Abstract, Introduction, Methodology, Results, Discussion, Conclusion, Acknowledgements, Authors' contributions, Competing Interests, Funding, Consent (where applicable), Ethical approval (where applicable), and References. An original research article should not contain more than 5 illustrations/figures/tables, not more than 30 references, and should not exceed 4,000 words (all inclusive).

#### *2. Short research notes*

These are single-finding articles that can be reported with not more than two illustrations/figures/tables. Posters from conferences or internal meetings may be written as short research notes. Some additional detail in the methods, description of the results, and discussion may be required to enable readers have enough information to understand the description of the work. A Short research note should follow the structure of Abstract, Introduction, Methodology, Results, Discussion, Conclusion, Acknowledgements, Authors' contributions, Competing Interests, Funding, Consent (where applicable), Ethical approval (where applicable), and References. This should not exceed 2,500 words, 3 illustrations/figures/tables, and 30 references.

#### *3. Short communications*

These are urgent communications of important preliminary results that are original, of high interest and likely to have a significant impact on the subject area of the Yobe Medical Journal. The original research article is expected to be sent to Yobe Medical Journal for publication following a short communication. A short communication should follow the structure of Abstract, Introduction, Methodology, Results, Discussion, Conclusion, Acknowledgements, Authors' contributions, Competing Interests, Funding, Consent (where applicable), Ethical approval (where applicable), and References. This should not exceed 2,500 words, 2 illustrations/figures/tables, and 15 references.

#### *4. Review articles*

These will include discussion of published articles and data acquired in a specific area, and will not have to be data acquired by the authors. The name of the author(s) reviewing particular article(s) should be written as the author(s) of a review article. The source of the article(s)

reviewed should be written in the abstract. Review articles should follow the structure of Abstract, Introduction, Body (may have different headings, and does not follow a particular pattern), Conclusion, Acknowledgements, Authors' contributions, Competing Interests, Funding, Consent (where applicable), Ethical approval (where applicable), and References. This should not exceed 6,000 words, 100 references and 12 illustrations/figures/tables.

#### *5. Systematic review articles*

These are usually based on medical interventions or animal model studies. Authors should consult the [PRISMA guidelines](#) for reporting in systematic reviews. Systematic reviews deal with a clearly formulated question and use systematic and explicit methods to identify, select, and critically assess the relevant research. The sections on Acknowledgements, Authors' contributions, Competing Interests, Funding, Consent (where applicable), Ethical approval (where applicable), and References should be included. These articles should not exceed 6,000 words, 50 references and 12 illustrations/figures/tables.

#### *6. Case reports*

These describe patient cases which are of particular interest due to their rarity, peculiarity, novelty and their potential message for clinical practice. These demonstrate unusual presentations which may confront the practitioner. Case reports should follow the structure of Abstract, Introduction, Case presentation, Discussion, Conclusion, Acknowledgements, Authors' contributions, Competing Interests, Consent (where applicable), Ethical approval (where applicable), and References.

A case report should not exceed 2,500 words, 5 figures and 30 references.

#### *7. Commentaries*

These include a comment on a newly published article in the Yobe Medical Journal or a short narrowly focused article on a topical issue of public interest; usually invited by the journal editor. It should not exceed 1,500 words, 2 illustrations/figures/tables, and 30 references.

#### *8. Perspectives*

These present criticism or address controversy about a recently published paper, a current/ongoing area of scientific research, or a newly implemented innovation. They are written to present the author's insights and include both original data and personal opinion. Perspectives should follow the structure of Abstract, Introduction, Body, and Conclusion. It should not exceed 2,500 words, 2 illustrations/figures/tables, and 30 references.

#### *9. Viewpoints/ Opinion articles*

These highlight the strength and weaknesses about a specific topic or concept, hypothesis or scientific theory. They are written to present the author's personal opinions and ideas on the subject and do not contain original data. Viewpoints/ Opinion articles should follow the structure of Abstract, Introduction, Body, and Conclusion. It should not exceed 2,500 words, 2 illustrations/figures/tables, and 10 references.

### *10. Letter to the editor*

This will provide a means of communication between the author of an article and the reader of the Yobe Medical Journal. Letter to the editor may provide new insight, make corrections, offer alternate theories, or request clarification about content printed in the Yobe Medical Journal. Letter to the editor should not exceed 500 words, 2 illustrations/figures/tables and 10 references.

### **Manuscript**

The manuscript should be written in English language (using the British conventions of spelling, punctuation and grammar) as word document using the Times New Roman font. The text should be written in double line spacing and single column format.

Illustrations, tables and figures should be placed at their appropriate positions inside the text. Tables should be typed and double-spaced. The headings should be placed above the table. Where footnotes are necessary, they should be placed below the table with superscript lowercase letters. The information that has been presented in a figure should not be re-presented in a table. The captions of figures should be written below the figures.

### **Title Page**

The title page should contain a brief title, name(s) of author(s) and their affiliations, and contact information of corresponding author. The title should be written without abbreviations. Affiliation should have a number in superscript just after the author's name and in front of the appropriate address. The name of the corresponding author should be indicated with telephone number (country code inclusive for those outside Nigeria) and e-mail address.

### **Abstract**

The abstract should be concise. It should not exceed 250 words, and should have a maximum of 6 keywords. It should briefly describe the purpose of the work, techniques and methods used, major findings with important data and conclusion. Abbreviations should not be used. If abbreviation must be used, it should be defined in the abstract, at first use.

Abstract should be written with the following headings: Background, Objective(s), Materials and Methods, Results, and Conclusion.

Abstract for a case report should be written with the following headings: Background, Case presentation and Conclusion.

Abstract for perspectives/ viewpoints/ opinion articles should be written with the following headings: Background, Areas covered and Expert opinion.

## **Introduction**

This provides a background, defined problem, proposed solution, brief literature survey and justification of the research.

## **Material and methods**

The methods used in the work submitted should be described in detail. The references of already published methods should be stated.

## **Results & Discussion**

Results should state the main findings of the research. The discussion should provide detailed interpretation of the significance of the findings of the research.

## **Conclusion**

The major findings of the research should be stated.

## **Acknowledgments**

Acknowledgment of the people who provided support, grant/funding, assistance in manuscript preparation and technical assistance should be written.

## **Authors' contributions**

The contributions of all the authors should be stated.

Only authors that meet the criteria for authorship should be listed. See [Publication Ethics and Publication Malpractice Statement](#).

## **Conflict of Interest**

Author(s) should state clearly any conflict of interest that exists and if there is none, this should also be clearly stated.

## **Funding**

Any funding source should be stated.

## **Consent**

Written informed consent where applicable should be obtained from the patient and attached to the manuscript to be submitted for publication. Consent should be obtained from a next of kin if there is demise of the person presented in a case report. If the person presented is a minor, or is unable to provide consent for publication, consent should be obtained from their parents or guardians.

## **Ethical approval**

If human subjects are involved in the research, authors should obtain a clearance certificate from the Research Ethics Committee of their institution(s) which will be attached to the manuscript for submission.

## **Reference style**

The Yobe Medical Journal uses the AMA (American Medical Association) style author number “Vancouver” system of referencing. Kindly read the [American Medical Association style author number “Vancouver” system of referencing](#) before submission of manuscripts, as this will help to reduce the rate of rejection. References must be listed at the end of the manuscript and numbered in the order that they appear in the text, and the numbered references must appear at the end of the corresponding text as superscript.

For references with more than six authors, the first six authors should be listed followed by et al.

## **Manuscript submission**

Submission of manuscript(s) to the Yobe Medical Journal indicates that the author(s) take full responsibility for the contents of the manuscript(s). One author must be indicated as the corresponding author. All correspondence and gallery proof of article would be sent to the corresponding author, who is considered the representative of all the authors as regards any decision related to the manuscript(s).

Manuscripts for publication in the Yobe Medical Journal should be submitted by email to

[editor@yobemedicaljournal.com.ng](mailto:editor@yobemedicaljournal.com.ng) or [yobemedicaljournal@gmail.com](mailto:yobemedicaljournal@gmail.com)

Manuscripts submitted to the Yobe Medical Journal should not have been published before or be under consideration for publication by another journal.

Submission should include three documents:

- A title page which (apart from manuscript title, name(s) and affiliation(s) of authors, and contact information of corresponding author) contains the type of manuscript e.g., original article; case report etc., and word count.
- A manuscript document (containing manuscript title, abstract, keywords and text of the manuscript). This should not contain any information linked to the author(s) of the manuscript.
- A covering letter written (on behalf of the co-authors, where there are) by the corresponding author and wet-signed. The letter should reflect as follows:

The title of the manuscript

Indicate that it is being submitted to the Yobe Medical Journal

State that the manuscript has not been published in another journal, nor has it been submitted to, or under consideration by another journal for publication

Submitted manuscripts

1. Manuscripts received will be acknowledged within 24 hours. Submitted manuscripts will undergo preliminary review, during which the editor-in-chief or an associate editor will check the manuscripts for compliance with the guidelines for manuscript submission and relevance to the Yobe Medical Journal. After preliminary review, eligible manuscripts will be sent out for peer review. Eligibility of a manuscript for peer review will be communicated to the corresponding author within 72 hours after initial acknowledgement. Manuscripts not eligible will be returned for corrections or rejected.
2. Unless a manuscript is rejected, submission of a manuscript clearly indicates that the Yobe Medical Journal has been given exclusive right by the author(s) to publish the article.

### **Peer review process**

Eligible manuscripts undergo a double-blind peer review. Manuscripts are sent to two or more peer reviewers. Authors should please allow an average of 28 days for the peer review process. Guided by the outcome of the peer review; see [Reviewers Guidelines](#), the editorial board decides to either accept the manuscript for publication if little or no correction/revision is required; or send the reviewed copy and relevant reviewer comments back to the author(s) for needed correction/revision and thereafter, accept for publication; or reject the manuscript outrightly.

### **Plagiarism policy**

All manuscripts submitted to the Yobe Medical Journal are checked for plagiarism with a well rated plagiarism checker software; Plagiarism Checker X. See [Plagiarism Checker X](#). Manuscripts with originality scores suggesting minor degree of plagiarism will be returned to the authors for revision. Manuscripts with originality scores suggesting significant plagiarism will be rejected.

## **Open Access Policy**

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