

Guide for Authors (New submission from August 1, 2016)

INTRODUCTION

Types of article

1. Original Articles;

Articles are full-length reports of original research.

- Maximum length: 3500 words.
- Papers should include a structured abstract containing Background, Methods, Results, and Conclusions (maximum length, 250 words).
- Tables longer than two double-spaced manuscript pages (including the legend) will be published online as supplementary material.
- Figure legends should explain what is represented in the figure rather than repeating results, methods, and conclusions.
- Methods sections containing detailed, widely available protocols may be partly limited to online publication, at the Editor's discretion.

2. Short Communications

Short Communications are concise reports of preliminary findings, or an epidemiologic study with narrowly focused or limited findings. Manuscript style (excluding word length) should conform to the requirements for original articles.

- Maximum length: 2000 words.

3. Reviews

Review articles are summaries of recent insights into specific research areas within the scope of the Journal of Epidemiology. Key aims of reviews are to provide systematic and substantial coverage of established topics, evaluations of progress in specified areas, and critical assessments of emerging studies.

- Maximum length: 5000 words.

4. Statistical Data

Reports based on statistical analyses of data sets available in the public domain, such as information on mortality, morbidity, and disease surveillance systems.

- Maximum length: 2000 words.

5. Study Profiles

Description of a study design or overview of a potentially influential cohort or intervention study, including background and purpose, participants and follow-up, main outcome measures, baseline descriptive statistics, and strengths and limitations.

- Maximum length: 2000 words.

6. Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor include opinions regarding any material previously published in the Journal of Epidemiology or by the Japan Epidemiological Association.

- Maximum length: 600 words.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

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Insert continuous line numbers from the Abstract to the Acknowledgments (do not number references or graphics).

To avoid unnecessary errors you are strongly advised to use the 'spell-check' and 'grammar-check' functions of your word processor.

Cover letter for new submissions

All submissions must be accompanied by a cover letter, which should include the following:

- a) The name of the journal (ie, Journal of Epidemiology) to which you are submitting your manuscript;
- b) The title of the manuscript;
- c) The article's principal findings and their significance for the field of epidemiology;
- d) A statement indicating that all authors have approved the manuscript and that the materials have not been published in or submitted to any other journal.

Your submission will not be approved for review until all the above information has been received.

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Abstract

A structured abstract should provide the context or background for the research and should state its purpose, basic procedures (selection of study subjects or observational and analytical methods), main findings (giving specific effect sizes and their statistical significance, if possible), and principal conclusions. Name of headings should be Background, Methods, Results, and Conclusion. It should emphasize new and important aspects of the study or observations.

Original Articles, Short Communications, Statistical Data, and Study Profiles should include a structured abstract of no more than 250 words. Unstructured abstracts are permitted for review articles.

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Immediately after the abstract, provide three to five keywords, using either British or American spelling and avoiding general and plural terms and multiple concepts (avoid, for example, 'and', 'of'). Be sparing with abbreviations: only abbreviations firmly established in the field may be eligible. These keywords will be used for indexing purposes.

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State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.

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Results should be clear and concise.

Authors are encouraged to specify exact p-values.

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Acknowledgements

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Provide information that is explanatory or statistical in nature in an Appendix. If the author list is longer than the space in the author byline area of the first page of the published paper, the authors whose names do not fit will be listed in an Appendix. This list includes collaborators in multicenter trials attributed to corporate or multiple authors, if the investigators qualify as authors according to one of the criteria specified in ‘Definition of authorship’.

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Examples:

Reference to a journal publication:

1. Van der Geer J, Hanraads JAJ, Lupton RA. The art of writing a scientific article. *J Sci Commun*. 2010;163:51-59.

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