

Guidelines for Authors

1. About the TMR

1.1 Open-Access

Traditional Medicine Research (TMR) is a peer reviewed, open access journal. All articles published by TMR are selected by an in-house editor and fully peer-reviewed by external reviewers. All articles published open access will be immediately free for everyone to read, download, copy, and distribute. The author does not have any publication charges for open access.

1.2 Copyright

Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete a "License to Publish". Acceptance of the license will ensure the widest possible dissemination of information. An e-mail will be sent to the corresponding author confirming receipt of the manuscript together with a "License to Publish" form. Permission of the journal is required for resale or distribution outside the institution and for all other derivative works, including compilations and translations. If excerpts from other copyrighted works are included, the author(s) must obtain written permission from the copyright owners and credit the source(s) in the article.

That the author(s) acknowledge that all articles published by TMR Publishing Group Limited are selected by an in-house editor and fully peer-reviewed by external reviewers. TMR Publishing Group Limited applies the Creative Commons Attribution Non Commercial (CC BY-NC 4.0) license, which permits others to distribute, remix, adapt, build upon this work non-commercially, and license their derivative works on different terms, provided the original work is properly cited and the use is non-commercial.

1.3 Article Processing Charge

The Article Processing Charge (APC) and publication fee is waived for solicited manuscripts.

1.4 Privacy Policy

TMR is committed to the protection of your personal information. The privacy policy outlined here applies only to information collected by TMR through the www.tmrjournal.com website.

1.5 Disclaimer Statement

All rights reserved the Publisher and Editors cannot be held responsible for errors and any consequences arising from the use of information contained in this journal. Views and opinions expressed in this journal belong to authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial board.

1.6 Submit a Manuscript

For details, please visit: http://www.tmrjournal.com/jxen_tmr/authorLogOn.action

2. Guidelines for manuscript preparation, submission, and manuscript format

Manuscripts should be submitted by one of the authors of the manuscript through the online Manuscript Tracking System (MTS). All contributions should be written in English. All articles must be prepared by Word-processing Software, using 12 pt Book Antiqua font and 1.5 line spacing with ample margins. There is no page limit. Submissions by anyone other than one of the authors will not be accepted. The submitting author takes responsibility for the paper during submission and peer review. If some technical reason submission through the MTS is not possible, the author can contact tmr@tmrjournals.com or tmrjournal@sina.com.

2.1 Terms of submission

Papers must be submitted on the understanding that they have not been published elsewhere and are not currently under consideration by another journal published. The submitting author is responsible for ensuring that the article's publication has been approved by all the other coauthors. It is also the authors' responsibility to ensure that the articles emanating from a particular institution are submitted with the approval of the necessary institution. Only an acknowledgment from the editorial office officially establishes the date of receipt. Further correspondence and proofs will be sent to the author (s) before publication unless otherwise indicated. It is a condition of submission of a paper that the authors permit editing of the paper for readability. Full instructions and support are available on the website where user ID and password could be obtained on the first visit. For assistance, click the link 'Contact Us' at top right of every Scholar One Manuscript page.

2.2 Manuscript types

2.2.1 Editorial

Editorial board members are invited to make comments on an important topic in their field, regarding its current research status and future directions that will promote development of this discipline.

2.2.2 Review

These are systematic and critical assessment of recent literature on a particular issue of traditional medicine. The ethnic feature, regional distribution, and/or historical records about traditional medicine must be indicated.

2.2.3 Original Article

This is the most important forum for authors to submit their works representing clinical studies and experimental researches. For randomized controlled trials, approval by ethics committee, signed informed consent from each subject and clinical trial registration number must be stated. The ethnic feature, regional distribution, and / or historical records about traditional medicine must be indicated.

2.2.4 Paper for Debate

Papers for debate are appropriate for preliminary reports of work or the study that provided limited amounts of data. It can be a new research method or animal model of traditional medicine, and can be an academic problem of traditional medicine which is seldom concerned. The author must have an in-depth understanding for relevant literature and conduct a systematic analysis for the limited research data.

2.2.5 Evaluated Case Report

These are brief reports of individual clinical cases, especially cases difficult-to-treat by conventional medicine means but benefit from tradition medicine with objective evidences (e.g., imaging data, photos of pathology or special physical signs) before and after treatment. We will protect the privacy of the patients and declare these reports only for cholarly research use.

3. Submission

On submission, you will be asked to provide a cover letter. Please use this to explain why your manuscript should be published in the journal and to elaborate on any issues related to our editorial policies detailed in the instructions for authors. Manuscripts for research articles should be divided into the following sections:

- Title page
- Highlight
- Abstract
- Background or Introduction
- Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusions
- List of abbreviations used (if any)
- Conflicts of Interest
- Acknowledgements
- References
- Figure legends (if any)
- Tables and captions (if any)

3.1 Title Page

This page includes the title of the article which should be concise but informative; name of department (s) and institution (s) to which the work was done; address, telephone and fax numbers, and E-mail address of the author responsible for correspondence about the manuscript; and any grant support should be mentioned on this page. Notes: For Chinese name, please list given name first and then surname in pinyin, and uppercase the first letter of each part (e.g., Jian-Xing He, Bo Li).

3.2 Highlight

Please write a summary of no more than 35 words to present the core content of your manuscript, highlighting the most innovative and important findings and/or arguments. The purpose of the Core Tip is to attract readers' interest for reading the full version of your article and increasing the impact of your article in your field of study.

3.3 Abstract and Key Words

The abstract (of no more than 300 words) of research articles should consist of four paragraphs, labeled Objective, Methods, Results, and Conclusions. They should state the purpose of the study or investigation, basic procedures, main findings (give specific data and their statistical significance), and the conclusions. This four-part form does not apply to other types of articles. Provide 3-8 key words below the abstract.

3.4 Text

Introduction: State the purpose of the article. Give a brief, relevant background to the study. **The ethnic feature, regional distribution, and / or historical records about traditional medicine must be indicated.**

Methods: Describe the subjects (patients or laboratory animals, and the controls, including criteria for selection) clearly. Describe the methods, apparatus and procedures in sufficient detail. Identify precisely all drugs and chemicals used, including generic name(s), dose(s) and route(s) of administration.

Results: Present the results in the text, tables and illustrations concisely, and do not repeat in the text all the data in the tables or illustrations; summarize only important observations.

Discussion: Emphasize the new and important aspects of the study and the conclusions that follow from them. Include the implications of the findings and their limitations, as well as implications for future research. State new hypotheses when warranted, but clearly label them as such.

3.5 Conflicts of Interest

At the end of the text, under a subheading 'Conflict of interest statement' all authors must disclose any financial and personal relationships with other people or organisations that could inappropriately influence (bias) their work. Examples of potential conflicts of interest include employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent applications/registrations, and grants or other funding.

3.6 Acknowledgements

The role of a medical writer must be included in the acknowledgements section, including their source(s) of funding. Authors should obtain permission to acknowledge from all those mentioned in the Acknowledgements. Please list the source(s) of funding for the study, for each author, and for the manuscript preparation in the acknowledgements section.

3.7 References

Number the references consecutively in the order in which they are first mentioned in the text. The form of references should conform to the Index Medicus. List all authors when there are three or fewer; when there are four or more, list the first three, followed by "et al." The following are sample references:

English language journal article

1. Sawin CT, Geller A, Wolf PA, et al. Low serum thyrotropin concentrations as a risk factor for atrial fibrillation in older persons. *N Engl J Med* 1994; 331(4):1249-1252.

Chinese language journal article

2.Zhang HX, Shi ZX, Jia HZ, et al. Effects of garlicin onNIH3T3 cell proliferation and collagen synthesis. *Chin J Integr Tradit West Med (Chin)* 2007;27(5):431-434.

3.8 Tables

Each table should be numbered in sequence using Arabic numerals (i.e. Table 1, 2, 3 etc.). Tables should also have a title that summarizes the whole table, maximum 15 words. Detailed legends may then follow, but should be concise. Smaller tables considered to be integral to the manuscript. Columns and rows of data should be made visibly distinct by ensuring the borders of each cell display as black lines. Double-space tables (including any footnotes) and provide a title for each.

3.9 Figures and Illustrations

Medical and scientific illustrations will be created or redrawn in-house. If an outside illustrator has created a figure, the Journal reserves the right to modify to meet our specifications for publication. Please describe and clearly indicate all modifications, selective digital adjustments, or electronic enhancements in all digital images. Photographs should be provided as high-resolution component files. For photographs of patients' body parts, written and signed consent of the patient should also be sent or faxed to the editors.

3.10 Units of Measurement

Measurement of length, height, weight and volume should be reported in metric units (meter, kilogram, or liter) or their decimal multiples. All hematologic and clinical-chemical measurements should be reported in the metric system in terms of the International System of Units (SI).

3.11 Abbreviations and Terminology

Use only standard abbreviations. All abbreviations and acronyms are to be spelled out in full on their first appearance in the text. Avoid abbreviations in the title and key words. Herbs are to be presented by their common, pharmaceutical and pinyin or Latin names. Acupuncture terms are to be conformed to the World Health Organization nomenclature.

4. Special columns

4.1 Ethnic and Regional Medicine

Ethnic and regional medicine is study or comparison of the traditional medicine practiced by various ethnic and regional groups. The ethnic feature, regional distribution, and / or historical records about traditional medicine must be indicated.

4.2 Hypotheses of Traditional Medicine

Theoretical research is a forum for ideas in traditional medicine and related medicine sciences. Most contemporary practice tends to discriminate against the theory of traditional medicine that conflict with current theory and practice. TMR will publish interesting and important theoretical papers that explore the biological mechanism of the theory of traditional medicine. TMR will publish radical ideas and hypotheses so long as they are coherent and clearly expressed. The historical records about the theory, the modern literatures including basic and clinical research, and the feasible demonstration method must be indicated.

4.3 Modernization of Traditional Medicine

Modernization of traditional medicine includes the research of effect, safety, mechanism and new dosage form of traditional medicine. New technology (high-throughput technology, precision medicine, molecular docking, big data, bioinformatics and system biological technology, such as network pharmacology, systemic chemistry, genomics, metabonomics and proteomics), which are used in the modernization of traditional medicine, are especially welcome.

4.4 Special Diagnosis of Traditional Medicine

This is the unique forum includes the modern research of inspection diagnosis, tongue diagnosis, pulse diagnosis, eye diagnosis, abdomen examination, TCM syndromes and other special diagnostic techniques of traditional medicine.

4.5 Special Therapy of Traditional Medicine

This is the unique forum includes the modern research of acupuncture, massage, meditation, Tai Chi, rehabilitation, diet therapy and other traditional therapies, which required to have a clear assessment of the results and treatment standards with the map or operation video if necessary.

4.6 Ancient Formula Research

This is the unique forum for authors to submit their works representing clinical studies and experimental researches on ancient formula. Manuscripts must meet the following criteria: 1) The researches must indicate the historical records of the ancient formula. For instance, Xijiao pill, a classical ancient formula, first appeared in Qianjin Yaofang (Valuable Prescriptions for Emergency), which published in 652 A.D. (Tang Dynasty of China). 2) The research approaches are reliable, practical, operational and universal. Test data are real and exact and the results can be repeated. 3) The clinic researches should be approval by ethics committee, signed informed consent from each subject and clinical trial registration number must be stated, and the manuscript should be prepared according to CONSORT 2010.

4.7 Empirical Formula Research

This is one of the unique forum for authors to submit their works representing clinical study, experimental research and mini-review on the effect and safety of empirical formula. Manuscripts must meet the following criteria: 1) The researches must indicate the source and time of the empirical formula as well as the author. If the empirical formula refers to ancient formula, please provide the source and the changes. For instance, Feiji Recipe, an empirical formula of Professor Liu Jia-Xiang who is the National Medical Master of China, has been used in clinical practice for patients with lung cancer more than 20 years. 2) The research approaches are reliable, practical, operational and universal. Test data are real and exact and the results can be repeated. 3) The clinic researches should be approval by ethics committee, signed informed consent from each subject and clinical trial registration number must be stated, and the manuscript should be prepared according to CONSORT 2010. 4) Mini-review should describe the relevant research results and explain the mechanism. Reviews on topics that address cutting-edge problems are particularly welcome.

5. Ethics

5.1 Ethics of experimentation

Research published in TMR must have been conducted to the highest ethical standards. The research must meet all applicable standards for the ethics of experimentation and research integrity.

5.1.1 Research involving humans

Research involving humans, including studies that are observational, survey-based, or include any personal data, must have been performed in accordance with the declaration of Helsinki and must have been approved by an appropriate ethics committee. If a study has been granted an exemption from requiring ethics approval, this should also be detailed in the manuscript. Manuscripts may be rejected if the editor considers that the research has not been carried out within an appropriate ethical framework.

5.1.2 Research involving animals

Research involving animals (live or tissue), including observational studies, must state in the methods section that the research was conducted in accordance with the internationally accepted principles for laboratory animal use and care as found in for example the European Community guidelines (EEC Directive of 1986; 86/609/EEC) or the US guidelines (NIH publication #85-23, revised in 1985), and was approved by the institutional human experimentation committee or equivalent, and that informed consent was obtained. The editors will reject papers if there is any doubt about the suitability of the animal procedures used.

5.1.3 Use of patient images or case details

Studies on patients or volunteers require ethics committee approval and informed consent, which should be documented in the paper.

5.2 Ethics in publishing

5.2.1 Originality and plagiarism

The authors should ensure that they have written entirely original works, and if the authors have used the work and/or words of others, that this has been appropriately cited or quoted.

5.2.2 Data access and retention

Authors may be asked to provide the raw data in connection with a paper for editorial review, and should be prepared to provide public access to such data.

5.2.3 Concurrent publication

An author should not in general publish manuscripts describing essentially the same research in more than one journal or primary publication.

6. Conflicts of Interest

At the end of the text, under a subheading 'Conflict of interest statement' all authors must disclose any financial and personal relationships with other people or organisations that could inappropriately influence (bias) their work. Examples of potential conflicts of interest include employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent applications/registrations, and grants or other funding.

7. Manuscript language editing by authors

For non-native English-speaking authors, we strongly recommend that authors seek out and use the services of a professional editing service provider, either a professional English language editing company or a qualified colleague. Based on their good reputation and reliable quality, the following biomedical editing companies were recommended:

American Journal Experts: <http://www.aje.com>

Nature Publishing Group Language Editing: <http://languageediting.nature.com>